CHAPTER IV.

JOE THE GARDENER BRINGS NEWS OF THE BIRDS’ NEST TO HARRIET AND FREDERICK.

WHILST the terrible commotions related in the last chapter passed in the nest, the monster, who was no other than honest Joe the gardener, went to the house and inquired for his young master and mistress, having, as he justly supposed, some very pleasing news to tell them. Both the young gentleman and lady very readily attended, thinking he had got some fruit or flowers for them. “Well, Joe,” said Miss Benson, “what have you to say to us? Have you got a peach or a nectarine, or have you brought me a root of sweet-william?”

“No, Miss Harriet,” said Joe; “but I have something to tell you that will please you as much as though I had.” “What’s that? what’s that?”