

care of the person who had him in charge; and, on this account, she despatched a preceptor to look after him on the way.

This preceptor was named Dugald, and had the name at one time of being a clever, competent person, although it is true that he had given Mrs. Dominion a good deal of trouble in his day, by a cranky, cross, satirical sort of manner which he was unfortunate enough to possess. He had moreover at one time in his life a very strong liking for Uncle Samuel, but, through receiving a few presents and other considerations from Mrs. Dominion, he had turned round and sworn unalterable allegiance to the buxom widow. It was unfortunate that Dugald was selected as the person to direct the footsteps of Toby, as that youngster was rather a troublesome boy for his age, and inclined to kick up his heels when he did not get everything quite his own way.

Be that as it may, Dugald started on his mission, but found on arriving at his destination that young Toby would have nothing to do with him, for in fact the precocious youth shut the door altogether upon him, and would not let him enter the house. Dugald then, unfortunately for himself, quite lost his temper at this treatment, and, instead of taking matters coolly as he ought to have done, he raged and tore about like a demented person, threatening, at the same time, all sorts of vengeance against the youngster. This, however, did not frighten Toby in the least, for he told Dugald to go and be hanged; and further, that he did not believe him to have any authority or right to act as his preceptor.