and lest the birds should be frightened; Frederick, therefore, with reluctance followed her, and Joe attended them to the house.

As soon as they were out of sight the hen bird proposed to return to the nest; she had observed the party, and though she did not see them looking into her habitation, she supposed, from their being so near, that they had been taking a view of it, and told her suspicions to her mate. He agreed with her, and said he now expected to hear a fine story from the nestlings. “Let us return, however,” said the mother, “for perhaps they have been terrified again.” “Well,” said he, “I will attend you then: but let me caution you, my dear, not to indulge their fearful disposition, because such indulgence will certainly prove injurious to them.” “I will do the best I can,” replied she, and then flew to the nest, followed by her mate.

She alighted upon the ivy, and peeping into the nest, inquired how they all did. “Very well, dear mother,” said Robin. “What!” cried the father, who now alighted, “all safe? not one eaten up by the monster?” “No, father,” replied Dicky, “we are not devoured; and yet, I assure you, the monster we saw before has been here again, and brought two others with him.” “Two others! what, like him-