

from the old screw,—papa, may we go to Willingham and get some things? You must settle what is to be done with it, papa.”

And then there followed a long discussion during which it was settled that half the money should be devoted to giving beef to all the most aged people in the village, and out of the other half, Jamie White was to have a pair of warm blankets, old Stephen a comfortable coat of rough cloth, and his wife and old Nanny Green, warm shawls to keep off rheumatism.

Mr. Barnett listened in silence, but he seemed to watch with pleasure the animated faces of the children as they arranged these schemes for the welfare of their poor neighbours. At length he said—

“And, pray, may I know what all these grand preparations are for?”

“For Christmas, to be sure,” said Ernest.

“We want this to be a time for showing ‘good-will’ to our friends,” said Mr. Leslie