

business. Theirs had been a match of interest, not love, and with her smartness and his stupidity, she of course ruled the roast, and when wives do that (no disparity to the sex) Lord help the man! The first few weeks of my visit glided on smoothly enough, an occasional musical soir  e given with much good taste, and now and then an evening at the Theatre, what with shopping and parading the streets, we contrived to fill up our time agreeably, but Mrs. C——'s acquaintances were not of the first class, altho' an occasional visitor from the more fashionable part of the town would sometimes honor us with a call. I had been nearly a month their guest, and had not yet received one invitation; and like all young girls—a party was my delight. 'Tis true our musical evenings were most pleasant, particularly diversified as they were, by Mr. C——'s display of taste, his constant call for Paddy Whack *without variations*, or Mallbrook, the only two tunes he assured me, he ever learnt to *sing well*, tho' he had tried many a time to learn a Psalm, but as the tunes were not as *purty* as those, he never could succeed. I think I see him now nodding to a diminished cadence, as he comfortably seated himself in the corner of the sofa to doze away the time, or if a full chord for a moment aroused his slumbering faculties, with one dull eye half opened, and a distorted twist of the mouth, he would half murmur, that's a very *purty* tune Miss Maria. Notwithstanding all this, I sadly longed for a party, some change from our usually dull and never ending evenings, where Mrs. C——'s occupation was in counting up how many cents she had expended that day for soap, candles, &c, and how much extra expence I had put her to in the one meal more (for my special convenience) of lunch, for pickled oysters, pastry, or any other variety, (which by the bye, as we did not part on the best of terms, was sent up to me in the shape of a small bill) while Mr. C—— with the candle as close to his nose, as it well could be without singeing, would spell over the newspaper, and if by accident he put it down for a second, was half an hour in finding the last place. Such were the couple under whose roof I was domesticated, a