

chosen for a home by the English strangers, whose means appeared limited, though their taste was graceful, even elegant. It took some days or weeks to complete the arrangements necessary, to render the small cottage a comfortable dwelling, and during that time Captain F—— was actively engaged in the supervision of everything, assisting with his own hands in removing furniture and improving the appearance of things within and without. His sister also assisted, but with the patient sad air of one who has grown indifferent to outward things, and who ever broods in the dark shadow of the past. But when all was completed, to the surprise of those who took an interest in the proceedings of the mysterious twain, it was discovered that Miss F—— was to be the only occupant, as her brother shortly after the completion of these arrangements, embarked again for the West Indies to rejoin his Regiment. Previous to his departure, he waited on a legal gentleman in the town, to whom he communicated the probability of his sister remaining a resident in Nova Scotia, and arranged with him for receiving a yearly allowance which was to be appropriated to her use, and quarterly paid her on application from herself. This sum was to be received from connections in England, whose names were furnished to the gentleman selected by the Captain as his agent, and thus the first light as to the rank and aristocracy of their lineage was given. It was not only a respectable but a titled family, and the claim their polished appearance and refined education gave them upon the best society, was established by the meagre information rendered by the Captain. The money was to be received, from Sir Frederick F——, supposed to be a brother of the lady who was the recipient of it. In the event of any accident befalling the Captain, during his sojourn in St. Lucia, or wherever he might be located, the gentleman he had selected as his agent was requested to write occasionally to the address of the Baronet just alluded to, with regard to the health of Miss F——, or in the event of any unusual demand requiring either counsel or augmented pecuniary aid. He promised on their part early and punctual information, should any change arise as to the allowance or the disposal of it. Nothing more definite, with regard to their relationship or their object in choosing so distant a home for the future residence of Miss F——, was elicited in this or any subsequent interview. As little was told as possible to ensure correct understanding and attention to the money transactions; and curiosity was still baffled and left to explain on the basis of conjecture, all that appeared mysterious in the case. Shortly after these arrangements Captain F—— departed for the bright isles of the West, where he had previously been with the sister from whom he was about to part. Did a prophetic voice whisper—"it may be for years, or it may be forever," as that hour of separation drew near. No other eye or ear save their own saw their last parting, or heard their farewell words; there was none to know of the agony that must have thrilled either heart, as the tie was severed that bound them; there was