

“ Yes, yes, yes; to be sure. Well, children, I think old Uncle Ambrose will come with you to the town to-morrow.”

And so it was arranged.

Reginald soon found an opportunity of asking his father about the two boys, and Mr. Leslie gladly consented and wrote a note to Mrs. Dixon that evening, having first consulted Dr. Stephens as to the safety of moving Herbie, and ascertaining from him that, if the child was well wrapped up and carried quickly into a close carriage, he would be less likely to get harm than by remaining in that damp house. Just before tea Ernest and Constance came into the room where Mr. Barnett was sitting alone. He called them to him, and said—

“ Well, children, I want to contribute something to all this merriment,—what shall I do for you ?”

The children looked at each other and hesitated.