

The detectives laughed, for that was exactly how the telegram had been worded, and the two men had travelled as fast as steam could bring them, until they reached the Chitmunk's camp near the spot where Louise and her mother had formerly lived, when they changed from the steamboat into the Rat's canoe to be paddled up the creek by that enterprising youth.

These explanations were not finished when Marty came hurrying out in search of Giggles.

"Master Giggles, it was that woman Nelly O'Riley who made the mischief. She jumped or fell into the creek, and Louise was trying to rescue her, when she fell in too, and would have been drowned but for Squirms jumping into the water and towing her ashore," said Marty, as he came hurrying down to the group by the creek.

"Jolly old Squirms!" murmured Giggles, stopping to hug his rough-coated friend.

"Then where is Nelly O'Riley now?" demanded both detectives in a breath.

But no one answered that question, until the voice of the Rat broke in, "Why, in

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