

year. He arrived in Montreal on the twenty-fourth December, and knowing that he had distant relations in that city, he determined to stay over Christmas in order to find them out. He presented himself at Mr. Morton's office, and when that gentleman heard who he was, he bade him a hearty welcome, adding, "You must come home with me, my wife will be delighted to see you."

Mr. Watson consented at once, and so about noon that day, Aunt Jane, who was sitting near a window, saw Mr. Morton approach with a stranger. Grace was busy in the drawing-room, decorating it with flowers and ivy. She was now poised up on a step-ladder decorating her father and mother's portrait, when Mr. Morton entered with the young stranger.

Blushing like a rose, and feeling the awkwardness of her position, she did not know what to do; but Mr. Watson stepped forward to help her down, while her father apologized for coming in so abruptly; "I asked Fanny where I should find your mamma and aunt, and she said in the drawing-room."