

conveyed home; not to the one we had left in the summer, but to one of more moderate pretensions in Chelsea. The reason of this change was not explained to us, nor did I think of enquiring, being engrossed in my own anticipations of coming pleasures during the holidays; the greater portion of which I was to spend with my grandfather and uncle, who were merchants, and had their establishment at the West End of London. At the termination of the holidays it turned out that we were not to return to school. Some financial difficulties having arisen—some speculation in which my father was engaged, by which he was a considerable loser; so much so, that his affairs became somewhat embarrassed—and he came to the determination of quitting England, in hopes of rebuilding his fortune in one of the colonies. After several pros and cons it was decided that the family should proceed to Canada, early in the summer. This being the case, it was not deemed expedient or necessary that we should return to school; and I was permitted, much to my delight, to remain at my grandfather's. A few days prior to the departure of the family for the colonies, an arrangement had been entered into by my relatives for my remaining in England. This suited me exactly. The pleasures of a London life had more attractions for me than than a trip to the New World, and so I remained behind. My uncle was of a cheerful turn of mind, and fond of public amusements and exhibitions generally. When visiting these places I was usually his companion; consequently I soon acquired a taste for such things (so natural in youth). My grandfather was one of the old school, plodding, methodical, and punctual in his business, to which he devoted all his energies, seldom relaxing on the score of pleasure; a man of strict integrity, an exemplary father, and a thorough good man every way. On Sunday mornings he regularly attended Divine Service; then, after dinner, his custom was to stroll out of town to Hornsey, Highgate, Hampstead, Battersea, Kew, or some other of the suburban localities, and in some quiet little hostelry, snugly