

each other's welfare, and, as it were, become more united together. It was also felt by the boys that, as Mrs. Britannia was doing very little, if anything, for them, it was high time that she should allow them to act more independently in the management of their own affairs. "We have a home, it is true," they said, "but how can we feel any just pride in it when that home has no position worth noticing in society? Whenever there is a party given we are looked upon if we go to it as children, and have to give place even to our sly old Uncle Samuel, when, in fact, we are as good as, and, indeed, much better than, many of the guests invited to assemblies now-a-days by Mrs. Europe."

Now it happened that a Mr. Kingdom had been casting loving glances at the buxom widow for some time, and as he was a great friend and near relative of Mrs. Britannia, the boys decided that their mother ought to accept him as her husband, more especially as they all liked him very much and felt that they could be happy under his fatherly care.

Mrs. Dominion blushed very much when her boys made this proposition to her, but as Mrs. Britannia seemed to desire it, and promised to remain her firm friend and ally after her marriage, and as her sons agreed to be guided entirely by Mr. Kingdom if she would marry him, she at last consented, and the 1st July (the anniversary of her family union) was set apart (Mr. Kingdom being agreeable) for the marriage day.

Wasn't Uncle Samuel raging at this, and wasn't he dumbfounded just. He swore and tore his hair and