

of intellect and character different from all her other acquaintances, and even now she could hardly realize that these, in their full development, had all been laid at her feet; that he had chosen her, longed to have her for a life-long companion and friend. The honor conferred on her by this selection seemed so out of proportion to her deserts she could hardly realize it.

Donald insisted that they should have the best day in the whole year for their wedding day, and, although it was just at hand, their Christmas celebration included the marriage celebration too. All her boys and girls from far and near were invited, while the preparations for their entertainment were more abundant than elaborate. An hundred and more of these were gathered in the large parlor and library, which seemed to have been planned on purpose for this occasion. The marriage ceremony took place at midday, so as to allow those within easy driving distance time to come and return the same day; the rest had to crowd into whatever empty spaces they could find for themselves. The faces gathered there reminded one of an April day — smiles and tears commingled.

To some of them it seemed impossible that Angela could be spared and the work still go on,