

"But how came he to fall into the water, Jamie?"

"I will tell you, sir. Jack, you know, is very fond of bird-nesting. He has got a string of birds' eggs reaching all round his father's summer-house, which he has taken out



of nests this summer. This morning he spied a nest in the old elm-tree which spreads out over the pond, near old Putnam's mill. Do you recollect it, sir?"

"Yes, I know the spot very well. And the water is very deep just there, too."

"Well, sir, as I was saying, he saw a nest this morning, out on the branch which reaches farthest over the water, and he made up his mind to get it. When he spoke to his mother about it, she told him that he should not climb that