

has left his house at Olney on a journey to Scotland; but he passes here to-night, and you must find means to stop him, — now or never!’

“ ‘What force and what arms has he with him, captain?’ asked Tom.

“ ‘The coachman, his body servant, and himself,’ said the captain; ‘but only the servant and himself are armed. The stream outside is high to-night; you must take them just as they are crossing it, and thinking of only the water; and whatever else you may mind, make sure of the colonel.’

“ ‘Sure as I live,’ said Bill to me, in a low whisper, ‘’tis a plan to murder Colonel Westhope! And, good heavens!’ he continued, pointing through an opening in the gable, ‘yonder is his carriage not a mile away. You may see the lantern, like two fiery eyes, coming sweeping along the moor. We have no time to lose. Let us slide down through the opening and meet with it.’

“As soon done as said, master. We slid down along the turf gable; crossed the stream, which had risen high on its banks, by a plank bridge for foot-passengers; and then dashed along the broken road in the direction of the carriage. We came up to it as it was slowly crossing an open drain.

“ ‘Colonel Westhope!’ I cried, ‘Colonel Westhope! — stop! — stop! — turn back! You are waylaid by a party of ruffians, who will murder you if you go on.’

The door opened, and the colonel stepped out, with his sword under his left arm, and a cocked pistol in his hand.

“ ‘Is not that Jack Whyte?’ he asked.

“ ‘The same, noble colonel,’ I said; ‘and here is Henry, your son.’

“It was no place or time, master, for long explanations; there was one hearty congratulation, and one hurried em-