

tion to-day, because his mother is very sick and not expected to live; and so James and William are going a-nutting, and I am going with them; but I suppose

your father and mother would not let *you* go, if you wished ever so much?"

"Oh! how I wish they would!" exclaimed Henry. "I mean to go back and ask them."



He turned round and began walking towards home, but Robert called him back.

"You won't have time to do that," said he, "for they are going at nine o'clock, and it is almost nine now. If I were you

I would go without asking; I don't believe they would care."

"Yes, they will care," replied Henry; "and on the whole, I do not believe they would let me go, even if I were to ask