

business to have people up-stairs, but she should be happy to see Master Leslie if he would honour her in the drawing-room; but Master Leslie had no notion of that, so he took up his hat and wished them good-bye. I do pity those two poor fellows."

"Ernest, I've got a thought; shall we ask papa to have them here to spend Christmas?"

"Oh, yes, yes!"

"Well, I'll talk to him about it."

"And we are to call that queer old man Uncle Ambrose,—oh, here he comes!"

That day, just after dinner, when the whole party had gathered round the fire to eat their dessert, a note was brought to Ernest.

"From Squire Baldwin, sir," said the servant, giving it to him, "and a pair of rabbits, with his compliments, to Miss Constance."

"O Connie! what fun, just think £5