

SHAMBLING SAM; OR, A CLUMSY FOOT MAY TREAD THE RIGHT ROAD.

(Continued from page 121.)



"The dame muttered something a little fiercely to herself, and then said, 'Sam, you know I can read you like a book.'"—(p. 145.)

CHAPTER VII.

SAM'S loneliness was to be at an end now. The Squire at once offered him employment on his estate, and this time he joyfully accepted, "so long," he said, "as I stand clear with the folks over there."

How to make him stand clear was the subject uppermost in Mr. Welby's mind. He wanted Sam's innocence to be attested so publicly that none should have it in his power to say a word against him. He and Ada had been discussing all sorts of plans, when at last she exclaimed: "I know, papa! do it when the bishop comes to

consecrate the new church, and all the people meet together in the field for lunch."

"That won't be for a month," said the Squire. But the opportunity was too good to be lost, and so at last he consented to wait.

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The bells of the new church were ringing very merrily on the first of September, which was the day for its consecration. Sam was standing at Mr. Power's door in his Sunday best, smilingly telling Mary Melton that the church was so happy because it was going to be christened.

"And we know something else the