

fall of the roof, and had injured all the children more or less, although not so seriously as would have been the case had the whole building fallen upon them.

Mr. Seymour had remained behind with five of the men to see the fire fairly out, lest it should spread ; not that there was much danger in the snow-clad condition of the country. Indeed, had it not been that one side of the school was quite free of snow owing to the drift, it is not likely it would have caught fire at all. As soon as the danger was over these men followed to the Parsonage, which they found turned into a temporary hospital. As they came in Mrs. Seymour was binding up little Annie's eye, which had been badly bruised. One of the men started forward—

"Why, Annie, child, it's never you ! What a mercy it is we came the way we did !"

"Father !" cried Annie, bursting into tears again at the thought of the dreadful fear of the last few hours.

"Come, you mustn't cry, Annie ; it'll make your eye worse," said Mrs. Seymour soothingly.