not so talkative as usual. He seemed rather indisposed to enter into conversation, and was apparently in deep thought about something. So the day passed on, and they travelled on, with an occasional halt at some village inn to refresh themselves and their horse. It was late in the evening when they reached Jersey city, at which they put up for the night. Early next morning they ferried across to New York-spent a few hours in viewing some of the wonders of the metropolis, then proceeded to Wall Street, and entered one of its banks. When they again appeared on the street, their features had quite an elated expression. The first step was gained, and they felt somewhat satisfied. We next find them in one of the magnificent hotels for which Broadway is famous. Don Zeres treated to the best it could afford-bad dinner-another stroll through a portion of the vast eity, then returned to Jersey to put in another night. That night something was seriously wrong with Baldwin. He tossed to and fro on his bed-sat up-got out upon the floor-lay down again-tried to compose himself, but could not sleep.

Morning came, and with it signs of rain. All was bustle to get home again. It might rain before night and delay them, so an early start was desirable. Baldwin was suffering from a severe headache, no doubt brought on by his wakeful and restless night.

Soon they were on their way, and they sped towards dear old home. They could drive faster than when coming, as the sky was clouded and the atmosphere much cooler. It was exactly six p.m. by Baldwin's time piece, as they entered the town of S-, at which they halted fifteen minutes. Baldwin was urgently requested to accompany them the remainder of the way, and spend a night at "Seville Place." Of course he consented, and again the trio drove off on the last stage of the road. Eager eyes were on the lookout for them. Finally they arrived, and were greeted with showers of congratulations, as the Melodine household had come over, anxious to learn the success of the trip. "Why," to learn the success of the trip. "Why," said Jake, "Massa Seville's goin' to hab a car-riage an four. Massa Don an Missus in de back, young Massa Consab an Misse Abella in de middle, Everard an me in de front, an I'll drive; won't it be glorious." Jake had to say something, and he was so elated that he did not know how to express his mind best. Another merry evening was spent at "Seville

Place." Baldwin. to the astonishment of Don Zeres and Consabina, took a prominent part in the jokes of the evening. Everard was again silent, and apparently watching the proceedings. Arabella alone noticed him, and wondered to herself what made him so downcast.

But the distant peals of thunder could be heard, and the lightnings were playing on the western horizon. The storm that had threatened all day was approaching, so the Melodines Jeft for home, and Don Zeres' honsehold prepared for retirement. Don Zeres put his newly received gold in a neat little boxlocked it, then placed it in an old writing desk—locked it, but unwittingly left the key in the lock. Eyes were watching him, but he did not perceive them. Then all went to bed. But did all sleep ?

Towards midnight the threatened storm came on-passed over, and apparently all were still in slumber. The thunder was still rolling in the distant east. The lightning's larid glare illuminated the heavens. A form, a of one walking in his sleep, might have been seen to emerge from the 'ront door of Seville' house, earrying something weighty, and in few minutes to return, entering again noise lessly.

CHAPTER IV.

MYSTERY.

Fortune is not all bright smiles, Fortune has her frown. To-day our spirits may be up, To-morrow be cast down. The box of gold has flown away, And all is wrapt in mystery.

Morning came. A beautiful morning was. The shower of the past night had r freshed all nature. The atmosphere was det and cool. On Baldwin making his apea ance, Don Zeres saluted him, "A fine mornin this. Hope you had a good night's rest. . your headache gone?" Baldwin rubbed h eyes a moment, then answered, "My hea ache is entirely gone. Never slept better my life. Splendid bed that of yours. Qui a contrast to the one I slept in at Jersey Baldwin ate very little at breakfast, and e cused himself by saying his appetite was a ways impaired by a long drive.

Breakfast being over, Baldwin and D Zeres proceeded to business. On opening t desk, what was Don Zeres' consternation find that the box containing the gold was a the alar where the alar whiter had it whiter had it whiter had it the house whit hole house was in was was saddled a detective W wase was re-searc ints of a bare-fo ar the front door and to the lane, where.

Consabina haste aint the Meloc ace. On his en yhis features the hother family we in. The family to the previous evhem in their loss. which in the cassist i red, Baldwin and Wilson glanced is eyes met Baldwin from childhood mon him.

Everard was next at him. He was is story he had he distion.

Jake came next. izing glance than wrt of antipathy t d such an open er mple and good-natr the pronounced him After Wilson had a case and examine the door, when the for the door, when the for the door.

witcok place : Wilson began, "I this house at pres-"I do not," was an "Have you any sus ther party or parties "Tave not."

"Well, then, are y atter entirely to me boose, whether the s ars ?" "I suppose I must a

me I tell you emph. Suspicion on any o

"Are you certain of