

"No. To his great disappointment he was sent as junior minister to X——, one of the largest churches in the Connexion."

"And a very fashionable one too, I believe. I should think he would be delighted."

"Oh, he is so very shy, you can't believe. During his college life, the Dr. said, he was a perfect hermit, never went into society, and at first whenever I spoke to him, he blushed so that I really pitied him. One evening, at a little social gathering, he sat silent so long that that irrepressible brother Tom of mine asked him what he was thinking of, and he said he was thinking out a sermon. At supper he sat between that chattering Miss Thompson and me, and scarcely vouchsafed a word to either of us. He must have been finishing his sermon."

"A remarkable man for a preacher. Can he talk at all?"

"Indeed he can, not eloquently perhaps, but with intense feeling. You should have heard him on the Friday night, when the young men told of their conversion and call to the ministry. The way he spoke of his mother—he is her only son, and she is a widow—made everybody weep."

"He shouldn't leave her, it is positively cruel."

"It was a great struggle, but she wished him to go. His father, on his dying bed, offered him to God, as a Christian minister, and he says he *must* preach, that the vows of God are upon him."

"Well, I am glad, for his mother's sake, that he don't go to that outlandish Indian mission."

"I don't know but that I am, too, though he seemed to set his heart upon it. Ma and I were with him in the gallery of the church when the stations were read. He had been pointing out several of the ministers whom we did not know, and giving us sketches of their history. Many, especially of the old men, had had stirring adventures by flood or field; fording swollen rivers, crossing ice-bound lakes or threading pathless forests; and many were the heroes of remarkable camp meeting or revival campaigns. The dear old veterans, I really loved them for the perils they had seen, and for the labours they had undergone."

"Well, but what about this reading of the stations?"

"Oh, it was really quite impressive. The Conference had been waiting for some time for the Stationing Committee to