

market-day, Smith sarcastically said. One, two, three four, five minutes elapsed, and he was declared winner. 'Help me down,' cried Jones. Nobody stirred, but all laughed. 'Now, do help me down!' he beseeched rather pathetically. Not a foot moved. He then tried to help himself, but could not recover the branch with his hands. Then he began to swear and the ladies very properly ran away. We enjoyed his quandary amazingly; but no one felt inclined to end it yet. At last, seeing him turn black in the face, with rage and his inverted position, I and Smith took pity on him, and placed him right end upwards, when he turned so giddy, that down he dropped. I thought Smith would have died with laughing; but Jones triumphed still, for he had won. It was ridiculous to see his exultation and, hear his crowing.

A rookery was overhead. Jones bent on his mischief, must now have a sling at its black tenantry. Up went stone the first—down it came with a rebound over a low wall, and a crash followed, as if a hundred hot-house panes were shattered: at the same moment a head and red night-cap popped up from the other side, surveyed us in silence, and disappeared. 'Now, for heaven's sake,' said I 'don't destroy people's property in mere wantonness!'—'Pooh!' said Jones 'I shan't hit em again if I try!' and up went stone the second, and fell as before, with the same awful clatter and crash 'That makes five shillings!' said the head and night-cap, popping up again. 'Nonsense said Jones it was an accident!'—'Well gentlemen said the head and nightcap, 'you sha'n't go till you do pay, for I've grabbed your oars. 'Oh, pay the man,' we all advised. 'Here, then you night-capped numskull,' said Jones flinging a sovereign up the wall with a munificent air, 'give me my change?'—'Break four more and that's a pound's-worth;—and down went the head and night-cap. How that Smith did chuckle! 'Well, then I'll have some fun for my money,' said Jones: 'here goes;' and up flew stone after stone, but not one of them told, for the wary gardener, we supposed, had covered over the remainder of his glass with matting. And now we had the laugh fairly