

how, Miss Tildy? She can't keep two strings ter her bow always." Aunt Hannah spoke with the liberty of an old servant who had known Elinor from babyhood, and Mrs. Drury answered as she would a family friend, rather than a family servant.

"Well, really, Hannah, I don't know, and I don't believe the child knows, herself. I hope she won't be in any hurry to marry anyone. I have no particular objection to either one—they are both well spoken of; but I believe Elinor hesitates because she realizes what a serious step matrimony is. It's like making a cake: you want the sugar, to be sure, and I believe that's all young folks think of in this day and time—but what a sticky mess this cake would be if I should leave out the butter and the flour! And that's not a circumstance to the mess a woman makes of her life when she leaves common sense considerations out of her marriage."

"All I knows 'bout 'em is what I sees when dey comes to see Miss Elinor, an' bees is on deir good behaviour when dey's buzzin' roun' a rose—dar aïnt no sign ob stingin' den. But Caesar Copperation, he bin wuckin' at Linton a heap lately, an' he say that dere is a heap o' talk 'bout Dr. Kent bein' a little wild. He t'inks a sight o' Dr. Kent hisself 'cause he alluz stops an' gibs