

WHY HENRY GOT HOME LATE.

entered the coach. It was now snowing quite fast. The coach was heavy and old-fashioned; and the horses could not go very fast. It was nearly dark when they came to the road through the wood.

The horses now began to walk. The weather grew cold, and it stopped snowing; but the ground was enough covered to make it hard for the horses to drag the old coach. Henry began to fear he should have to pass the night in the woods.

“No matter,” thought he: “here are plenty of shawls. *I* can keep warm.”

Yes; but John the coachman, and the poor horses! Why did not Henry think of *them*? Because he was heedless, and a little selfish. It was nine o'clock before the coach stopped at the door of his mother's house.

When Mrs. Burton learnt how Henry had delayed the coach, and lingered to play in spite of the threatening weather, she rebuked him severely, and said, “Mind what I now tell you: never again keep a coachman and his horses waiting in the cold, merely for your own pleasure. A true gentleman will never disregard the comfort of man or beast. I have known many a coachman to take a severe cold by being kept waiting in bad weather, because some heedless girls or boys did not choose to leave the sports in which they were engaged.”

DORA BURNSIDE.

