

about to make his first essay on teaching in the dilapidated roadside building, for at last the Committee had agreed at least to try a master till Christmas, and if it did not answer, then to have a mistress. The missionary was looking with great dismay at the broken windows.

"I have not been this way since Mr. Budget left," he said, "but it looks bad, very bad ; I fear the lads are getting into a sad, lawless state, and you will have plenty of trouble with them."

"Never mind, I'm not afraid. They shall help me to set this mischief to rights, and afterwards they'll protect their own handiwork. I can turn my hand to almost any trade, for when we lived far out west we were forced to it, and I don't feel a bit the worse for it."

In the meantime Mr. Seymour was fumbling with the key at the school-house door, but in vain, he could not get it to turn ; and no wonder, for some mischievous urchin had filled the lock with stones.

"The boys again, I fear," sighed Mr. Seymour.

"The little rascals !" said Mr. Emerson, as, kneeling down, he got out the fragments. "I