

healthy and well—so he was. I only wish that nice gentleman that was here when master died, and also last Christmas too, would take it into his head to come : he ought to, at any rate ; for I am thinking he thinks more of my young mistress than of anybody else in the whole world.”

This was a little confidential talk between Miss Melville and Molly, while the latter was lighting a fire in her room, and she was dressing to go down to an early dinner that Grace and Mrs. Morton were preparing.

It was Mrs. Morton who decorated their little drawing-room this year, to spend Christmas-day in, while Maude and Grace were left to the entire enjoyment of a tete-a-tete together, talking of old times and old friends, of which they had many. Maude had lately paid a visit to the school, and was well posted up in the affairs of it. Under Madame Giatto's able management, it still thrives wonderfully. Two days, instead of one, are now given in the department for Domestic Economy. So many are joining the class, that one is not found