

III.

THE WINGED LION;

OR,

STORIES OF VENICE.

---

CHAPTER I.

*A rash Plan. — A mournful Separation. — Truant Boys. — Breaking Faith. — A Surprise. — The beautiful Stranger. — Clive and David find themselves the chosen Protectors of Beauty in Distress.*



AFTER spending a few weeks in Florence, Uncle Moses and his young friends began to discuss the important question of their next movements; and here a difficulty arose which led to many odd adventures. As for Uncle Moses, that worthy man would gladly have left Italy altogether, and gone on as fast as possible to his destination; but the very hint of such a thing roused so great a storm of opposition and reproach that he did not press it further. Leave Italy, indeed! That was not to be thought of. They had many places still to visit, and many adventures still to encounter. Bologna, Ferrara, Padua, Milan, Turin,