

went on, in her own unaffected way. "And I should like to have her best after you, of course, Papa thought it would be nice for Miss Bridges to have as few at home as possible while you're all so much upset."

"Please thank him, Margie," said auntie; "it is very thoughtful of him. If you are contented to leave me Rose and take Elsie instead. I shall get along famously. Rose is my right hand now," she added, with a loving glance at her.

Rose's unselfishness at this trying time was very comforting to her.

And then Elsie came in, and Margie gave the invitation to her. How Elsie's face flushed, and how pleased she looked! To go to Margie's home for a week seemed such a delightful thing. And poor Rose listened to her exclamations of pleasure with a pang, and couldn't help thinking how much she would have enjoyed the visit herself. And after the two had parted off—driven off in the pony carriage that was Margie's own—her thoughts would follow them, she could not help it; and she was imagining at ever turn and twist what they must be doing now, and gave vague answers to auntie's questions, and was absent-minded for a long time after.

And auntie? In the old days auntie would have been sharp with her, and would have recalled her wandering mind in her own brusque way, but now all auntie's sharpness seemed to have vanished away. She was wondrously soft with the fatherless girls and boys—the boys and girls who were dependent on her for hearth and home and love.

They did not know of the sleepless nights she spent, worrying over their future. Seven little lives dependent on her alone! She counted seven still, though one of them was not; then corrected herself with a groan. They had been seven so long she forgot to count them as six.

Poor Guy and Lance! Guy first. She had been so ambitious for him. Bright, clever Guy, with his prospects all changed, what would become of him? A stool in an office in a few years' time—it was all she could do for him. How sober and staid poor Guy had become! Getting manly before his time.

And in his dreams he still carried his colonel off the battle field, and woke with a sigh and a sob.

By-and-by Rose's thoughts came back to the work in hand, and she tried not to envy Elsie any more. They were turned into another channel quite when she came upon a pile of Julie's things—Julie's little shoes and stockings, little pinafores and frocks. Sacred articles they seemed to poor Rose now, as she dropped her tears upon them and gathered them with reverent hands. Ah Rose! Bitter thoughts came always with the sad ones when she remembered Julie now. She hadn't been as nice to Julie as she might have been—she felt that now—not nice in little things; little things like keeping secrets from her, and treating her as a baby, which hurt poor Julie so.

"Oh, Julie, Julie! It was too late now. Perhaps, if she had told her some of her secrets, Julie would have

told her hers; that secret—the only one she ever had—of really running off to Miss Templeton's, which had proved so fatal a thing.

Ah, Rose! kind eldest sister as she wanted to be, and was, how had she overlooked poor Julie so? Elsie's devotion to her often made Rose humble now; and as she thought of Elsie, she felt quite glad she was having her treat, she felt a little comforted that auntie found her such a help.

"Good night," said auntie, when bedtime had come round kissing her niece with more affection than usual. "Thank you, dear Rose, for offering to stay with me; it was very unselfish of you. God bless you pet; you've been a help and comfort all the day."

Rose cried when she went to bed—she was thinking of Julie still; but auntie's words had taken the bitterness from her grief. Somehow she felt a little happier now.

(To be Continued.)

**MARRIED.**

**BALL-ELLIOTT**—At St. George's Church, Montreal, on 3rd January Inst., by the very Rev. The Dean of Montreal, Rev. Thos. W. Ball, Incumbent of Milton, Que., to Margaret Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Mr. James Elliott, of Montreal.

**JONES-BRADY**—On Dec 27th, at Christ Church Cathedral, by the Lord Bishop of Columbia, assisted by Canon Beauland, Oswald Meredith Jones, F.R.C.S., England, L.R.C.P., London, to Kathleen Eleanor Brady, daughter of James Brady, M.E.

**DEATH.**

**CONSTANTINE**—On the 16th December, at his residence, Cross Park Terrace, Heathcote, in his 74th year, the Rev. I. Constantine, for forty-two years Incumbent of Stanbridge East, P.Q.

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