

instance locked one of the biggest of them up in a room, and at the same time read the whole of them a lesson, to refrain from annoying the Dominion family any more. This of course was all a farce on the part of Uncle Samuel, for while he was reading the lesson to the ragged urchins with one eye, he was winking slyly at them with the other, as much as to say "gammon." The old fellow did not show his usual shrewdness however in this little game of his towards the Dominion boys, for he forgot that Mrs. Britannia, notwithstanding her age, had a very penetrating, calculating eye, and that for every pane of glass broken, every flower and vegetable destroyed, and every egg stolen from the hen houses by the ragged crowd, he was debited on her books with the value of the same. He therefore found out afterwards to his cost when he came to settle up accounts with the old lady, that the broken glass, &c., very nearly balanced his claim against her for the loss of his boats.

Samuel, however, began at last to see that neither Mrs. Britannia nor the Dominion boys would stand any more of his pranks, so he wisely desisted from them.

Strange to say, the crafty old fellow never troubled Bunsy and Sandy in the same way as he did Willie and Johnny; indeed he seemed to try and keep on the best of terms with them, no doubt hoping thereby to gain their good will, and ultimately persuade them to come over to him; but, as it will be seen, his calculations were all astray.

Uncle Samuel was very fond of the good things of this life, especially apple-sauce, pumpkin-pie, peanuts, pop-corn,