

all day, and walked about the property, inquiring its price and timber value, and seeming much interested.

A few days afterwards there came a note from one of them, offering a fair price for a lot of land to place a house upon, and a portion of the forest land to work. This was to John, and he was very glad to avail himself of the offer. As a consequence of this, there came workmen, after a few weeks; and one of them, more shrewd than the others, brought a little stock of groceries with him, and put up a shed, which he made into a sort of store.

Soon after, the other trader bought land of William, and the sound of the hammer was unceasing. It seemed far from lonely in the clearing now, for there was work constantly going on, and voices were heard from morning till night.

One day John came into the cabin with a new scheme.

"I do not see why we should go back to Frederick, Minnie, unless you desire to do so very much," he said. "We are well settled here, and building is going on all about us."

"But, father," she answered, "we cannot live in this little hut all the time."