

roof. To the men's horror, before they could reach the door the whole building fell over.

In the meantime, as soon as Mr. Emerson had left him, Mark, who was a quick-witted boy, began to think how he could best ward off the danger, for he saw in what a rickety condition the building was.

He put two or three of the strongest forms as supports, and then made a species of pent-house with the remainder of the desks at the further side of the room, to which he persuaded the rest of the children to creep, fancying that this might prove some sort of protection against the falling roofs and boards.

He made all the children help ; it kept them quiet, and stopped them from thinking, and young as they were they were quite conscious that there was something to fear.

"We had better put on all our things, so as to be ready when Mr. Emerson comes," he said, when he had done all that seemed to him possible to ward off danger ; so they all dressed and got under their pent roof. Mark was the last to go in. He stood looking at the stove. The idea