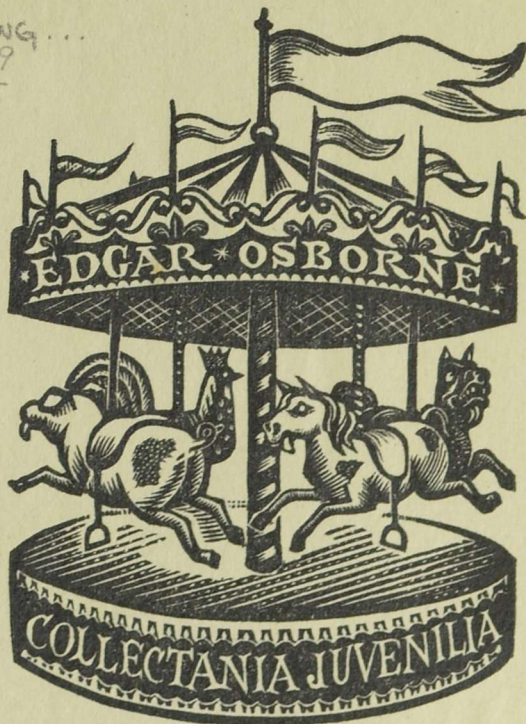


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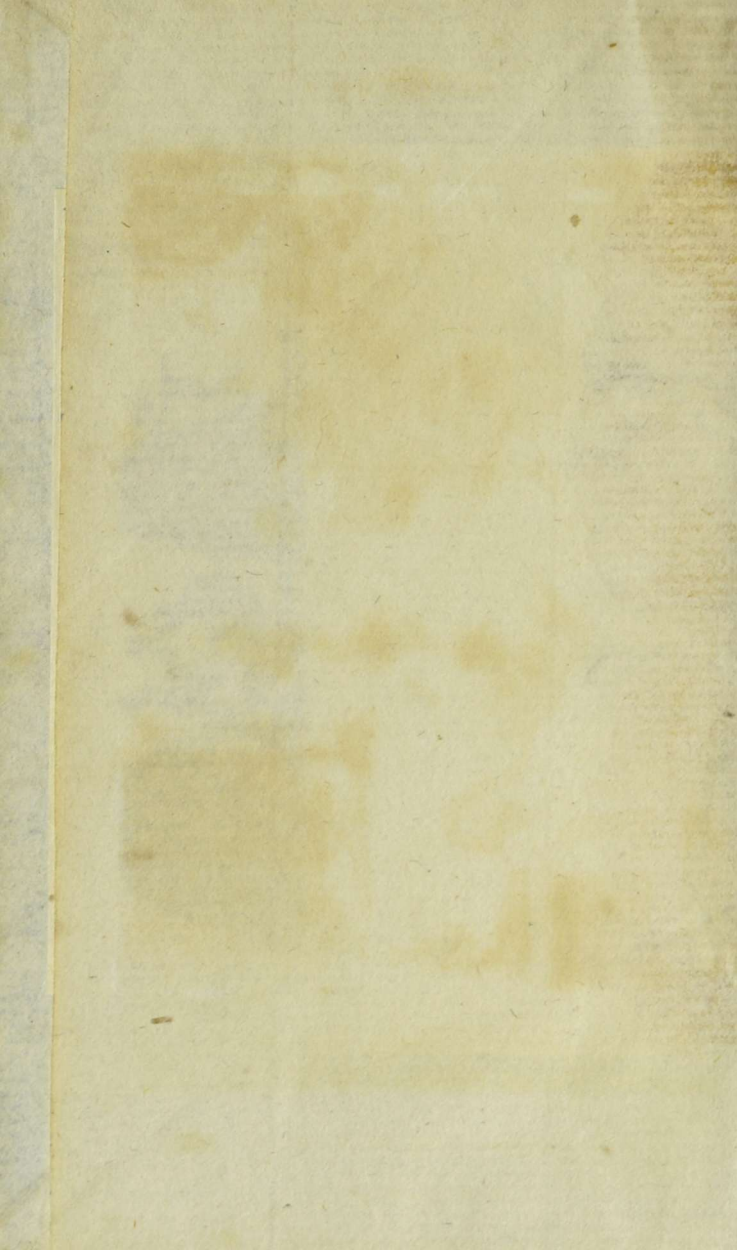
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*with his Daughters*

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THE

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1814

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## FORTUNIO

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THERE was once a king named Alfourite, who was both beloved and powerful ; but his neighbour, the emperor Matapa, was still more powerful ; and in the last battle that they fought against each other, had quite got the better of the king, and taken from him all his treasures.

King Alfourite was in the greatest grief for his loss, and soon began to think how he could get his riches again. For this purpose he called out the small remains of his army ; and to increase its numbers, he made an order, that every gentleman and nobleman in his kingdom must come in person to help him in his plan, or else pay a large sum of money.

On the bounds of his kingdom there lived a nobleman who was eighty years of age ; he had once been very rich, but through many losses was now brought down to a scanty income for himself and three daughters, who lived with him happy and content. When this old nobleman heard of the king's order, he called his daughters to him, and told them he did not know what to do ; “ for,” said he, “ I am too old myself to go to the king's army, and to pay the tax would ruin us at once.”

“ Do not thus afflict yourself, father,” said his daughters, “ something may surely be thought of.”—“ I am young and stout,” said the eldest, “ and used to fatigue ; why should not I dress myself like a man, and offer my services to king Alfourite ?” The old lord kissed her tenderly ; and when he saw that she was in earnest about going, he gave his consent, and as soon as her things could be made ready, she set out.

The young gentleman (as she seemed) had not gone far when he saw an old shepherdess

all in tears, trying to draw one of her sheep out of a ditch, into which it had fallen. "What are you doing, goody?" said he. "Alas!" replied she, "I am trying to save my sheep, which is almost drowned; but I am too weak to get it out. "That is a sad thing, indeed," said he; at the same time spurred his horse to ride away. "Farewell, disguised lady!" said the old shepherdess. The earl's daughter was quite alarmed when she found herself thus known. "If this is the case," said she, "I had better return at once; for it seems that a single look shews every body that I am not a man."

She then went back, and told the whole to her father and sisters. When they heard this, the second daughter said, "It would not have been so if I had gone instead of you; for I am both taller and stronger, and I would lay any wager I should not have been found out." She then begged so much, that the old lord agreed to let her go on the same errand; and she straight got herself a suit of clothes and another horse, and took the same road as her sister

had gone along before. The old shepherdess was also on the same spot, and was still trying to draw out a sheep that was drowning. The young gentleman (as she seemed) asked what was the matter. "Alas!" replied the old woman, "I have lost half my flock in this manner for want of help." "Some one will soon come by, I dare say," said the young gentleman, and was turning his horse to go, when the old woman cried out, "Farewell, disguised lady!" She was amazed at this; so she stopped her horse, and said to herself, "I shall only be laughed at if I go further; for even a poor old shepherdess, who is almost blind, knows me at first sight." She therefore, like her sister, went back full of sorrow for her ill luck.

When she had told her story, the youngest sister, who was her father's favourite, on account of her sweet temper, begged that she might try her fortune as well as her sisters; which at last, after much delay, the old lord agreed to; but as he had spent a good deal of money to set off his two eldest daughters, he

could only give the youngest a poor old cart-horse, and quite a poor and mean dress. When these were ready, the old gentleman kissed her tenderly, and she bade both him and her sisters farewell.

She passed through the same field; and the old shepherdess was there again as busy as before. "What are you about, my good woman?" said the kind young gentleman, (for so she seemed); "can I be of any service to you?" And when he came on further, and saw the sheep struggling in the water, he jumped off his horse and pulled it out. Upon this, the old shepherdess turned to him, and said,—“Charming stranger, you shall find me grateful for the kindness you have done me. I am a fairy, and know well enough who you are, and I will be your friend.” She then touched the ground with her wand, and the most beautiful horse, in grand harness, stood before them, and seemed to invite the young gentleman (for so I shall now call her) to get upon his back.

“The beauty of this horse,” said the fairy,

“ is his least perfection ; for he has the rare quality of eating only once a-week ; and the still rarer, of knowing the past, the present, and the future. If at any time you wish to know what you ought to do for the best, you need only consult him ; you should therefore regard him as your best friend.” The fairy said, besides, that if he stood in need of clothes, money, or jewels, he must stamp with his foot upon the ground, and a trunk, holding the thing he wanted, would instantly appear before him. “ We must next,” said she, “ give you a fit name ; and I think none can be better than FORTUNIO, since you have had the good fortune to deserve my favour.”

Fortunio told the fairy that he would be always grateful to her for her kindness. He then stamped with his foot for a fine suit of clothes ; he dressed himself in these, took leave of his good friend, and went on in his way to the king’s palace.

At the end of his first day’s journey, he thought of sending a sum of money to his father, and some jewels to his sisters ; so he



shut himself up in a room, and stamped loudly, and saw a trunk straight appear—but locked, and without a key.

Fortunio was at a loss how to open the trunk; but at last thought that Comrade (for that was his horse's name) could very likely help him in this matter; so he went to him in the stable. "Comrade," said he, "where can I find the key of the trunk filled with money and jewels?"—"In my ear," said Comrade. Fortunio looked into his ear, and there was the key tied to a piece of green ribband. He then gladly opened the trunk, and sent away the presents.

The next morning he mounted his faithful Comrade, and went further on his journey. They had not gone far, when they passed through a forest, where they saw a man cutting down trees. Comrade now stopped, and told his master he had better engage this man, whose name was Strongback, in his service; as a fairy had bestowed on him the gift of carrying what weight he chose upon his

back at once. Fortunio went up to the man, and found him willing to accept his offer.

When they had gone a little further, they saw another man who was tying his legs together. Comrade again stopped, and said, "Master, you cannot do better than to hire this man also ; for he has the gift of running ten times faster than a deer ; which is the reason why he is now tying his legs, that he may not run so fast as to leave behind him all the game he is going in pursuit of." Fortunio engaged Lightfoot also, (for that was the man's name), who was very willing to go along with him.

The next day they saw a man tying a bandage over his eyes. " He too" (said Comrade) " is gifted, for he can see at the distance of a thousand miles ; on which account, as he is going to kill game, he wishes to make his sight rather worse than it is, that he may not kill so many at a time as to leave none for the next day : he cannot fail of being useful to you." So Fortunio engaged him, and found his name was Marksman.

A little further on, they saw a man lying on his side, and putting his ear to the ground. Fortunio asked Comrade whether he too was gifted, and could be useful to him. "That is certain," said Comrade. "This man has the gift of hearing so well that none before him ever did; his name is Fine-ear; and he is now listening to hear whether some plants that he is in need of are coming up from the earth." Fortunio thought the gift of Fine-ear more curious even than the rest; so he made him such offers to enter into his service, as Fine-ear thought proper to accept.

When they were on their last day's journey, they had the good fortune to meet with another man, who, as well as the rest, was gifted in a very strange manner; for Comrade told his master, that this man could *set* wind-mills at work with a single breath of his mouth. "Shall I engage him too?" cried Fortunio. "You will have reason to repent if you do not," answered Comrade. So Boisterer (for that was his name) was straight engaged.

Just as they were in sight of the city in which the palace stood, they saw two men sitting near each other on the ground. "Ah!" cried Comrade, "no one was ever so lucky as you are, master; both these men also are gifted; if we had been a minute later, perhaps we should have missed them. He who sits nearest to us is called Gormand, (which means glutton), because he can eat a thousand loaves at a mouthful. The other drinks up whole rivers without once stopping to breathe; his name is Tippler; get them both into your service, and your good fortune will be complete. Fortunio did so, and then went on to the palace, with Strongback, Light-foot, Marksman, Fine-ear, Roisterer, Gormand, and Tippler, who all promised to use their talents as he should be pleased to command.

Fortunio then stamped with his foot, and a trunk appeared filled with the richest liveries to fit each of them. They accordingly put these on, and then went in great pomp to the king's palace. Fortunio was most kindly

received there, and shewn into the very finest rooms; and the king begged that he would rest from his fatigue, before he talked of any matters of business.

The next day his Majesty asked to speak with Fortunio, who straight obeyed this summons. The king presented to him the princess his sister; who had been married, when young, to a neighbouring prince, but was now a widow, and was living with her brother. She received Fortunio very kindly, and thought he was the handsomest prince she had ever beheld. The king asked Fortunio his name and family; and upon hearing that he was the son of an earl who had served in defence of his crown, he loaded him with new honours, and said he might depend upon his regard.

While things were being made ready for an attack that was to be made against the emperor Matapa, our young lady staid in the palace; and being almost always in company with the king, she saw in him so many good qualities, that she would gladly have offered

herself to be his page, if she had not feared that this might look as if she had not courage enough to fight in his army.

But while she was thus thinking that she should like to spend her life with the king, the princess (his sister) was thinking she should like to spend hers with Fortunio, for she had fallen strongly in love with his great beauty. She loaded him with presents, always spoke to him in the softest manner, and was in hopes he would find out how much she wished he should feel the same love for her.

But Fortunio seemed to have no thoughts of this sort; and as the king's company was so much to his liking, he always left the princess to go to him; so that at last she said to her favourite friend, whose name was Florida, "He is so young that he will never find out how much I love him, if he is not told of it. Go and ask him if he should not like to marry me."

Florida left the princess; but the truth is, that she herself was no less in love with Fortunio, "whose age and rank in life," said

she, "surely make him a fitter partner for me, than for the princess;" so she only told him how peevish the princess was; and how uneasy she found her own place, which forced her to be so much with her. She then went back to her mistress, and told her that all she said had no effect on Fortunio, who must, to be sure, be in love with some lady of his own country.

The princess sent Florida from time to time upon the same errand, without the least success. At last she thought she would see him herself in private; so she told Florida to watch when he should be walking alone near a small arbour in the garden. She did not wait long for this, and seeing Fortunio enter the arbour, she went in too. When Fortunio saw her, he would have gone back, but she begged him to stay, and to assist her with his arm in walking. After some talk, the princess said, "Fortunio, to be sure you must know the great love I have for you. I am therefore surprised that you do not make use

of your good fortune, by asking me in marriage of the king my brother."

Fortunio now seemed quite at a loss what to say, and the princess thought this was a proof that he did not dislike what she had proposed; but her surprise and anger were very great when he replied, "Madam, I feel for you all the respect due to the sister of so good a king; but I am not free to marry you." She was red and pale by turns; and after telling him that he should repent this coldness, she left him suddenly.

The earl's daughter now did not know what to do, and would have been glad to find some excuse for going away from the palace till the army should be ready, but she could not leave the king without the greatest grief. Her trouble on this account grew greater every day, and she took care never to meet the princess alone.

One day, as the king, the princess, and Fortunio, were sitting together after dinner, the king looked very much grieved, and his



sister asked him the reason. "You know," said he, "what a sad thing has happened in my kingdom. A great dragon has eaten up several of my subjects, and many flocks of sheep; his breath poisons the waters of the fountains, and destroys all the fields of corn. Can you therefore wonder at my sorrow?" The princess thought she could not have a better time to revenge herself for the neglect shewn towards her by Fortunio. "Brother," said she, "here is the brave Fortunio, who, I dare say, would think it the highest honour to be allowed to kill this monster, and thus reward your Majesty's kindness to him."

Fortunio could not refuse to do this; which the princess hoped would be the cause of his death. As soon as he had left the room, he went to his faithful Comrade for advice how to act. "You should go," said Comrade, "in pursuit of the dragon, as the king requires; and take with you the seven gifted men you lately engaged."

Fortunio waited on the king and princess

the next morning to take leave of them. The king gave him his kindest wishes, and bade him farewell, with sincere sorrow for the danger which he would soon meet. The princess tried to seem very sorry too, and said she hoped to see him come back safe. After this Fortunio mounted on Comrade; and, with Strongback, Lightfoot, Marksman, Fine ear, Boisterer, Gormand, and Tippler, set out to find the dragon. These men proved of the greatest use to him in this matter; for Tippler drank up all the rivers, so that they could cross from field to field, and catch all kinds of fish for their master's dinner. Lightfoot ran after hares and rabbits; Marksman shot at partridges and pheasants; Strongback carried them all upon his back; and Fine ear put his ear to the ground, and so found out the places where the mushrooms and kitchen-herbs were coming up.

They had not gone more than a day's journey, when they heard the cries of some people, that the dragon was eating up as fast as he



FORTUNIO



— Fortunio's Combat with the —  
*Dragon*

could. Fortunio now asked Comrade what he should do. "Let Fine-ear find out where the dragon is," said Comrade. Fine-ear then put his ear to the ground, and told his master the dragon was twenty miles off. "Then," said Comrade, "let Tippler drink up all the rivers that are between us and the dragon, and let Strongback carry wine enough to fill them, and next strew some of the hares and partridges along them." Fortunio then went into a house that stood near, to watch what should happen. In less than an hour the dragon was in sight; and when he smelt the hares and partridges, he began to eat them as fast as he could. At length he found himself so dry, that he drunk his fill of the wine, and in a short time grew quite drunk, and threw himself on the ground, and fell fast asleep. "Now is your time, my good master," said the faithful Comrade. Fortunio then went up to the dragon, and with a single blow cut off his head, and told Strongback to take him up, and carry him to the palace.

The king came out to meet Fortunio with the most lively joy ; and the princess, too, putting as good a face as she could upon the matter, thanked him for the service he had done to the whole kingdom. At the same time, thought she to herself, “ it shall not be long before I find some better means of having revenge.”

Soon after, the king seeming again very mournful, the princess asked him the reason, as before. “ Alas !” said he, “ how can I help it, since the emperor has not left me money enough to fit out the army I meant to send out against him.” “ Brother,” answered she, “ do you suppose that Fortunio, who was able to kill the dragon, which is what twenty armies could not have done, is not also able to make the emperor give back your treasures ? I am certain that he is, if you will but put him to the proof.”

Fortunio, though he fully saw the malice of the princess, could not help telling the king that he felt an earnest desire to make

the trial; upon which the king embraced him tenderly, and gave the proper orders for his setting out; but at the same time said, that if any thing bad should happen to him, he himself should never be happy again.

Fortunio lost no time in going to find Comrade, and told him he feared his ruin was now certain. "Do not grieve yourself thus, my dear master," said Comrade, "I have long foreseen that this would happen; and I have no doubt you will return with success, as you did before. You should give to each of your men a new and handsome livery, let them be mounted on fine horses, and then set out without delay."

In a few hours they came to the city of the emperor, and went straight to the palace, where Fortunio found the emperor himself, and claimed from him all the treasures of King Alfourite. When the emperor heard this, he only smiled. "Do you indeed think," said he, "that I shall so soon give back what I took such pains to obtain? If

you had brought an army with you, we might to be sure have fought for the riches; but as it is, I would advise you, young gentleman, not to force me to use harsh means in sending you out of my kingdom." Fortunio replied, that he meant only to be civil; but begged the emperor to think again about his request.

"This is very strange," said the emperor, "but as your demand is odd enough, I will offer you something as odd as that is. If you can find a man who will eat for his breakfast all the bread that has been baked for the people of this city, I will grant what you desire." Fortunio was very glad to hear this; and told the emperor that he would agree to this; and then he sent for Gormand, gave him an account of what had passed, and asked him whether he thought he could eat the whole? "Never fear, my good master," said Gormand, "you will see that they will be sorry sooner than I."

When the emperor, the empress, the princess his daughter, and the whole court, had seated themselves to behold this strange af-



fair, Fortunio came forward with Gormand by his side. He saw before him six great mountains of loaves that almost reached the clouds; this made him at first a little afraid, but when he looked at Gormand, and saw how eager he was to begin, he again took courage. When the signal was given, Gormand set to work on the first mountain, and in less than a minute he ate up the whole: he did the same with the second, and so on to the last; and when he had done, he told the emperor he must be so bold as to say, that he had made but a middling breakfast, for the treat of such a rich prince. Nothing could be like the wonder of all the people when they saw this, and most of them now began crying, and said, "We shall have no bread to give our children for many days."

But the emperor was more vexed than any body else; so he told Fortunio to come up to him, and then said, "Young gentleman, you cannot expect that I should give you the treasures of King Alfourite, because you

happen to have a servant who is a great eater. However, to shew you that I have some respect for you, find a man who shall drink up all the rivers, lakes, and canals, with the wine that is in the cellars of all my people, in a minute's time, and I promise that then I will indeed grant your request."

Fortunio thought his Majesty was very base not to keep his word, yet he said he would accept this new offer; so Tippler was sent for, and he did the job quite with ease, to the wonder of all the people.

The emperor now looked very grave, and told Fortunio, that though what he had seen was strange to be sure, yet it all was not enough to deserve the great reward that he claimed. "Therefore," said he, "if you would obtain it, you must find a person who can run as swiftly as my daughter." Fortunio was very much vexed at this, but he was forced to consent. So he sent for Lightfoot, and told him to prepare for a race with a princess whom no one had ever yet been able

to catch in running. In the mean time the princess went to her room to put on the dress and shoes that had been made on purpose for her to run in ; and when she came back, she found Lightfoot ready for the race ; so they were told they must set off at the signal. The princess now called for some of the wine that she used always to drink when she was going to run ; upon which Lightfoot said it was but right he should have some too ; the princess agreed to this, but she stepped aside, and slyly poured into his glass a few drops of a liquor that had the power to throw him into a sound sleep.

When the signal was given, the princess set off at full speed ; while Lightfoot, instead of doing the same, threw himself on the ground, and fell fast asleep. The race was several miles long, and the princess had run more than half way, when Fortunio saw her coming near the end of it without Lightfoot. On this he turned pale, and cried out, " Comrade, I am undone ; I see nothing of

Lightfoot." "My lord," said his faithful horse, "Fine-ear shall let you know how far he is off." Fine-ear now put his ear to the ground to listen, and told Fortunio that Lightfoot was snoring on the spot where the princess began her race. Then Comrade told Marksman to shoot an arrow into his ear, which he did so well, that Lightfoot started up, and seeing the princess almost at the end of the course, he set off with such quickness, that he seemed carried by the winds, passed the princess, and came in before her.

The emperor was now almost mad with rage, and as he had many years ago given some affront to a fairy, he thought that the wonders he had seen were done through her help, to punish him. So he thought it would be of no use for him to propose any thing else; but he called for Fortunio, and said to him, "It is true that you have done all and more than I spoke of; therefore, take away with you as much of the treasures of King Alfourite as one of your people can carry on his back."

# FORTUNIO



—Lightfoot's Race with the.—

*Princess of Matapa*



This was as much as Fortunio wished for ; so when he was taken into the store-rooms which held the riches, he told Strongback to begin to load himself. Strongback laid hold at first of five hundred statues of gold taller than giants ; next of ten thousand bags of money, and after that as many filled with precious jewels ; he then took the chariots and horses ; in short, he left not a single thing that had been taken from King Alfou-rite.

They then made haste to set out for King Alfou-rite's country. As soon as they were on the road, the seven gifted men began to ask what reward they were to have for their service. "The greatest belongs to me," said Lightfoot, "for if I had not outrun the princess, we might have gone back as we came." "And pray," said Fine-ear, "what would you have done if I had not heard you snore?" "I think you must both own," said Marksman, "that our good fortune was owing to my shooting the arrow just into

Lightfoot's ear." "I wonder at you, upon my word," said Strongback, "pray who brought away all the treasures? Is it not through me that you have got them here at all?" They were going on talking in this way, when Fortunio said to them, "It is true, my friends, you have all done wonders, but you should leave it for the king to reward you. He sent us to bring back his treasures, and not to steal them; but even if his Majesty should fail to reward you, yet you shall have no reason to complain, for I will engage to do it myself."

Fortunio reached the palace of King Alfourite safe with the treasures. The king was amazed to behold him again, and embraced him with the utmost transport. His bravery too had such an effect on the love which the princess felt for him, that she that very day asked to speak with him in private, wishing once more to try to find what were his thoughts about her: "For," said she to herself, "when I put him in mind of the



honours I have been the means of his getting, how can he fail to return my love?"

Fortunio sent her for answer, that he could not have the pleasure of waiting on her. The princess could not bear to be treated with this disdain; so she ran to the king all in tears, in the middle of the night, and told him that Fortunio had sent Strongback to her chamber to carry her away by force, that he might marry her; and that before he went on his last journey, he had himself made an attempt to do the same. "In short, dear brother," said the wicked and artful creature, "nothing but the death of this vile wretch can atone for his crime, or provide for my safety."

The king's grief at hearing this was greater than any body can think. He passed the night in tears for the cruel hardship he was forced to, as he now must punish Fortunio; and the next morning he had him taken up to be tried for the offence.

When the time of trial came, it was in

vain that Fortunio declared he was innocent; no one thought such a great princess could invent such a wicked falsehood; so the judges found him guilty, and condemned him to have three darts shot into his heart on that very day.

When the king left the court, he shed many tears; but the cruel princess staid to see the sentence completed. The officer came up to Fortunio, undid his waistcoat, and then put open his shirt, that his heart might be bare to receive the darts; but as soon as this was done, the snowy whiteness of the bosom that was seen shewed all that saw it that the prisoner was a woman!

Every eye was now turned upon the princess, to accuse her of her baseness, in bringing such a false charge against an innocent creature, who, besides, had shewn such courage, and done the state such great service; but she could not bear this public shame; so she took a sharp knife out of her pocket, and plunged it into her heart, saying, "Fortunio is now revenged for my guilt."

Fortunio was led in triumph to the palace; and when the king had spent some weeks in grieving for the mournful death of the princess his sister, he made an offer of his hand and crown to Fortunio. They were then married with the greatest pomp; and Fortunio's father, the old earl, and his two daughters were sent for, and always after staid at court. The first care of the new queen was to provide a grand stable for Comrade, whom she went to see every day, and asked his advice upon all great affairs, so that the king never after lost a battle. She settled a handsome fortune on Strongback, Lightfoot, Marksman, Fine-ear, Boisterer, Gormand, and Tippler, who all lived together in a fine castle, a few miles in the country. It was agreed between the queen and them, that when her Majesty should want their service, she should say so to some one in the palace, so that Fine-ear might catch the sound, and send the person she wished for.

After this, the queen sent to invite the old

shepherdess to court ; but she would not come, saying, " All she wished was the queen's comfort, and she should now die happy."

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## FORTUNATUS.

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IN the city of Famagosta, in the island of Cyprus, there lived a very rich gentleman. His name was Theodorus; he married a lady who was the greatest beauty in Cyprus, and she was as rich as himself; she was called Graciana.

They both had every pleasure that wealth could buy, and lived in the highest style. Besides all this, the Lady Graciana brought her husband a fine little son, who was named Fortunatus; so that one would think nothing could have kept Theodorus from being the

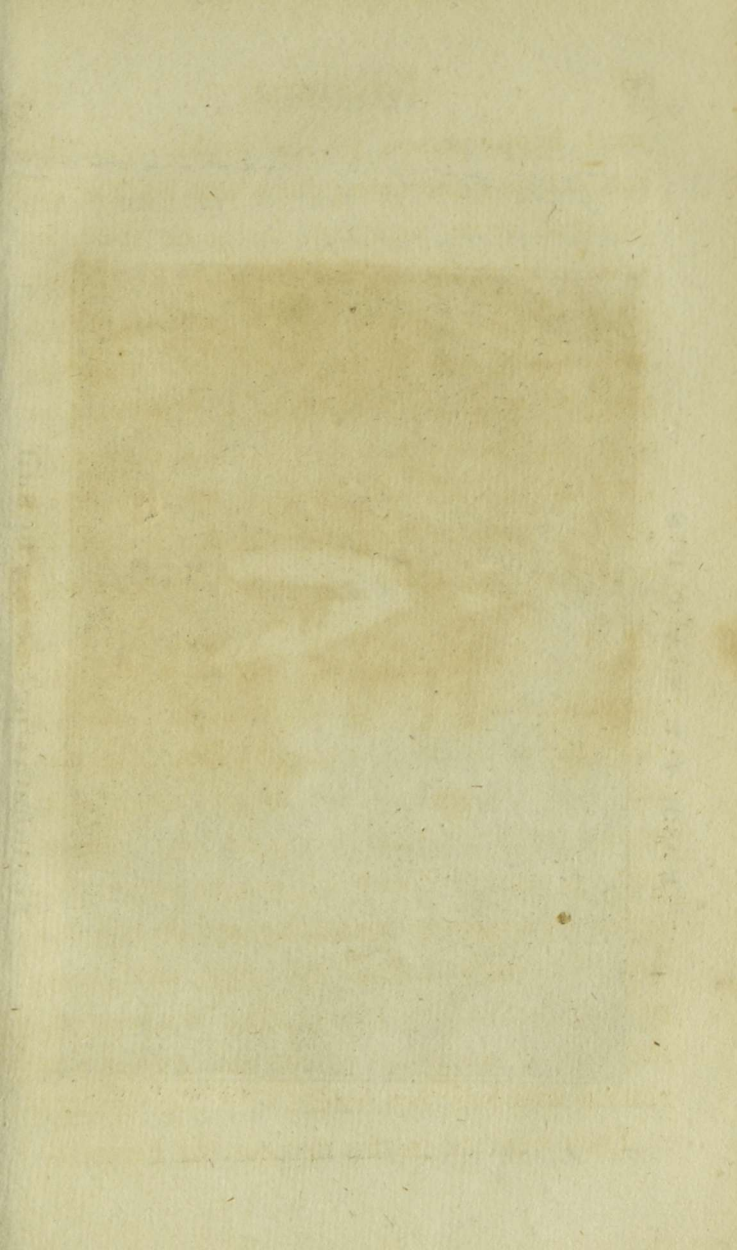
most happy person in the world. But this was not long the case ; for when he had enjoyed all those pleasures for some time, he grew tired of them ; and began to keep company with some young noblemen of the court, with whom he sat up all night, drinking, and playing cards, so that in a few years he spent all his fortune. He was now very sorry for what he had done, but it was too late ; and there was nothing he could do, but to work at some trade, to support his wife and child.

For all this, the Lady Graciana did not speak hard to him, but still loved her husband the same as before ; saying, “ Dear Theodorus, to be sure, I do not know how to work at any trade ; but, if I cannot help you in getting money, I will help you to save it.”

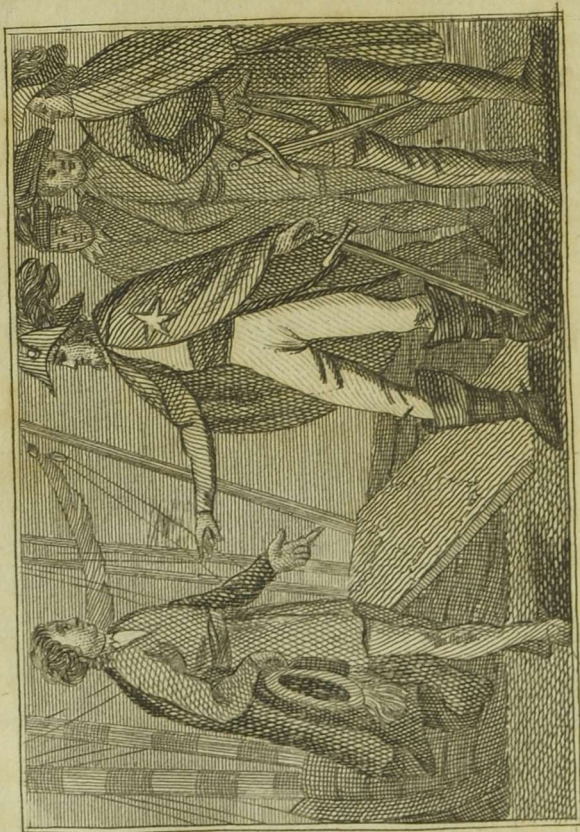
So Theodorus set to work ; and though the Lady Graciana had always been used only to ring her bell for every thing she wanted, she now scoured the kettles and washed the clothes with her own hands.

They went on in this manner till Fortuna-





F O R T U N A T U S



Fortunatus preparing to sail

tus was sixteen years of age. When that time came, one day as they were all sitting at dinner, Theodorus fixed his eyes on his son, and sighed deeply. "What is the matter with you, father?" said Fortunatus. "Ah! my child," said Theodorus, "I have reason enough to be sorry, when I think of the noble fortune which I have spent, and that my folly will force you to labour for your living."

"Father," replied Fortunatus, "do not grieve about it. I have often thought that it was time I should do something for myself; and though I have not been brought up to any trade, yet I hope I can contrive to support myself somehow."

When Fortunatus had done his dinner, he took his hat and walked to the sea-side, thinking of what he could do, so as to be no longer a burden to his parents.

Just as he reached the sea-shore, the Earl of Flanders, who had been to Jerusalem, was getting on board his ship with all his servants to set sail for Flanders. Fortunatus now

thought he would offer himself to be the earl's page. When the earl saw that he was a very smart-looking lad, and heard the quick replies which he made to his questions, he took him into his service; so at once they all went on board.

On their way the ship stopped a short time at the port of Venice; where Fortunatus saw many strange things, which made him wish still more to travel, and taught him much that he did not know before.

Soon after this they came to Flanders; and they had not been long on shore, before the earl his master was married to the daughter of the Duke of Cleves. The wedding was kept with all sorts of public feastings, and games on horseback, called tilts, which lasted many days; and among the rest, the earl's lady gave two jewels as prizes to be played for, each of them the value of a hundred crowns.

One of these was won by Fortunatus, and the other by Timothy, a servant of the Duke of Burgundy; who after ran another

tilt with Fortunatus, so that the winner was to have both the jewels. So they tilted; and at the fourth course, Fortunatus hoisted Timothy a full spear's length from his horse, and thus won both the jewels; which pleased the earl and countess so much, that they praised Fortunatus, and thought better of him than ever.

At this time, also, Fortunatus had many rich presents given him by the lords and ladies of the court. But the high favour which was showed to him made his fellow-servants jealous; and one of them, whose name was Robert, who had always been used to pretend that he had a great friendship for Fortunatus, made him believe that, for all his seeming kindness, the earl in secret envied Fortunatus for his great skill at tilting. Robert said, too, that he had heard the earl give private orders to one of his servants to find some way of killing Fortunatus next day, while they should all be out a-hunting.

Fortunatus thanked the wicked Robert for what he thought a great kindness; and

the next day at day-break he took the swiftest horse in the earl's stable, and left his country.

When the earl heard that Fortunatus had gone away in a hurry, he was much surprised, and asked all his servants what they knew about the matter; but they all denied knowing any thing of it, or what was the reason why he had left them. The earl then said, "that Fortunatus was a lad that he had a great esteem for, and that he was sure some of them must have given him an affront; but if he found it out to be so, he would not fail to punish any person that had been guilty of doing this."

In the mean time Fortunatus, when he found himself out of the earl's country, stopped at an inn to refresh himself; here he began to reckon how much he had about him. He took out all his fine clothes and jewels to look at, and could not help putting them on; he then looked at himself in the glass, and thought that to be sure he was quite a fine smart fellow. Next he took out

his purse, and counted the money that had been given him by the lords and ladies of the earl's court.

He found that, in all, he had five hundred crowns; so he bought a horse, and took care to send back the one that he had taken from the earl's stables. He then set off for Calais, crossed the channel, landed safely at Dover, and went on to London; where he soon made his way into genteel company, and had once the honour to dance with the daughter of a duke at the lord mayor's ball; but this sort of life, as any body may well think, soon made away with his little stock of money.

When Fortunatus found himself without a penny left, he began to think of going back again to France, and soon after went on board a ship bound to Picardy. He landed in that country; but finding no employ for himself, he set off for Brittany; when he lost his way in crossing a wood, and was forced to stay in it all night.

The next morning he was but little better

off than before, for he could find no path. So he walked about from one part of the wood to another ; till at last, on the evening of the second day, he met with a spring, at which he drank very hearty ; but still he had nothing to eat, and was ready to die with hunger.

When night came on, he heard the growling of wild beasts ; so he climbed up a high tree for safety ; and he had hardly seated himself in it before a lion walked fiercely up to the spring to drink. This made him very much afraid. When the lion had gone away, bear came to drink also ; and as the moon shone very bright, he looked up and saw Fortunatus, and straight began to climb up the tree to get at him.

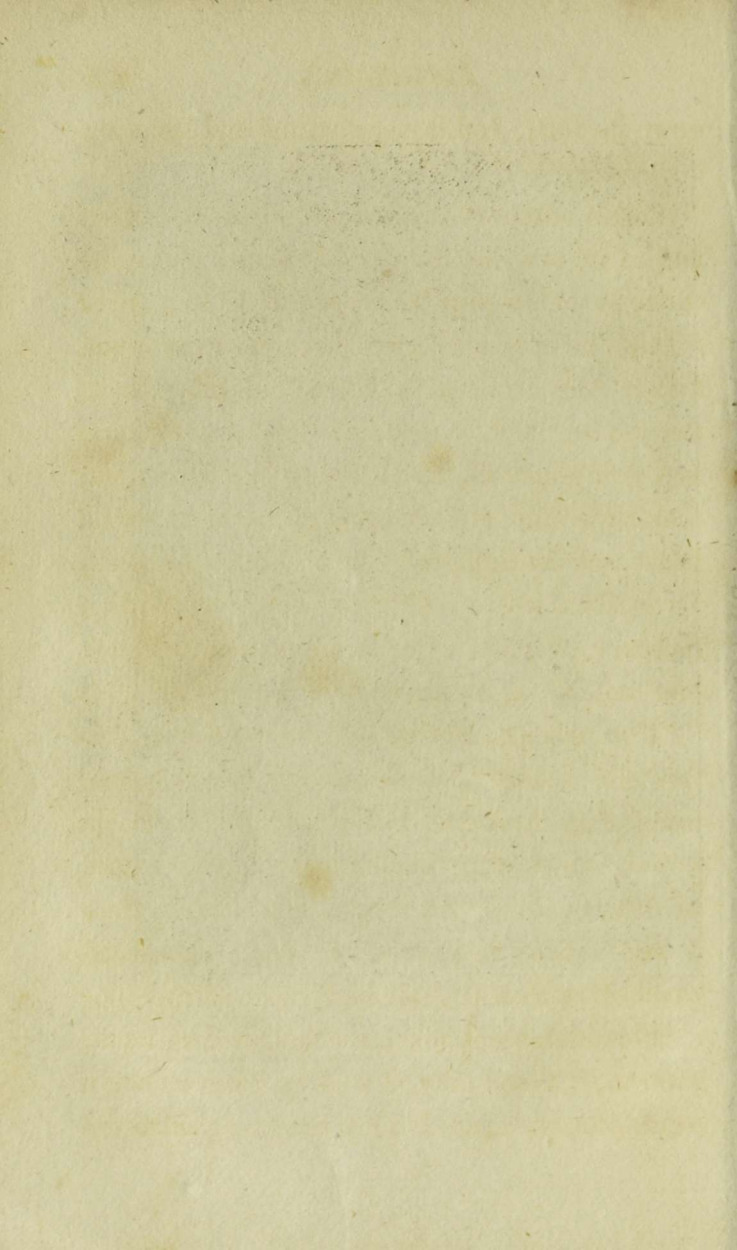
Fortunatus drew his sword, and sat quiet till the bear was come within arm's length ; and he then ran him through the body with it several times. This drove the bear so very savage, that he made a great spring to get at Fortunatus ; but the bough broke, and



F O R T U N A T T S



Fortunatus and the Lion



down he fell, and lay sprawling and making a shocking yell on the ground.

Fortunatus now looked round on all sides; and as he saw no more wild beasts near, he thought this would be a good time to get rid of the bear at once; so down he came, and killed him at a single blow. Being almost starved for want of food, he stooped down, and was going to suck the blood of the bear; but looking round once more, to see if any wild beast was coming, he on a sudden beheld a beautiful lady standing by his side, with a bandage over her eyes, leaning upon a wheel, and looking as if she was going to speak.

The lady did not make him wait long, before she spake these words, " Know, young man, that my name is Fortune; I have the power to bestow wisdom, strength, riches, health, beauty, and long life; one of these I am willing to bestow on you; choose for yourself which it shall be."

Fortunatus was not a moment before he answered, " Good lady, I wish to have riches in such plenty, that I may never again know

what it is to be so hungry as I now find myself."

The lady then gave him a purse, and told him that, in all the countries where he might happen to be, he need only put his hand into the purse as often as he pleased, and he would be sure to find in it ten pieces of gold; that the purse should never fail of yielding the same sum as long as it was kept by him and his children; but that when he and his children should be dead, then the purse should lose this power.

Fortunatus now did not know what to do with himself for joy, and began to thank the lady very much; but she told him that he had better think of making the best of his way out of the wood. She then told him which path to take, and bade him farewell.

He walked by the light of the moon as fast as his weakness and fatigue would let him, till he came near an inn. But before he went into it, he thought it would be best to see whether the lady Fortune had been as good as her word; so he put his hand into his purse,

and to his great joy he counted ten pieces of gold.

Having nothing to fear, Fortunatus walked boldly into the inn, and called for the best supper they could get ready in a minute: "For," said he, "I must wait till to-morrow before I am very nice. I am so hungry now that almost any thing will do."

Fortunatus very soon ate his belly full, and then called for every sort of wine in the house; and after supper, he began to think what sort of life he should now lead. "For," said he to himself, "I shall now have money enough for every thing I can desire."

He slept that night in the very best bed in the house, and the next day he ordered the finest victuals of all kinds. When he rang his bell, all the waiters tried who should run fastest to ask him what he pleased to want; and the landlord himself, hearing what a noble guest was come to the house, took care to be standing at the door to bow to him when he should be passing out.

**F**ortunatus asked the landlord whether any

fine horses could be got near at hand ; also, if he knew of some smart-looking clever men-servants who wanted places. By chance, the landlord was able to provide him with both, to his great liking.

As he had now got every thing that he wanted, he set out on the finest horse that was ever seen, with two servants, for the nearest town. There he bought some grand suits of clothes, and put his two servants in liveries laced with gold ; and then he went on to Paris.

Here he took the finest house that was to be got, and lived in great pomp. He invited the nobility, and gave grand balls to all the most beautiful ladies of the court. He went to all public places of amusement, and the first lords in the country asked him to their houses.

He had lived in this manner for about a year, when he began to think of going to Famagosta to visit his parents, whom he had left very poor. " But," thought Fortunatus, " as I am young and have not seen much of the

world, I should like to meet with some person of more knowledge than I have, who would make my journey both useful and pleasing to me."

Soon after this, he fell into company with an old gentleman called Loch Fitty, who was a native of Scotland, and had left a wife and ten children a great many years ago, in hopes to better his fortune; but now, owing to many accidents, was poorer than ever, and had not money enough to take him back to his family.

When Loch Fitty found how much Fortunatus wished to obtain knowledge, he told him many of the strange adventures he had met with; and gave him an account of all the countries he had been in, as well as of the customs, dress, and manners of the people.

Fortunatus thought to himself, "This is the very man I stand in need of:" so at once he made him a very good offer, which the old gentleman agreed so, but made the bargain that he might first go and visit his family.

Fortunatus told him that he should. "And," said he, "as I am a little tired of being always in the midst of such noisy pleasures as we find at Paris, I will, with your leave, go with you to Scotland, and see your wife and children."

They set out the very next day, and came safe to the house of Loch Fitty; and in all the journey, Fortunatus did not once wish to change his kind companion for all the pleasures and grandeur that he had left behind.

Loch Fitty kissed his wife and children; five of whom were daughters, and the most beautiful creatures that were ever beheld. When they had set down, his wife said to him, "Ah! dear Lord Loch Fitty, how happy I am to see you once again? Now I hope we shall enjoy each other's company for the rest of our lives. What though we are poor? we will be content; if you will but promise you will not think of leaving us again to get riches only because we have a noble title."

Fortunatus heard this with great surprise.



“What,” said he, “are you a lord? Then you shall be a rich lord too. And that you may not think I lay you under any burden in the fortune I shall give you, I will put it into your power to make me your debtor instead. Give me your youngest daughter, Cassandra, for a wife; and let us have the pleasure of your company, as far as to Famagosta; and take all your family with you, that you may have pleasant company on your way back, when you have rested in that place from your fatigue.”

Lord Loch Fitty shed some tears of joy to think he should at last see his family again raised to all the honours which it had once enjoyed. He gladly agreed to Fortunatus being the husband of his daughter Cassandra; and then told him the reasons that had forced him to live poor at Paris, and call himself by the plain name of Loch Fitty, instead of Lord.

When Lord Loch Fitty had ended his story, they agreed that the very next morning the lady Cassandra should be asked to

accept the hand of Fortunatus; and that, if she should consent, they would set sail in a few days for Famagosta.

The next morning the offer was made to her, as had been agreed on; and Fortunatus had the pleasure of hearing from the lips of the beautiful Cassandra, that the very first time she cast her eyes on him, she thought him the most handsome and the finest gentleman in the world.

Every thing was soon ready for them to set out on the journey. Fortunatus, Lord Loch Fitty, his lady, and their ten children, then set sail in a large ship; they had a good voyage, and landed safe at the port of Famagosta. They spent a few days after this in making ready for the wedding, and it then took place with all the grandeur and joy that could be.

As Fortunatus found that his father and mother were both dead, he begged that Lord Loch Fitty would be so kind as to stay and keep him and his lady company; so they lived all together in the finest house in the

city of Famagosta, and in the most noble style.

By the end of the first year, the Lady Cassandra had a little son, who was christened Ampedo; and the next year another, who was christened Andolocia.

For twelve years Fortunatus lived a very happy life with his wife and children, and his wife's kindred; and as each of her sisters had a fortune given her from the purse of Fortunatus, they soon married very well. But by this time he began to long to travel again; and he thought, as he was now much older and wiser than when he was at Paris, he might go by himself, for Lord Loch Fitty was at this time too old to bear fatigue.

After he had, with great trouble, got the consent of the Lady Cassandra, who at last made him promise to stay away only two years, he got all things ready for his journey; and taking his lady into one of his private rooms, he shewed her three chests of gold. He told her to keep one of these for herself, and take charge of the other two for their

sons, in case any thing bad should happen to him. He then led her back to the room where the whole family were sitting; embraced them all tenderly one by one, and set sail with a fair wind for Alexandria.

When Fortunatus came to this place, he was told that it was the custom to make a handsome present to the sultan; so he sent him a piece of plate that cost five thousand pounds. The sultan was so much pleased at this, that he ordered a hundred casks of spices to be given to Fortunatus in return. Fortunatus sent these straight to the Lady Cassandra, with the kindest letters that could be, by the same ship that brought him, which was then going back to Famagosta.

Fortunatus soon told the sultan, that he wished to travel through his country by land; so the sultan gave him such passports and letters as he might stand in need of, to the other princes in those parts. He then bought a camel, hired proper servants, and set off on his travels.

He went through Turkey, Persia, and

from thence to Carthage; he next went into the country of Prester John, who rides upon a white elephant, and has kings to wait on him.

Fortunatus made him some rich presents, and went on to Calcutta; and in coming back, he took Jerusalem in his way, and so came again to Alexandria; where he had the good fortune to find the same ship that had brought him, and to learn from the captain that his wife and family were all in perfect health.

The first thing that he did was to pay a visit to his old friend the sultan. He again made a handsome present to him, and was invited to dine at his palace.

After dinner the sultan said, "It must be vastly amusing, Fortunatus, to hear an account of all the places you have seen; pray favour me with a history of your travels."

Fortunatus did as he was desired, and pleased the sultan very much, by telling him the many odd adventures he had met with;

and, above all, the manner of his first becoming known to the Lord Loch Fitty, and the desire of that lord to maintain the honours of his family.

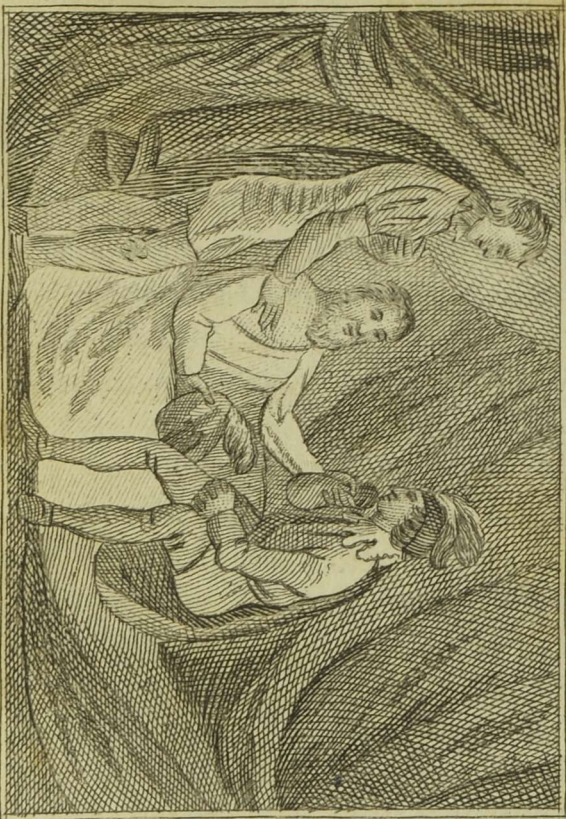
When he had ended, the sultan said he was greatly pleased with what he had heard; but that he had a more curious thing than any thing that Fortunatus had told him. He then led him into a room almost filled with jewels, opened a large closet, and took out a cap, which he told Fortunatus was of greater value than all the rest.

Fortunatus thought the sultan was joking, and told him he had seen many a better cap than that. "Ah!" said the sultan, "that is because you do not know its value. Whoever puts this cap on his head, and wishes to be in any part of the world, will find himself there in a moment."

"Indeed!" said Fortunatus, "and pray, is the man living who made it?"

"I know nothing about that," said the sultan.

F O R T U N A T U S



Fortunatus receiving his Wishing Cap





“ One would hardly believe it,” said Fortunatus. “ Pray, sir, is it very heavy ?”

“ Not at all,” replied the sultan; “ you may feel it.”

Fortunatus took up the cap, put it on his head, and could not help wishing himself on board the ship that was going back to Famagosta. In less than a moment he was carried through the winds on board of her, just as she was ready to sail; and there being a brisk gale, they were out of sight in half an hour; while the sultan, all the time, began to repent of his folly, for letting Fortunatus try the cap on his head.

The ship came safe to Famagosta after a happy passage, and Fortunatus found his wife and children well; but Lord Loch Fitty and his lady had died of old age, and were buried side by side.

Fortunatus now began to take great pleasure in teaching his two boys all sorts of useful learning, and also such manly sports as wrestling and tilting. Now and then he thought about the curious cap which had brought him home,

and then he would wish he could just take a peep at what was passing in other countries; but at those times he always made himself content with staying only an hour or two, so that the Lady Cassandra never missed him, and was not uneasy any more about his love of travelling.

At last, Fortunatus began to get old, and the Lady Cassandra fell sick and died. The loss of her caused him so much grief, that soon after he fell sick too. As he thought he had not long to live, he called his two sons to his bed-side, and told them the secrets of the purse and the cap, which he begged they would not on any account make known to others. "Follow my example," said Fortunatus; I have had the purse these forty years, and no living person knew from what source I obtained my riches."

He then told them to make use of the purse between them, and to live together in friendship; and, embracing them, died soon after.

Fortunatus was buried in great pomp by the side of Lady Cassandra, in his own chapel, and was for a long time mourned by the people of Famagosta.

FINIS.

## DIAMONDS AND TOADS.

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THERE was, once upon a time, a widow who had two daughters. The eldest was so very much like her mother, both in temper and person, that whoever saw one, saw the picture of the other also; they were both so proud and so ill-natured, that nobody could live with them.

The youngest was just as much like her father, who had nothing but good-nature and sweet temper in him. She was also the most beautiful creature that ever was seen. The mother doated upon the eldest, but she hated

the youngest, and made her eat in the kitchen, and work all day with the servants.

Besides this, the poor girl had to go twice a-day to draw water out of a spring more than a mile and a half from the house; and bring home a large jug full of it as well as she could. One day, while she was at the spring, a poor woman came up to her, and asked her to let her drink. "That I will, Goody, with all my heart," said the sweet little girl. She then washed out the jug, filled it at the clearest part of the spring, and held it up to the old woman's mouth, that she might drink the better.

When the old woman had done, she said to her, "You are so pretty, so kind, and so good, my dear, that I will give you a gift." Now, it was a fairy that had been drinking, who only wanted to see how far the little girl's good-nature would go. "I give you," said she, "that every time you speak, there shall come out of your mouth either a rose or a diamond."

When the little girl got home, her mother

began to scold her for staying so long at the spring. "I beg your pardon, mamma," said she, "for not coming home sooner;" and while she spoke these words, there fell from her lips two roses, two pearls, and two large diamonds.

"What is this I see?" cried the mother, quite lost in wonder; "as sure as any thing she drops diamonds and pearls from her mouth in speaking! My child, how does this happen?" This was the first time she had ever called her by such a fond name as my child. The poor girl told her mother every thing that had passed at the spring; and still kept dropping pearls and diamonds from her mouth all the time she was speaking.

"Upon my word," said her mother, "this is very lucky indeed; I will send my darling there too. Fanny! Fanny! look, do you see what falls out of your sister's mouth when she speaks? Should not you like to have the same gift yourself? Well, only go to the spring; and when a poor woman asks you to

let her drink, do so in as civil and kind a manner as you can."

"It would be very pretty, to be sure," answered the proud creature, "for *me* to go and draw water at the spring! Not I, indeed." "But I insist on your going, and this very moment too," said her mother. When the pert hussy found that she must, she set out; but took the best silver tankard in the house along with her, and grumbled all the way as she went.

As soon as she reached the spring, a lady very richly dressed came out of a wood just by, and asked her to let her drink. This was the very same fairy that had bestowed the rich gift on the youngest sister; but now she had taken the dress and manners of a princess, to see how far the surly airs of the proud creature would go. "Am I come here," said the ill-bred hussy, "to draw water for you? What! the best silver tankard in the house was brought on purpose for your ladyship, I suppose! But you may drink out of it too, if you have a fancy."

“ You are not very civil,” said the fairy, without putting herself into a passion ; “ but since you have behaved with so little kindness, I give you for a gift, that at every word you speak, there shall come out of your mouth either a toad or a snake.”

As soon as her mother saw her coming home, she called out, “ Well, daughter !” “ Well, mother !” answered the pert creature ; and as she spoke, two toads and two snakes dropped from her mouth upon the ground. “ Oh, mercy !” cried the mother, “ what do I see ? It is that jade your sister who is the cause of all this ! But she shall pay for it, I warrant her ;” and she went straight to look for her, that she might beat her.

The poor little girl ran away as fast as she could, and reached a forest near the house. It happened that the king’s son had just then been hunting, and he met her ; and seeing how very beautiful she was, he asked what she was doing all alone in the forest, and why she cried ?



“ Alas !” said she, “ sobbing as if her heart would break, “ my mother, Sir, has turned me out of doors.” The king’s son now saw the pearls and diamonds fall from her mouth at every word she spoke ; and he begged her to tell him how such a strange thing happened. The pretty creature then let him know all that had passed between her and the fairy at the spring.

The prince was so much charmed with her beauty and innocence, that he fell deeply in love with her. He saw that the gift which the fairy had given her was worth more than the largest fortune could be ; so he led her to the palace of the king his father, and married her directly.

As for her sister, she grew even perter than before, and behaved in all things so very ill, that her own mother was forced to turn her out of doors. At last, the ill-natured and saucy creature wandered a long way, and tried to get some one to give her food and shelter, but she could not ; so she

went into a thick wood, and there died of grief and hunger, without having one person in the world to pity or be sorry for her.

FINIS.

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CINDERELLA;

OR,

THE LITTLE GLASS SLIPPER.

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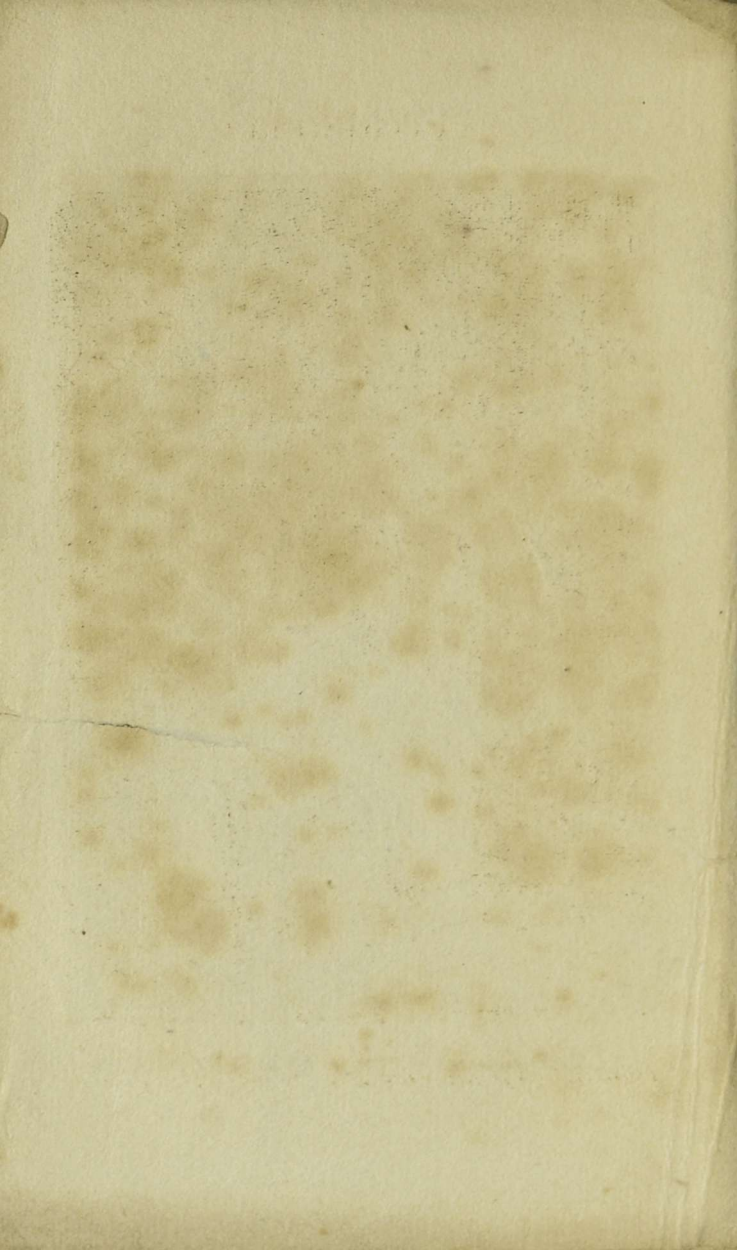
1809.



CINDERELLA



*Cinderella opening the Trap to let out the Rats.*



# CINDERELLA;

OR,

## THE LITTLE GLASS SLIPPER.

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**T**HERE was once a very rich gentleman, who lost his wife; and, having loved her exceedingly, he was very sorry when she died. Finding himself quite unhappy for her loss, he resolved to marry a second time, thinking by this means he should be as happy as before. Unfortunately, however, the lady he chanced to fix upon, was the proudest and the haughtiest woman ever known; she was always out of humour with every one; nobody could

please her, and she returned the civilities of those about her with the most affronting disdain. She had two daughters by a former husband, whom she had brought up to be proud and idle; indeed, in temper and behaviour they perfectly resembled their mother; they did not love their books, and would not learn to work; in short, they were disliked by every body.

The gentleman on his side had a daughter also, who, in sweetness of temper and behaviour, was the exact likeness of her own mother, for whose death he had so much lamented; and whose tender care of his little girl he was in hopes to see replaced by that of his new bride.

But scarcely was the marriage-ceremony over, before his wife began to shew her real temper; she could not bear the pretty little girl, because her sweet obliging manners made those of her own daughters appear a thousand times more odious and disagreeable.

She therefore ordered her to live in the kitchen; and if ever she brought any thing



into the parlour, always scolded her till she was out of sight. She made her work with the servants in washing the dishes, and rubbing the tables and chairs ; it was her place to clean madam's chamber, and that of the misses her daughters, which was all inlaid, and furnished with beds of the newest fashion, and looking-glasses so long and broad, that they could see themselves from head to foot in them ; while the little creature herself was forced to sleep up in a dirty garret, upon a wretched straw bed, without curtains, or any thing to make her comfortable.

The poor child bore all this with the greatest patience, not daring to complain to her father, who she feared would only reprove her, for she saw that his wife governed him entirely. When she had done all her work, she used to sit in the chimney-corner among the cinders ; so that she went by the name of Cinderbreech in the house : the younger of the two sisters, however, being rather more civil than the elder, called her CINDERELLA. And Cinderella, dirty and ragged as she was,

as often happens in such cases, was a thousand times prettier than her sisters-in-law, dressed out in all their splendour.

It happened that the king's son gave a ball, to which he invited all the persons of fashion in the country: our two misses were of the number; for the king's son did not know how disagreeable they were at home, but supposed, as they were so much indulged, that they were extremely amiable. He did not invite Cinderella, for he had never seen nor heard of her.

The two sisters began immediately to be very busy in preparing for the happy day: nothing could exceed their joy; every moment of their time was spent in fancying such gowns, shoes, and head-dresses, as would set them off to the greatest advantage.

All this was a source of new vexation to poor Cinderella; for it was her business to iron and plait her sister's linen. They talked of nothing but how they should be dressed. "I," said the eldest, "will wear my scarlet velvet with French trimming." "And I,"

said the youngest, " shall wear the same petticoat I had made for the last ball ; but then, to make amends for that, I shall put on my gold muslin train, and wear my diamonds in my hair : with these I must certainly look well." They sent several miles for the best hair-dresser that was to be had, and all their ornaments were bought at the most fashionable shops.

On the morning of the ball, they called up Cinderella to consult with her about their dress, for they knew she had a great deal of taste. Cinderella gave them the best advice she could, and even offered to assist in adjusting their head-dresses ; which was exactly what they wanted, and they gladly accepted her proposal.

While Cinderella was busily engaged in dressing her sisters, they said to her, " Should you not like, Cinderella, to go to the ball ?" " Ah !" replied Cinderella, " you are only laughing at me ; it is not for such girls as I am, to think of going to balls." " You are in the right," said they ; " folks might laugh

indeed, to see a Cinderbreech dancing in a ball-room."

Any other than Cinderella would have tried to make the haughty creatures look as ugly as she could; but the sweet-tempered girl, on the contrary, did every thing she could think of to make them look well.

The sisters had scarcely eaten any thing for two days, so great was their joy as the happy day drew near. More than a dozen laces were broken in endeavouring to give them a fine slender shape, and they were always standing before the looking-glass.

At length the much-wished-for moment arrived; the proud misses stepped into a beautiful carriage, and, followed by servants in rich liveries, drove towards the king's palace. Cinderella followed them with her eyes as far as she could; and, when they were out of sight, she sat down in a corner, and began to cry.

Her godmother, who saw her tears, asked what ailed her. "I wish . . . . . I

W-i-s-h," sobbed poor Cinderella, without being able to say another word.

The godmother, who was a fairy, said to her, "You wish to go to the ball, Cinderella; is not that the case?" "Alas! yes," replied the poor child, sobbing still more than before.—"Well, well, be a good girl," said the godmother, "and you shall go."

She then led Cinderella to her bed-chamber, and said to her, "Run into the garden, and bring me a pompion." Cinderella flew like lightning, and brought the finest she could meet with. Her godmother scooped out the inside, leaving nothing but the rind; she then struck it with her wand, and the pompion instantly became a fine coach gilt all over with gold.

She next looked into the mouse-trap, where she found six mice, all alive and brisk; she told Cinderella to lift up the door of the trap very gently; and, as the mice passed out, she touched them one by one with her wand, and each immediately became a beautiful horse, of a fine dapple-grey mouse co-

lour. "Here, my child," said the godmother, "is a coach and horses too, as handsome as your sisters; but what shall we do for a postillion?"

"I will run," replied Cinderella, "and see if there be not a rat in the rat-trap; and if I find one, he will do very well for a postillion."

"Well thought of, my child!" said her godmother; "make what haste you can."

Cinderella brought the rat-trap, which, to her great joy, contained three of the largest rats ever seen. The fairy chose the one with the longest beard; and touching him with her wand, he was instantly turned into a smart, handsome postillion, with the finest pair of whiskers imaginable.

She next said to Cinderella, "Go again into the garden, and you will find six lizards behind the watering pot; bring them hither." This was no sooner done, than with a stroke from the fairy's wand they were changed into six footmen, who all immediately jumped up behind the coach in their laced liveries,

and stood side by side as cleverly as if they had been used to nothing else all their lives.

The fairy then said to Cinderella, "Well, my dear, is not this such an equipage as you could wish for to take you to the ball? Are you not delighted with it?" "Y-e-s," replied Cinderella with hesitation; "but must I go thither in these filthy rags?"

Her godmother touched her with her wand, and her rags instantly became the most magnificent apparel, ornamented with the most costly jewels that were ever seen. To these she added a beautiful pair of Glass Slippers, and bade her set out for the palace.

The fairy, however, before she took leave of Cinderella, strictly charged her, on no account whatever, to stay at the ball after the clock had struck Twelve, telling her, that should she stay but a single moment after that time, her coach would again become a pumpkin, her horses mice, her footmen lizards, and her fine clothes be changed to filthy rags.

Cinderella did not fail to promise every

thing her godmother desired of her, and, almost wild with joy, drove away to the palace.

As soon as she arrived, the king's son, who had been inform'd that a great princess, whom nobody knew, was come to the ball, presented himself at the door of her carriage, handed her out, and conducted her to the ball-room.

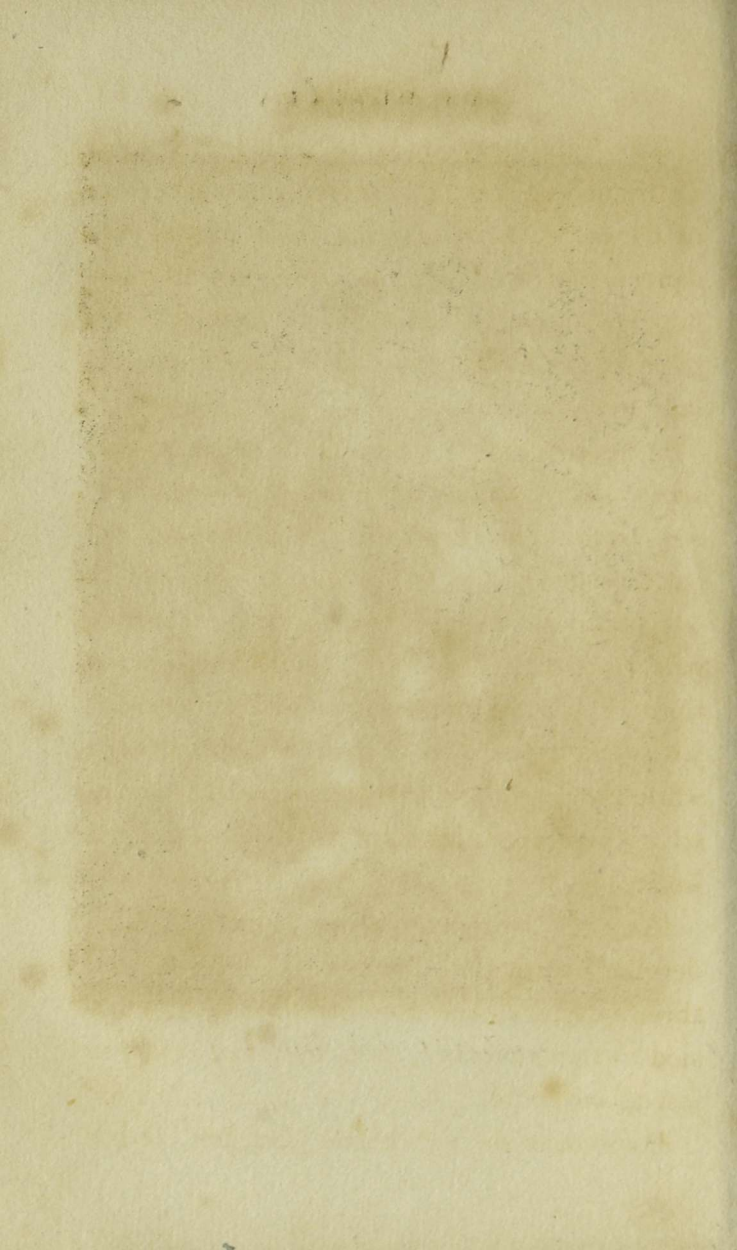
Cinderella no sooner appeared, than every one was silent; both the dancing and the music stopped, and every body was employ'd in gazing at the uncommon beauty of the unknown stranger: nothing was heard but whispers of "How handsome she is!" The king himself, old as he was, could not keep his eyes from her, and continually repeated to the queen, that it was a long time since he had seen so lovely a creature! The ladies endeavoured to find out how her clothes were made, that they might get some of the same pattern for themselves by the next day, should they be lucky enough to meet with such splendid materials, and such good work-women to make them.



CINDERELLA



*Cinderella at the Ball.*



The king's son conducted her to the most distinguished seat, and soon after led her out to dance with him. She both moved and danced so gracefully, that every one admired her still more than before; and she was thought the most beautiful and accomplished lady ever beheld.

After some time a delicious collation was served up; but the young prince was so busily employed in looking at her, that he did not eat a morsel.

Cinderella seated herself near her sisters, paid them a thousand attentions, and offered them a part of the oranges and sweetmeats with which the prince had presented her; while they, on their part, were quite astonished at these civilities from a lady they did not know.

As they were conversing together, Cinderella heard the clock strike eleven and three quarters; she rose from her seat, curtsied to the company, and hastened away as fast as she could.

As soon as she got home, she flew to her

godmother, and, after thanking her a thousand times, told her she would give the world to be able to go again to the ball the next day, for the king's son had entreated her to be there.

While she was telling her godmother every thing that had happened at the ball, the two sisters knocked a loud *rat tat tat* at the door, which Cinderella opened.

“How late you have staid!” said she, yawning, rubbing her eyes, and stretching herself as if just awaked out of her sleep, though she had in truth felt no desire to sleep since they left her.

“If you had been at the ball,” said one of the sisters, “let me tell you, you would not have been sleepy; there came thither the handsomest, yes, the very handsomest princess ever beheld! She paid us a thousand attentions, and made us take a part of the oranges and sweetmeats which the prince had given her.”

Cinderella could scarcely contain herself for laughter; she asked her sisters the name

of this princess; to which they replied, that nobody had been able to discover who she was; that the king's son was extremely grieved on that account, and had offered a large reward to any person who could find out where she came from.

Cinderella smiled, and said, "How very beautiful she must be! how fortunate you are! Ah! could I but see her for a single moment! Dear Miss Charlotte, lend me only the yellow gown you wear every day, and let me go to see her."

"Oh yes, I warrant you! Lend my clothes to a Cinderbreech! Do you really suppose me such a fool? No, no; pray, Miss Pert, mind your own business, and leave dresses and balls to your betters."

Cinderella expected some such answer, and was by no means sorry; for she would have been sadly at a loss what to do, if her sister had lent her the clothes that she had asked of her.

The next day the two sisters again went to the ball; and so did Cinderella, but dressed

still more magnificently than the night before. The king's son was continually by her side, and paid her the most obliging compliments.

The charming young creature was far from being tired of all the agreeable things she met with; on the contrary, she was so delighted with them, that she entirely forgot the charge her godmother had given her.

Cinderella at last heard the striking of a clock, and counted one, two, three, on till she came to twelve, though she had supposed it could be but eleven at the most. She instantly got up, and flew as nimbly as a deer out of the ball-room.

The prince tried to overtake her; but poor Cinderella's fright made her run the fastest. However, in her great hurry, she dropped one of the glass slippers from her foot, which the prince stooped down, and picked up, and took the greatest care of.

Cinderella got home tired and out of breath, but in her dirty old clothes, with-

out either coach or footmen, and having nothing left of her magnificence but the fellow of the glass slipper which she had dropped.

In the mean time the prince had inquired of all his guards at the palace gates, if they had not seen a magnificent princess pass out, and which way she went? The guards replied, that no princess had passed the gates; and that they had not seen a creature but a little ragged girl, who looked more like a beggar than a princess.

When the two sisters returned from the ball, Cinderella asked them if they had been as much amused as the night before, and if the beautiful princess had been there? They told her that she had; but that as soon as the clock struck twelve she hurried away from the ball-room, and, in the great haste she made, had dropped one of her glass slippers, which was the prettiest shape ever beheld; that the king's son had picked it up, and had done nothing but look at it all the rest of the evening; and that every body be-

lieved he was violently in love with the beautiful lady to whom it belonged.

This was very true; for, a few days after, the prince had it proclaimed by sound of trumpet, that he would marry the lady whose foot should fit the slipper he had found.

Accordingly the prince's messengers took the slipper, and carried it first to all the princesses; then to the duchesses; in short, to all the ladies of the court, but without success.

They then brought it to the two sisters, who each tried all she could to squeeze her foot into the slipper, but found that it was quite impossible.

Cinderella, who was looking at them all the while, and knew her slipper, could not help smiling, and ventured to say, "Pray, sir, let me try to get on the slipper."

Her sisters burst into a fit of laughter in the rudest manner possible: "Very likely, truly," said one of them, "that such a clum-





CINDERELLA



*The Fairey changes Cinderella into a Fine Lady.*

sy foot as yours should fit the slipper of the beautiful princess.”

The gentleman, however, who brought the slipper, turned round, looked at Cinderella ; and observing that she was very handsome, said, that as he was ordered by the prince to try it on every one till he found her whom it fitted, it was but just that Cinderella should have her turn.

Saying this, he made her sit down, and putting the slipper to her foot, it instantly slipped in, and he saw that it fitted her like wax.

The two sisters were amazed to see that the slipper fitted Cinderella ; but how much greater was their astonishment, when she drew out of her pocket the other slipper, and put it on her other foot !

Just at this moment the fairy entered the room, and, touching Cinderella's clothes with her wand, made her all at once appear more magnificently dressed than they had seen her before.

The two sisters immediately perceived that

poor Cinderella was the beautiful princess whom they had seen at the ball. They threw themselves at her feet, and asked her forgiveness for the ill treatment she had received from them. Cinderella helped them to rise, and, tenderly embracing them, said, she forgave them with all her heart, and begged them to bestow on her their affection.

Cinderella was then conducted, dressed as she was, to the young prince; who, finding her more beautiful than ever, instantly desired her to accept of his hand in marriage.

The splendid ceremony took place in a few days; and Cinderella, who was as amiable as she was handsome, gave her sisters magnificent apartments in the palace, and a short time after married them to two great lords of the court.

THE  
QUEEN  
AND  
COUNTRY GIRL.

---

THERE was, upon a time, a queen so very far stricken in years, that her Majesty was toothless and bald. Her head shook and trembled perpetually like the leaves of an aspin; and her sight was so dim, that spectacles were of no longer use to her. Her mouth was almost hid by the near approach of her nose and chin; her stature was so diminished, that she was shrunk into a shapeless heap; and her back so bowed, that you would have thought that she had been crooked from her infancy.

A fairy, who assisted at the birth of this queen, came to her, and said, "Do you de-

## 20 *Queen and Country Girl.*

sire to grow young again?" "Most earnestly," replied the queen; "I would part with all my jewels to be but twenty." "Then," continued the fairy, "it will be necessary to make an exchange, and to transfer your age and infirmities to some one, who will be contented to spare you her youth and health. To whom, therefore, shall we give your hundred years?"

Hereupon the queen gave orders to make diligent inquiry through the kingdom, for a person who might be willing to barter youth for age, upon a valuable consideration. When these orders were publicly known, a great many poor people from all parts flocked to the court, all of them desirous to become old and rich; but, when they had seen the queen at dinner, hideous in her infirmities, trembling and coughing over a mess of water-gruel, and doating ever and anon as she spoke, not one was inclinable to take up the burden of her years. They chose rather to live by begging, and to enjoy youth and health in rags. There came, likewise, a

crowd of ambitious persons, to whom she promised great dignities, and the highest honours; but when they had seen her, "What will our grandeur avail," said they, "when we shall appear so frightful, as to be ashamed to shew ourselves in public?"

At last there came a young country-girl, (whose name was Mopsy), in full bloom, who demanded no less than the crown as an equivalent for her youth and beauty. The queen immediately grew angry, but to what purpose? She was bent upon renewing her vigour at any rate, and said to Mopsy, "Let us divide my kingdom, and share alike; you shall reign over one half, and I shall content myself with the other. This will be power enough in conscience for you, who are but a little mean peasant." "No," replies the girl, "I am not so easily satisfied; let me enjoy my obscure condition, and my rosy complexion, and much good may it do your Majesty and your hundred years, and your wrinkles, and more than one foot in the grave." "But then," said the

## 22 *Queen and Country Girl.*

queen, "what should I be able to do without my kingdom?" "You would laugh, you would dance, you would sing, like me," answers the young gipsy, and immediately she broke out into a laughter, and danced, and sung. The queen, who was far from being in a condition to imitate her jollity, said, "And what would you do in my place? you who are neither accustomed to old age nor empire." "I cannot well say," answered this country lass, "what I should do; but I have a month's mind to try it a little; for I have always heard it is a fine thing to be a queen."

When the two parties seemed now disposed to an agreement, and were ready to strike the bargain, in comes the fairy, and, addressing herself to Mopsy, said, "Are you willing to make trial of the condition of an old queen, and see first how you like it, before you resolve upon a change in good earnest?" "With all my heart," replies the girl. Her forehead is instantly furrowed with wrinkles; her chesnut hair turns white; she grows



peevish and morose ; her head shakes, her teeth are loose ; and she is already an hundred years old. The fairy then opens a little box, and lets out a multitude of officers and courtiers of both sexes, richly appavelled, who soon shot up in the full stature of men and women, and paid their homage to the new queen. She is conducted to her chair of state, and a costly banquet is immediately set before her ; but, alas ! she has no appetite, and cannot bear the fumes of the table ; her limbs fail her when she tries to walk ; she is awkward and bashful, and in a maze ; she knows not how to speak, nor which way to turn herself ; she calls for a looking-glass, and is startled at her own deformity ; and she coughs till her sides ache.

In the mean time, the true queen stands in one corner of the room by herself ; she laughs, and begins to grow handsome. Her temples are shaded with hair, and she renews her teeth ; her cheeks glow with youth, and her forehead is fair and smooth ; and now she begins to recollect her youthful airs and vir-

24 *Queen and Country Girl.*

gin coyness, and set her person out to the best advantage; but she is troubled to find herself but meanly apparelled; her coats short and scanty, and her waistcoat of a coarse woollen stuff. She was not used to be thus poorly equipped; and one of her own guards, who took her for some rude creature, went to turn her out of the palace.

Then said Mopsy to her, "I perceive you are not a little uneasy in my situation, and I am much more weary of yours; take your crown again, and give me my russet garment." The exchange was soon made; as soon the queen withered, and the virgin-peasant bloomed afresh. The restoration was hardly completed on both sides, when each began to repent; but it was too late, for the fairy had now condemned them both to remain in their proper condition.

The queen bewailed herself daily, upon the smallest indisposition: "Alas!" would she say, "if I was Mopsy at this time, I should sleep indeed in a cottage, and feed upon chesnuts; but then by day I should

*Queen and Country Girl.* 25

dance in the shade with the shepherds, to the sweet music of the pipe. What am I happier for lying in an embroidered bed, but where I am never free from pain? or for my numerous attendants, who have not the power to relieve me?"

Her grief for having forfeited her choice increased her indisposition; and the physicians (who were twelve in number) constantly attended her, and soon brought her distemper to a height. Briefly, she died at the end of two months. Mopsy was in the midst of a dance with her companions, on the bank of a running stream, when tidings came of the queen's death; then she blessed herself that she had escaped from royalty, more through good fortune and impatience, than through forecast and resolution.

From this tale we may learn, that the chief happiness in this life are ease and content; superior pleasures to what any riches can bestow.

## LITTLE RED RIDING-HOOD.

---

**T**HERE was, once upon a time, a country girl, who lived in a village, and who was the sweetest little creature ever seen. Her mother loved her with great fondness, and her grandmother doated on her still more. The good woman got a pretty red hood made for her, which became the little girl so much, that all the people called her by the name of *Little Red Riding-Hood*. One day her mother having made some cheese-cakes, said to her, "Go, my child, and see how your grandmother does, for I hear she is ill; carry her some of these cakes, and a little pot of butter."

Little Red Riding-Hood straight set out

*Little Red Riding-Hood.* 27

with a basket filled with the cakes and the pot of butter, for her grandmother's house, which was in a village a little way off the village that her mother lived in.

As she was crossing a wood, which lay in her road, she met a large wolf, who had a great mind to eat her up, but dared not, for fear of some wood-cutters who were at work near them in the forest. Yet he spoke to her, and asked her whither she was going. The little girl, who did not know the danger of talking to a wolf, replied, "I am going to see my grandmamma, and carry these cakes and a pot of butter."

"Does she live far off?" said the wolf.

"Oh yes," answered Little Red Riding-Hood; "beyond the mill you see yonder, at the first house in the village."

"Well," said the wolf, "I will take this way, and you take that, and see which will be there the soonest."

The wolf set out full speed, running as fast as he could, and taking the nearest way, while the little girl took the longest; and as

28 *Little Red Riding-Hood.*

she went along begun to gather nuts, run after butterflies, and make nosegays of such flowers as she found within her reach.

The wolf got to the dwelling of the grandmother first, and knocked at the door.

“Who is there?” said some voice in the house.

“It is your grand-child, Little Red Riding-Hood,” said the wolf, speaking like the little girl as well as he could. “I have brought you some cheese-cakes, and a little pot of butter, that mamma has sent you.”

The good old woman, who was ill in bed, called out, “Pull the bobbin, and the latch will go up.” The wolf pulled the bobbin, and the door went open. The wolf then jumped upon the poor old grandmother, and ate her up in a moment, for it was three days since he had tasted any food.

The wolf then shut the door, and laid himself down in the bed, and waited for Little Red Riding-Hood, who very soon after reached the house.

Tap! tap! "Who is there?" cried he. She was at first a little afraid at hearing the gruff voice of the wolf; but she thought that perhaps her grandmother had got a cold; so she answered:

"It is your grand-child, Little Red Riding-Hood. Mamma has sent you some cheese-cakes, and a little pot of butter."

The wolf cried out in a softer voice, "Pull the bobbin, and the latch will go up."

Little Red Riding-Hood pulled the bobbin, and the door went open.

When she came into the room, the wolf hid himself under the bed-clothes, and said to her, trying all he could to speak in a feeble voice: "Put the basket on the stool, my dear, and take off your clothes, and come into bed."

Little Red Riding-Hood, who always used to do as she was told, straight undressed herself, and stepped into bed; but she thought it strange to see how her grandmother looked in her night-clothes; so she said to her:

30 *Little Red Riding-Hood.*

“ Dear me, grandmamma, what great arms you have got !”

“ They are so much the better to hug you, my child,” replied the wolf.

“ But, grandmamma,” said the little girl, “ what great ears you have got !”

“ They are so much the better to hear you, my child,” replied the wolf.

“ But, then, grandmamma, what great eyes you have got,” said the little girl.

“ They are so much the better to see you, my child,” replied the wolf.

“ And, grandmamma, what great teeth you have got,” said the little girl, who now began to be rather afraid.

“ They are to eat you up,” said the wolf; and saying these words, the wicked creature fell upon Little Red Riding-Hood, and ate her up in a moment.



NEW JUVENILE LIBRARY.

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THE  
SLEEPING BEAUTY  
IN  
THE WOOD.

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THE

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IN TWO VOLUMES

BY

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IN TWO VOLUMES

THE SECOND

VOLUME

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IN ST. PAULS CHURCH-YARD

1733

# THE SLEEPING BEAUTY IN THE WOOD.

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THERE were once upon a time a king and queen who had no child, which made them very unhappy indeed. But they hoped by some means or other to have one in time; and so they went to consult all the fairies they could hear of; and, besides this, they tried every thing they could, but in vain.

At last, however, notice was given that the queen was going to have a child, and soon after, indeed, she had a princess. The christening was the grandest that could be. There were only seven fairies in the country, and all these were to be her godmothers; so that

each of them might give her a gift, as it was the custom in those days, to make her fortunate and happy all her life.

When the baptism was over, all the company went back to the king's palace, where a most noble feast was got ready for them. Every one of the fairies had a golden plate set on the table, with a knife, a fork, and a spoon, set with diamonds, and all of the finest and most curious patterns.

When the company were going to sit down at the table, an old fairy came into the room, who lived in a tower that she had not come out of for fifty years before, so that every body thought she was dead long ago; and that was the reason why she had not been asked to this christening. The king ordered a seat to be brought for her, and also a plate, but it could not be a golden one, because only seven of that sort had been made, for the other seven fairies.

As soon as the old fairy saw that her plate was not above half so fine as the plates set before the rest of the fairies, she thought the

king did not shew her proper respect, and she muttered that she would have her revenge.

One of the young fairies who sat next to her, and heard what she said, was afraid that she would give the little princess some unlucky gift. So when she left the table, she went and hid herself behind the window-curtains, that it might come to her turn to speak last; for then she thought she should perhaps be able partly to undo the mischief the old fairy might have in her head.

In the mean time, the fairies began to make their gifts to the young princess. The first said, she should be the most handsome lady in all the world: the next said, she should have the greatest wit: the third said, she should do every thing she took in hand with the utmost grace: the fourth said, she should dance so as to delight all who saw her: the fifth said, she should sing with the sweetest voice that ever was: the sixth said, she should play most charmingly on all sorts of music.

It was the old fairy's turn to speak next;

*The Sleeping Beauty*

and she came forward, with her head shaking all the while, more out of spite than with old age, and said, "The gift I bestow on the princess shall be, that she shall hurt her hand with a spindle, and die of the wound."

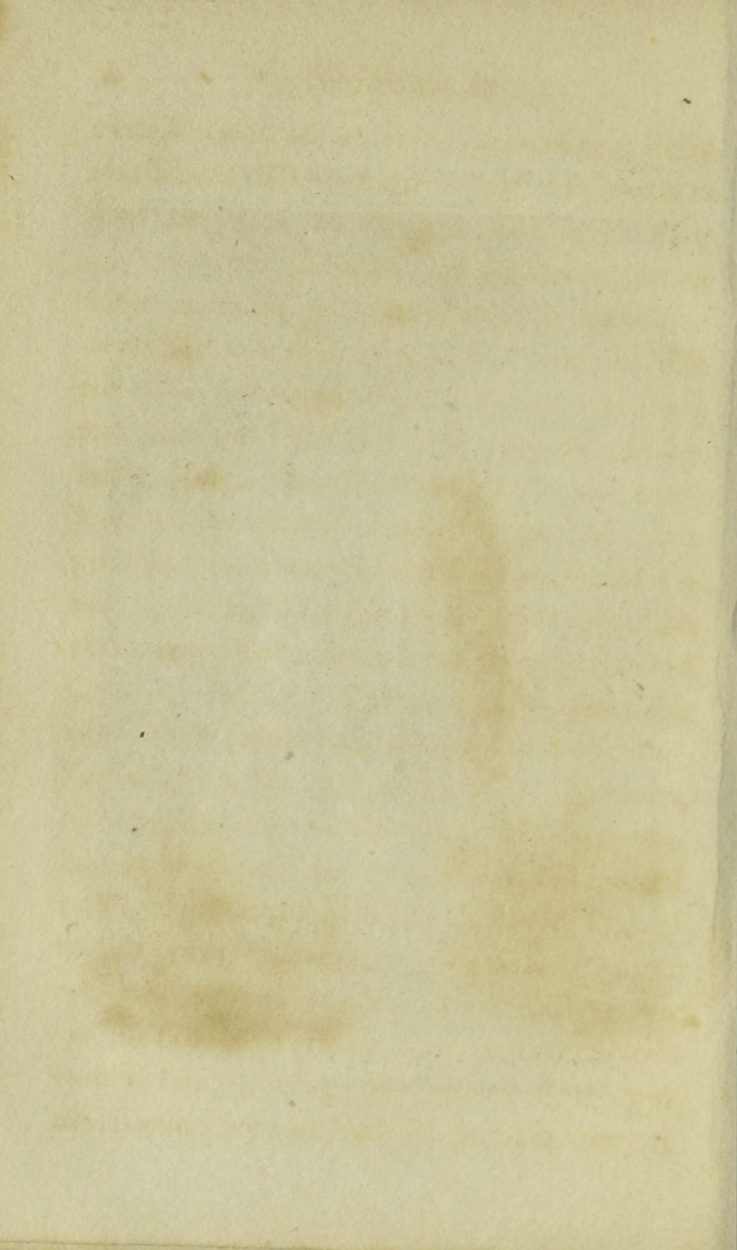
This cruel speech made all the company tremble, and every body but the old fairy began to cry and lament. Just at this moment the young fairy came out from behind the window-curtains, and in a kind voice gave them some comfort by saying, "Do not, O king and queen, be in so much grief for your daughter; she shall not die of the wound she is to receive; for, though I am not able to hinder what an older fairy than myself has ordered, yet I can make her spite to be not quite so bad for the princess. Your daughter indeed shall hurt her hand with a spindle; but instead of dying of the wound, she shall only fall into a deep sleep, which shall last for a hundred years, and at the end of that time she shall be waked by a young prince."

The king now thought it might perhaps be possible to hinder the accident from happening

SLEEPING BEAUTY.



*The Old Fairy's Prediction*





at all ; so he ordered it to be made known every where, that any person who should spin with a spindle, or even keep one in their house, should be put to death.

About sixteen years after this time, when the king and queen were at one of their palaces in the country, it happened that the young princess was one day running from room to room to amuse herself ; and at last found her way to a small chamber at the top of a tower, in which an old woman sat spinning with a spindle, for the poor old creature had never heard of the law that had been made against keeping spindles.

“ What are you doing, Goody ? ” said the princess. “ I am spinning, my pretty lady, ” answered the old woman ; for she did not know who it was that she was speaking to. “ Ah ! how I should like to do such pretty work ! ” said the princess : “ pray let me try. ” She then took the spindle into her hand ; but as soon as ever she did so, being very lively and giddy, (and indeed it was ordered so by the old fairy), she

ran the point of it into her hand, and fell down in a sound sleep. When the old woman saw this, she was very much frightened, and did not know what to do. She called out for help, and a great number of people came running up stairs. They threw cold water on the princess's face, cut the lace of her stays, and rubbed her hands and temples with harts-horn; but it was all of no use, for she still kept fast asleep.

In the mean while the king had heard the news, and hastened to the old woman's room; but, when he remembered the spiteful gift that the old fairy had made to his daughter, he thought it was best to bear it all with patience, since he could not hinder the will of a fairy. So he ordered the people to carry his daughter to the finest room in the palace, and lay her on a bed made of rich silk and velvet, and adorned with gold and silver.

When the princess was laid in this place, she looked so charming, that she might almost have been taken for an angel; for the deep sleep that she had fallen into did not

hurt her beauty at all. The colour of her cheeks were still as the finest roses, and her lips the reddest coral that ever was seen; and the only change was, that her eyes used before to sparkle like diamonds, but were now shut, and could not be seen. But still the people that stood round her could hear her breathe softly, so that they were quite sure that she was not dead, but only asleep, as the king had told them. The king ordered that no one should disturb her, or try to wake her, till the proper time for it should come; though in his own mind he thought it very hard and cruel that it should be so long first.

The good fairy who had saved her life by this sleep of a hundred years, was in the kingdom of Matakín, at the distance of twelve thousand leagues, which is thirty-six thousand miles, when the princess ran the spindle into her hand. But the news of it was carried to her in a short time by a dwarf who was her friend, and who put on his seven-league boots to go the journey in. These were boots that could stride over seven

leagues of ground, or twenty-one miles, at once.

As soon as the fairy heard of it, she set off in a fiery chariot, drawn by dragons; and in less than an hour she was in the yard of the king's palace. The king came out to welcome her, and help her to get down from her chariot; and then told her what had happened to the princess.

The fairy said all that the king had done was right; but that it was very likely that when the princess waked, she would be frightened to find herself alone in such a dark old palace. After thinking a few minutes what could be done to hinder this, she hit upon a way. She touched all the persons in the palace, except only the king and queen, with her wand; and directly the maids of honour, governesses, waiting-women, gentlemen of the court, grooms of the bed-chamber, lords in waiting, stewards, cooks, scullions, guards, pages, and footmen, were all thrown into as sound a sleep as the princess herself was in.

She touched also with her wand all the

SLEEPING BEAUTY.



*The King hastens to welcome and assist her in getting  
out of her chariot*



horses in the stables; all the grooms; all the dogs in the stable yard; and even the princess's favourite, a little lapdog, who was lying on the bed by her side. They all fell fast asleep, till the time should come for the princess to wake, when they would be ready at a moment's warning to wait upon her. Even the very spits in the kitchen, and the partridges and pheasants that were roasting on them, as well as the fire, were laid asleep; and all this was done in a moment, for fairies are never long in performing their wonders.

The king and queen now kissed their daughter tenderly without waking her, and left the palace; and the king gave strict orders, that whoever should dare come near her should be put to death. But the king need not have taken this trouble; for in a quarter of an hour there sprung up round the palace a vast number of trees of all sorts and sizes, bushes and brambles, all twisting one in the other, so that neither man nor beast could have made a way through them. Indeed, nothing but the spires of the palace were to be

seen over the thick wood formed by the trees, and even these only at a great distance. The fairy, in doing this, no doubt employed the whole skill of her art, to keep the princess from the view of all the world, while her long sleep lasted.

In the course of time the king and queen died; but on their death-bed they trusted that the good fairy who had always yet been so kind to their daughter, would keep her promise in taking care of her still.

At the end of the hundred years, the son of the king who then ruled over the country, but who was not of the same family as the father and mother of the sleeping princess, happened to pass near the palace as he was hunting, and asked the people that were along with him, who was the owner of this wood, and of the building that he saw there was inside it. They all told him what they had heard about the place. Some of them said it was an old castle that was haunted by ghosts; others said, that all the witches in the country met in it to hold their nightly



councils; but the most common opinion was, that an ogre lived in it, who hid himself there, to eat up all the children he ran away with; because he could eat them without fear there, for no one but himself could get through the wood.

The prince did not know which of these stories he should believe, when an old man came up to him, and said, "May it please your Royal Highness, I was told more than fifty years ago by my father, who heard it from my grandfather, that there was hidden in this palace a princess of very great beauty, who was condemned by a fairy to sleep a hundred years; and was then to be waked by a king's son, who was to be her husband."

The young prince listened to this account with surprise, and then thought that he must himself be the king's son who was to wake her as the fairy had said; and so, pushed on by his courage and love, resolved to make his way to the palace.

As soon as he had reached the wood, he found the trees, the bushes, and the bram-

bles, move aside of themselves, and let him pass. He went on towards the palace, which he saw at the end of a long gravel walk, and soon entered it. But he thought it very strange that none of the lords nor people that were along with him had been able to follow him; for the trees, bushes, and brambles, twisted with each other again as soon as ever he had passed through them. He did not care for this, but made the best of his way to the palace; for a young prince in love is always brave.

He came first into a large court, where every thing he saw was enough to startle the stoutest heart in the world. All the men and creatures that the fairy had laid asleep were stretched along on the ground, and seemed as if they were dead; and there was a dreadful silence through all the place. But after a little time, he saw by the red faces of the men-servants, that they were only asleep; and there were still some beer left in the bottom of their cups, so he knew that they fell asleep while they were drinking.

The prince next went through a large court paved with marble, which led to a pair of stairs. He walked up these, and came to the room of the guards; who were all standing in ranks with their muskets on their shoulders, and snoring quite loud. He went on through a great many other rooms, that were full of ladies and gentlemen, some of them sitting at table, and some standing, but all of them fast asleep.

At last he came to a room gilt all over with gold, in which was a very grand bed, with the curtains drawn back. In this bed he saw a young lady about sixteen years of age, more beautiful than any thing he had ever beheld, lying in a sound sleep; indeed he almost thought it was an angel.

The prince went up close to the bed, but trembled at every step he took; and when he had looked at her two or three minutes with delight and wonder, he could not help falling upon his knees to her, as if she had been awake.

This at once broke the charm that the

fairy had put upon the princess; and she opened her eyes, and cast them on the prince with a tender look, as if she had known him before, or had seen him in her sleep. "Is it you, my prince?" said she; "what a long time you have made me wait for you."

The prince was in rapture at these words, and still more at the sweet tone of voice that she spoke them in; and was at a loss how to express his joy. He assured her he loved her better than he did himself; and he said this a thousand times, with a great many other things of the same kind.

The princess on her part was quite as much pleased as he was; for though history does not speak of any such thing, yet we may very well suppose that her good friend the fairy had given her the most pleasant dreams in all her long sleep. In short, they talked together more than four hours, without telling half of what they had to say to one another.

"What a joy, beautiful princess!" said the prince, looking at her all the time with

the utmost tenderness, "what a joy it is to be able to do you such a service, to see you smile so sweetly, and to be thus made happy by your love! to think that the greatest princes in the world could not have done what I have, when I broke the cruel charm that laid you in such a long sleep!"

"Ah! dear prince," answered she, "I feel that we were made for each other. It was you I saw in my dream, it was you who kept with me, and in all my long sleep I thought of nobody but yourself. I knew very well that the prince who was to wake me would be the handsomest man in the world, that he would love me more than himself; and the moment I cast my eyes upon you I knew you at once."

In the mean while all the lords and ladies, and servants, who had been laid asleep at the same time as the princess, now waked, and set about their business; but they were not in love, as the princess was, and so they found themselves very hungry, for it was a long time

indeed since they had tasted any thing. The first maid of honour, who was as hungry as the rest, even made bold to tell the princess, without being asked, that dinner was ready for her.

The prince then helped the princess to rise. She was ready drest, and in the finest clothes that could be; but he took care not to tell her, that they were as old as his great-grandmother's clothes; and she had even a ruff round her neck, but this did not in the least hurt her beauty.

He then took her hand, and led her to the room where the dinner was on the table. As soon as they had seated themselves, the music, which was all placed ready in the gallery at the upper end of the room, began to play some tunes, which were pretty, though they were now quite old and out of fashion.

The prince and princess spent the evening very much pleased with one another; and agreed that the chaplain should marry them that very night. The wedding then took

SLEEPING BEAUTY.



*The marriage of the Prince and Princess*





place; and the next day the prince took his new bride to his father's palace, where her beauty and grace gained her the notice and love of the whole court.

## THE FISHERMAN.

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THERE was a very ancient fisherman, so poor that he could scarce earn enough to maintain himself, his wife, and three children. He went every day to fish betimes in a morning; and imposed it as a law upon himself, not to cast his nets above four times a-day. He went one morning by moon-light, and, coming to the sea-bank, undressed himself, and cast in his nets. As he drew them towards the shore, he found them very heavy, and thought he had got a good draught of fish, at which he rejoiced within himself; but, in a moment after, perceiving that, instead of fish, there was nothing in his

nets but the carcase of an ass, he was mightily vexed.

When the fisherman, vexed to have made such a sorry draught, had mended his nets, which the carcase of the ass had broke in several places, he threw them in a second time; and when he drew them, found a great deal of resistance, which made him think he had taken abundance of fish; but he found nothing except a pannier full of gravel and slime, which grieved him exceedingly. "O Fortune!" cries he, with a lamentable tone, "do not be angry with me, nor persecute a wretch who prays thee to spare him. I came hither from my house to seek for my livelihood, and thou pronoucest death against me. I have no other trade but this to subsist by; and, notwithstanding all the care I take, I can scarcely provide what is absolutely necessary for my wife and family. But I am in the wrong to complain of thee; thou takest pleasure to persecute honest people, and to leave great men in obscurity, whilst thou showest favour to the wicked, and ad-

vancest those who have no virtue to recommend them."

Having finished this complaint, he threw away the pannier in a fret, and, washing his nets from the slime, cast them the third time, but brought up nothing except stones, shells, and mud. Nobody can express his disorder; he was within an ace of going quite mad. However, when day began to appear, he did not forget to say his prayers like a good Mussulman, and afterwards added this petition: "Lord, thou knowest that I cast my nets only four times a-day; I have already drawn them three times, without the least reward for my labour; I am only to cast them once more; I pray thee to render the sea favourable to me, as thou didst to Moses."

The fisherman, having finished this prayer, cast his nets the fourth time, and when he thought it was time, he drew them, as formerly, with great difficulty; but, instead of fish, found nothing in them but a vessel of yellow copper, that, by its weight, seemed to be full of something; and he observed

that it was shut up, and sealed with lead, having the impression of a seal upon it. This rejoiced him; "I will sell it," says he, "to the founder, and, with the money arising from the product, buy a measure of corn. He examined the vessel on all sides, and shook it, to see if what was within made any noise, and heard nothing. This circumstance, with the impression of the seal upon the leaden cover, made him to think there was something precious in it. To try this, he took a knife, and opened it with very little labour; he presently turned the mouth downward, but nothing came out, which surprised him extremely. He set it before him, and while he looked upon it attentively, there came out a very thick smoke, which obliged him to retire two or three paces from it.

This smoke mounted as high as the clouds, and extending itself along the sea, and upon the shore, formed a great mist, which, we may well imagine, did mightily astonish the fisherman. When the smoke was all out of

the vessel, it re-united itself, and became a solid body, of which there was formed a genie twice as high as the greatest of giants. At the sight of a monster of such unsizeable bulk, the fisherman would fain have fled, but was so frightened, that he could not go one step.

“Solomon,” cried the genie, “Solomon, the great prophet, pardon, pardon; I will never more oppose your will; I will obey all your commands.”

The fisherman, when he heard these words of the genie, recovered his courage, and says to him, “Thou proud spirit, what is this that you talk? It is above eighteen hundred years since the prophet Solomon died, and we are now at the end of time; tell me your history, and how you came to be shut up in this vessel.”

The genie, turning to the fisherman with a fierce look, says, “You must speak to me with more civility; thou art very bold to call me a proud spirit.” “Very well,” replies the fisherman, “shall I speak to you

with more civility, and call you the owl of good luck?" "I say," answers the genie, "speak to me more civilly before I kill thee. I have only one favour to grant thee." "And what is that?" said the fisherman. "It is," answers the genie, "to give you your choice in what manner you would have me to take your life." "But wherein have I offended you?" replies the fisherman; "is this your reward for the good service I have done?" "I cannot treat you otherwise," says the genie; "and that you may be convinced of it, hearken to my story.

"I am one of those rebellious spirits that opposed themselves to the will of Heaven; all the other genies owned Solomon, the great prophet, and submitted to him. Sacar and I were the only genies that would never be guilty of so mean a thing; and to avenge himself, that great monarch sent Asaph, the son of Barakhia, his chief minister, to apprehend me. That was accordingly done; Asaph seized my person, and brought me by force before his master's throne.

“ Solomon, the son of David, commanded me to quit my way of living, to acknowledge his power, and to submit myself to his commands. I bravely refused to obey, and told him, I would rather expose myself to his resentments, than swear fealty, and submit to him as he required. To punish me, he shut me up in this copper vessel; and to make sure of me, that I should not break prison, he stamp'd (himself) upon this leaden cover, his seal, with the great name GOD engraven upon it. Thus he gave the vessel to one of the genies who submitted to him, with orders to throw it into the sea, which was executed, to my great sorrow.

“ During the first hundred years imprisonment, I swore, that if one would deliver me before the hundred years expired, I would make him rich even after his death; but that century ran out, and nobody did me that good office. During the second, I made an oath, that I would open all the treasures of the earth to any one who should set me at liberty; but with no better success. In



the third, I promised to make my deliverer a potent monarch, to be always near him in a spirit, and to grant him every day three demands, of what nature soever they might be ; but this century ran out as well as the two former, and I continued in prison. At last, being angry, or rather mad, to find myself a prisoner so long, I swore, that if afterwards any one should deliver me, I would kill him without pity, and grant him no other favour, but to chuse what kind of death he would die ; and therefore, since you have delivered me to-day, I give you that choice."

This discourse afflicted the poor fisherman extremely : " I am very unfortunate," cries he, " to come hither to do such a piece of good service to one that is so ungrateful. I beg you to consider your injustice, and revoke such an unreasonable oath ; pardon me, and Heaven will pardon you ; if you grant me my life, Heaven will protect you from all attempts against yours." " No, thy death is resolved on," says the genie ; " only

chuse how you will die." The fisherman, perceiving the genie to be resolute, was extremely grieved, not so much for himself, as for his three children; and bewailed the misery they must be reduced to by his death. He endeavoured still to appease the genie, and says, "Alas! be pleased to take pity on me, in consideration of the good service I have done you." "I have told thee already," replies the genie, "it is for that very reason I must kill thee." "That is very strange," says the fisherman; "are you resolved to reward good for evil? The proverb says, 'That he who does good to one who deserves it not, is always ill rewarded.' I must confess I thought it was false; for in effect there can be nothing more contrary to reason, or the laws of society. Nevertheless, I find now, by cruel experience, that it is but too true." "Do not let us lose time," replies the genie, "all thy reasonings shall not divert me from my purpose; make haste, and tell me which way you chuse to die."

Necessity is the mother of invention.

The fisherman bethought himself of a stratagem. "Since I must die, then," says he to the genie, "I submit to the will of Heaven; but before I chuse the manner of death, I conjure you by the great name which was engraven upon the seal of the prophet Solomon, the son of David, to answer me truly the question I am going to ask you."

The genie, finding himself obliged to a positive answer by this adjuration, trembled; and replies to the fisherman, "Ask what thou wilt, but make haste."

The genie having promised to speak the truth, the fisherman says to him, "I would know if you were actually in this vessel? Dare you swear it by the name of the great God?" "Yes," replied the genie, "I do swear by that great name that I was, and it is a certain truth." "In good faith," answered the fisherman, "I cannot believe you; the vessel is not capable to hold one of your feet, and how should it be possible that your whole body could be in it?" "I swear to thee notwithstanding," replied the genie, "that I

was there just as you see me here ; is it possible that thou dost not believe me after this great oath which I have taken ?” “ Truly not I,” said the fisherman ; “ nor will I believe you unless you shew it me.”

Upon which the body of the genie was dissolved, and changed itself into smoke, extending itself, as formerly, upon the seashore ; and then at last, being gathered together, it began to re-enter the vessel, which he so continued to do successively, by a slow and equal motion, after a smooth and exact way, till nothing was left out ; and immediately a voice came forth, which said to the fisherman, “ Well, now, incredulous fellow, I am all in the vessel, do not you believe me now ?”

The fisherman, instead of answering the genie, took the cover of lead, and having speedily shut the vessel, “ Genie,” cries he, “ now it is your turn to beg my favour, and to choose which way I shall put thee to death ; but not so, it is better that I should throw thee into the sea, whence I took thee ;

and then I will build a house upon the bank, where I will dwell, to give notice to all fishermen, who come to throw in their nets, to beware of such a wicked genie as thou art, who hast made an oath to kill him who shall set thee at liberty."

The genie, enraged at these expressions, did all he could to get out of the vessel again, but it was not possible for him to do it, for the impression of Solomon's seal prevented him; so, perceiving that the fisherman had got the advantage of him, he thought fit to dissemble his anger. "Fisherman," says he in a pleasant tone, "take heed that you do not what you say, for what I spoke to you before was only by way of jest, and you are to take it no otherwise." "O genie!" replies the fisherman, "thou who wast but a moment ago the greatest of all genies, and now art the least of them, thy crafty discourse will signify nothing to thee, but to the sea thou shalt return: If thou hast staid in the sea so long as thou hast told me, thou mayest very well stay there till the day of judgement. I

begged thee, in God's name, not to take away my life, and thou didst reject my prayers; I am obliged to treat you in the same manner."

The genie omitted nothing that could prevail upon the fisherman: "Open the vessel," says he, "give me my liberty, I pray thee, and I promise to satisfy thee to thy own content." "Thou art a mere traitor," replies the fisherman, "I should deserve to lose my life, if I be such a fool as to trust thee." So he threw the vessel into the sea again.

THE  
STORY  
OF  
FLORIO AND FLORELLA.

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THERE was a country-woman, who, upon her intimacy with a fairy, desired her to come and assist her at her labour. The good woman was delivered of a daughter, when the fairy, taking the infant in her arms, said to the mother, "Make your choice; the child (if you have a mind) shall be exquisitely handsome, excel in wit even more than in beauty, and be queen of a mighty empire, but withal unhappy; or (if you had rather) she shall be an ordinary, ugly, country creature, like yourself, but contented with her condition." The mother immediately chose

wit and beauty for her daughter, at the hazard of any misfortunes.

As the child grew, new beauties opened daily in her face ; till, in a few years, she surpassed all the rural lasses that the oldest people had ever seen. Her turn of wit was gentle, polite, and insinuating ; she was of a ready apprehension, and soon learned every thing, so as to excel her teachers. Every holiday she danced upon the green, with a superior grace to any of her companions. Her voice was sweeter than any shepherd's pipe, and she made the songs she used to sing.

For some time, she was not apprised of her own charms ; when, diverting herself with her play-fellows, on the green flowery border of a fountain, she was surprised with the reflection of her face ; she observed how different her features and complexion seemed from the rest of her company, and admired herself. The country-folks, flocking from day to day to obtain a sight of her, made her yet more sensible of her beauty. Her mother,



who relied on the predictions of the fairy, began already to treat her as a queen, and spoiled her by flatteries. The young damsel would neither sew, nor spin, nor look after the sheep; her whole amusement was, to gather flowers to dress her hair with them, to sing, and to dance in the shade.

The king of the country was a very powerful king, and he had but one son, whose name was Florio; for which reason, his father was impatient to have him married. The young prince could never bear the mentioning any of the princesses of the neighbouring nations, because a fairy had told him that he should find a shepherdess more beautiful and more accomplished than all the princesses in the world. Therefore the king gave orders to assemble all the village-nymphs of his realm, who were under the age of eighteen, to make a choice of her who should appear worthy of so great an honour. In pursuance of the order, when they came to be sorted, a vast number of virgins, whose beauty was not very extraordinary,

were refused admittance, and only thirty picked out, who infinitely surpassed all the others. These thirty virgins were ranged in a great hall, in the figure of a half-moon, that the king and his son might have a distinct view of them together. Florella (our young damsel) appeared in the midst of her competitors, like a lily amidst marygolfs, or as an orange-tree in blossom shews among the mountain-shrubs. The king immediately declared aloud, that she deserved his crown; and Florio thought himself happy in the possession of Florella.

Our shepherdess was instantly desired to cast off her country-weeds, and to accept a habit richly embroidered with gold. In a few minutes, she saw herself covered with pearls and diamonds, and a troop of ladies were appointed to serve her. Every one was attentive to prevent her desires before she spoke; and she was lodged within the palace, in a magnificent apartment; where, instead of tapestry, there were large pannels of looking-glass, from the floor to the ceiling, that

she might have the pleasure of seeing her beauty multiplied on all sides, and that the prince might admire her wherever he cast his eyes. Florio in a few days quitted the chace, and all the manly exercises in which before he delighted, that he might be perpetually with his mistress. The nuptials were concluded, and soon after, the old king died. Thereupon Florella becoming queen, all the councils and affairs of state were directed by her wisdom.

The queen-mother (whose name was Invidessa) grew jealous of her daughter-in-law. She was an artful, perverse, cruel woman; and age had so much aggravated her natural deformity, that she seemed a fury. The youth and beauty of Florella made her appear yet more frightful; she could not bear the sight of so fine a creature; she likewise dreaded her wit and understanding, and gave herself up to all the rage of envy. "You want the soul of a prince," would she often say to her son, "or you would not have married this mean cottager. How can you be

so abject as to make an idol of her? Then, she is as haughty as if she had been born in the palace where she lives. You should have followed the example of the king your father; when he thought of taking a wife, he preferred me, because I was the daughter of a monarch equal to himself. Send away this insignificant shepherdess to her hamlet, and take to your bed and throne some young princess, whose birth is answerable to your own."

Florio continued deaf to the remonstrances of his mother; but one morning Invidessa got a billet into her hands, which Florella had writ to the king; this she gave to a young courtier, who, by her instructions, shewed it to the king, pretending to have received a letter from his queen, with such marks of affection as were due only to his Majesty. Florio, blinded by his jealousy, and the malignant insinuations of his mother, immediately ordered Florella to be imprisoned for life in a high tower built on the point of a rock that stood in the sea. There she wept

night and day, not knowing for what supposed crime she was so severely treated by the king, who had so passionately loved her. She was permitted to see no person but an old woman, to whom Invidessa had entrusted her, and whose business it was to insult her upon all occasions.

Now Florella called to mind the village, the cottage, the sweet privacy, and the rural pleasures she had quitted. One day, as she sat in a pensive posture, overwhelmed with grief, and to herself accused the folly of her mother, who chose rather to have her a beautiful unfortunate queen, than an ugly contented shepherdess, the old woman, who was her tormentor, came to acquaint her, that the king had sent an executioner to take off her head, and that she must prepare to die. Florella replied, that she was ready to receive the stroke. Accordingly, the executioner sent by the king's order, at the persuasions of Invidessa, appeared with a drawn sabre in his hand, ready to perform his commission; when a woman stepped in, who said she came

from the queen-mother, to speak a word or two in private to Florella, before she was put to death. The old woman imagining her to be one of the ladies of the court, suffered her to deliver her message ; but it was the fairy who had foretold the misfortunes of Florella at her birth, and had now assumed the likeness of one of Invidessa's attendants.

She desired the company to retire a while, and then spoke thus to Florella in secret : “ Are you willing to renounce that beauty which has proved so fatal to you ? Are you willing to quit the title of queen, to put on your former habit, and to return to your village ? ” Florella was transported at the offer. Thereupon the fairy applied an enchanted vizard to her face ; her features instantly became deformed ; all the symmetry vanished, and she was now as disagreeable as she had been handsome. Under this change it was not possible to know her, and she passed without difficulty through the company who came to see her execution. In vain did they search the tower ; Florella was not to be

found. The news of this escape was soon brought to the king, and to Invidessa, who commanded diligent search to be made after her throughout the kingdom, but to no purpose.

The fairy by this time had restored Florella to her mother, who would never have been able to recollect her altered looks, had she not been led into the circumstances of her story. Our shepherdess was now contented to live an ugly, poor, unknown creature in the village, where she tended sheep. She frequently heard people relate, and lament over her adventures; songs were made upon them, which drew tears from all eyes; she often took a pleasure in singing these songs with her companions, and would often weep with the rest; but still she thought herself happy with her little flock, and was never once tempted to discover herself to any of her acquaintance.

After all the care and attendance of the fairy upon the unfortunate Florella, she did not forget to amply reward the queen-mother,

who was the principal instrument of her darling's unhappiness. And therefore, to compensate, in some measure, for her misfortunes, she inspired the king's chief minister with notions that his artful and cruel mother had formed a design to take the government into her own hands, and wed with a powerful monarch, whose disposition perfectly corresponded with her own. Enraged at the information, he called together some of his nobles to consult thereon, who gave it as their opinion, that she deserved death; but as the ties of nature prevented it, her son commanded her to be placed in that tower from whence his once-loved Florella had escaped, where she spent the remainder of her life.

This tale shews the folly of wishing to be in any state of life for which we were not designed, and that true happiness consists in being easy and content.



THE  
STORY  
OF THE  
KING AND FAIRY RING.

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THERE was a king, whose name was Alferute; feared by all his neighbours, and loved by all his subjects. He was wise, good, just, and valiant, and deficient in no quality requisite in a great prince. A fairy came to him one day, and told him that he would soon find himself plunged into great difficulties, if he did not make use of the ring which she then put on his finger. When he turned the stone of the ring to the inside of his hand, he became invisible; and when he turned the diamond outward, he became visible again.

## 12      *King and Fairy Ring.*

He was mightily pleased with this present, and soon grew sensible of the inestimable value of it. When he suspected any one of his subjects, he went into that man's house and closet, with his diamond turned inward, and heard and saw all the secrets of the family, without being perceived. When he mistrusted the designs of any neighbouring potentate, he would take a long journey unaccompanied, to be present in his most private counsels, and learn every thing, without the fear of being discovered. By this means, he easily prevented every intention to his prejudice; he frustrated several conspiracies formed against his person, and disconcerted all the measures of his enemies for his overthrow.

Nevertheless, he was not thoroughly satisfied with his ring; and he requested of the fairy the power of conveying himself, in an instant, from one country to another, that he might make a more convenient and ready use of the enchanted ring. The fairy replied, "You ask too much; let me conjure you

not to covet a power, which I foresee will one day be the cause of your misery, though the particular manner thereof be concealed from me." The king would not listen to her intreaties, but still urged his request. "Since, then, you will have it so," says she, "I must necessarily grant you a favour of which you will dearly repent." Hereupon she chafed his shoulders with a fragrant liquor, when immediately he perceived little wings shooting at his back. These little wings were not discernable under his habit; and when he had a mind to fly, he needed only to touch them with his hand, and they would spread so as to bear him through the air swifter than an eagle. When he had no farther occasion for his wings, with a touch they shrunk again to so small a size, as to lie concealed under his garment.

By this magic, Alferute was able to translate himself, in a few moments, wherever he pleased. He knew every thing, and no man could conceive how he came by his intelligence; for he would often retire into his clo-

set, and pretend to be shut up there the whole day, with strict orders not to be disturbed; then making himself invisible with his ring, he would enlarge his wings with a touch, and traverse vast countries. By this power he entered into very extraordinary wars, and never failed to triumph. But, as he continually saw into the secrets of men, he discovered so much wickedness and dissimulation, that he could no longer place confidence in any man. The more redoubted and powerful he grew, the less he was beloved; and he found, that even they to whom he had been most bountiful, had no gratitude nor affection toward him.

In this disconsolate condition, he resolved to search through the wide world, till he found a woman complete in beauty and all good qualities, willing to be his wife; one who would love him, and study to make him happy. Long did he search in vain; and as he saw all without being seen, he discovered the hidden wiles and failings of the sex. He visited all the courts, where he found the

ladies insincere, fond of admirers, and so enamoured with their own persons, that their hearts were not capable of entertaining any true love for a husband. He went likewise into all the private families; he found one was of an inconstant, volatile disposition; another was cunning and artful; a third haughty; a fourth capricious; almost all faithless, vain, and full of idolatry to their own charms.

Under these disappointments, he resolved to carry his inquiry through the lowest conditions of life. Whereupon, at last he found the daughter of a poor labourer, fair as the brightest morning, but simple and ingenuous in all her beauty, which she disregarded, and which, in reality, was the least of her perfections; for she had an understanding and a virtue, which outshone all the graces of her person. All the youth of the neighbourhood were impatient to see her, and more impatient, after they had seen her, to obtain her in marriage; none doubting of being completely happy with such a wife,

King Alferute beheld her, and he loved her. He demanded her of the father, who was transported with the thoughts of his daughter becoming a great queen. Clarinda (so she was called) went from her father's hut into a magnificent palace, where she was received by a numerous court. She was not dazzled, nor disconcerted, at the sudden change; she preserved her simplicity, her modesty, her virtue, and forgot not the place of her birth, when she was in the height of her glory. The king's affection for her increased daily, and he believed he should at last arrive at perfect happiness; neither was he already far from it, so much did he begin to confide in the goodness of his queen. He often rendered himself invisible to observe her, and to surprise her; but he never discovered any thing in her that was not worthy of his admiration. So that now there was but a very small remainder of jealousy and distrust blended with his love.

The fairy who had foretold the fatal consequences of his last request, came so often

to warn him, that he thought her importunity troublesome. Therefore he gave orders, that she should no longer be admitted into the palace, and enjoined the queen not to receive her visits for the future. The queen promised to obey his commands, but not without much unwillingness, because she loved this good fairy.

It happened one day, when the king was upon a progress, that the fairy, desirous to instruct the queen in futurity, entered her apartment in the appearance of a young officer, and immediately declared, in a whisper, who she was; whereupon the queen embraced her with tenderness. The king, who was then invisible, perceived it, and was instantly fired with jealousy. He drew his sword, and pierced the queen, who fell expiring into his arms. In that moment the fairy resumed her true shape, whereupon the king knew her, and was convinced of the queen's innocence. Then would he have killed himself, but the fairy with-held his hand, and strove to comfort him; when the queen, breathing

out her last words, said, " Though I die by your hands, I die wholly yours."

Too late, now Alferute cursed his folly, that put him upon wresting a boon from the fairy, which proved his misery. He returned the ring, and desired his wings might be taken from him. The remaining days of his life he passed in bitterness and grief, knowing no other consolation but to weep perpetually over Clarinda's tomb.

This tale evinces the folly of taking any matter in too jealous a view; and that, by too easy viewing the wrong road, we involve ourselves in dangers and misfortune.



THE  
S T O R Y  
OF  
THE LITTLE HUNCH-BACK.

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THERE was in former times, at Casgar, upon the utmost skirts of Tartary, a tailor that had a pretty wife, whom he loved tenderly, and was reciprocally loved by her. One day, as he sat at work, a little hunch-back my-lord came and sat down at the shop-door, fell a-singing, at the same time playing upon the tabor. The tailor took pleasure to hear him, and had a strong mind to take him into his house to make his wife merry: "This little fellow," says he to his wife, "will divert us

very agreeably." In fine, he invited my-lord in, and he readily accepted of the invitation ; so the tailor shut up his shop, and carried him home. The little gentleman being carried in, the tailor's wife covered the table, they sat down to supper, and had a good large dish of fish set before them ; but as they ate heartily, unluckily the crooked gentleman swallowed a large bone, of which he died in a few minutes, notwithstanding all that the tailor and his wife could do to prevent it. Both the one and the other were mightily frightened at the accident, especially since it fell out in their house, and there was ground to fear, that, if the justiciary magistrates came to hear of it, they would be punished as assassins. However, the husband found an expedient to get rid of the corpse. He considered there was a Jewish doctor that lived just bye, and so formed a project, in the execution of which his wife and he took the corpse, the one by the feet, and the other by the head, and carried it to the physician's house. They knocked at the door, from which ascended a

steep pair of stairs to his chamber. As soon as they had knocked, the servant-maid came down without any light, and opening the doors, asked what they wanted? "Pr'ythee go up again," says the tailor, "and tell your master we have brought him a man who is very sick, and wants his advice. Here," says he, putting a piece of money into her hand, "give him that beforehand, to convince him that we have no mind to make him lose his labour. While the servant was gone up to acquaint her master with the welcome news, the tailor and his wife nimbly conveyed the hunch-backed corpse to the head of the stairs, and, leaving it there, scoured off.

In the mean time, the maid having told the doctor, that a man and a woman staid for him at the door, desiring he would come down and look upon a sick man they had brought with them; and as the maid had clapped the money she had received into his hand, the doctor was transported with joy, being paid beforehand; he thought it was a

good chap, and should not be neglected. "Light, light," cries he to the maid, "follow me nimbly." However, without staying for the light, he gets to the stair-head, and that in such haste, that stumbling against the corpse, he gave it such a kick as made it tumble quite down to the stair-foot; nay, he had almost fallen himself, and tumbled down with my-lord. "A light, a light," cries he to the maid, "quick, quick;" at last the maid came with a light, and so he went down stairs with her; but when he saw the stumbling-block he had kicked down was a dead man, he was so frightened, that he invoked Moses, Aaron, Joshua, and Esdras, and all the prophets of his law! "Unhappy man that I am," said he, "what made me offer to come down without a light? I have even made an end of the fellow that came to me to be cured: questionless I am the cause of his death, and unless Esdras's ass comes to assist me, I am ruined: mercy on me, they will be here out of hand, and lug me out of my house for a murderer."

But, notwithstanding the perplexity and jeopardy he was in, he had the precaution to shut his door, for fear any one passing by in the street should observe the mischance, of which he reckoned himself the author. Then he took the corpse into his wife's chamber, upon which she swooned away. "Alas!" cried she, "we are utterly ruined, undone, undone, unless we fall upon some expedient or other to turn the corpse out of our house this night! Beyond all question, if we harbour it here till morning, our lives must pay for it. What a sad mischance is this! Why, how did you do to kill this man?" "That is not the question," replies the Jew, "our business now is to find out a remedy for such a shocking accident."

The doctor and his wife consulted together how to get rid of his dead corpse that night. The doctor racked his brain in vain, he could not think of any stratagem to get clear; but his wife, who was more fertile in invention, said, "I have a thought comes in my head;

let us carry the corpse to the leads of our house, and tumble it down the chimney, into the house of the Mussulman, our next neighbour."

This Mussulman, or Turk, was one of the sultan's purveyors, for furnishing oil, butter, and all sorts of fat, tallow, &c. and had a magazine in his house, where the rats and mice made prodigious havock.

The Jewish doctor approved the proposed expedient, his wife and he took the little hunch-back up to the roof of the house; and clapping ropes under his arm-pits, let him down the chimney into the purveyor's chamber so softly and dextrously, that he stood upright against the wall as if he had been alive. When they found he stood firm, they pulled up the ropes, and left the gentleman in that posture. They were scarce gone down into their chamber when the purveyor went into his, being just come from a wedding-feast with a lantern in his hand. He was mightily surprised, when, by the light of his lantern,

he descried a man standing upright in his chimney; but being naturally a stout man, and apprehending it was a thief or robber, he took up a good lusty cane, and making straight up to the hunch-back, "Ah," says he, "I thought it was the rats and mice that ate my butter and tallow; and it is you come down the chimney to rob me, is it? I question if ever you come back again upon this errand." This said, he falls foul upon the man, and gives him a good many swinging thwacks with his cane; upon that the corpse fell down, running its nose against the ground, and the purveyor redoubled his blows; but observing the body not to move, he stood to consider a little; and then perceiving it was a dead corpse, fear succeeded his anger. "Wretched man that I am," said he, "what have I done? I have killed a man dead; alas! I have carried my revenge too far.—Good God, unless thou pity me, my life is gone! Cursed, ten thousand times accursed, be the fat and the oil that gave occasion to

this my commission of such a criminal action." In fine, he stood pale and thunder-struck; he thought he saw the officers already come to drag him to condign punishment, and could not think what resolution to take.

The sultan of Casgar's purveyor had never minded the little gentleman's hunch when he was beating him, but, as soon as he perceived it, he threw out a thousand imprecations against him. "Ah, you crooked hunch-back," cried he, "you crooked son of a bitch, would to God you had robbed me of all my fat, and I had not found you here! If it had been so, I had not been so much perplexed as I now am, for the love of you and your nasty hunch. Oh! the stars that twinkle in the heavens give light to none but me in this dangerous juncture." As soon as he had uttered these words, he took the little crooked corpse upon his shoulders, and carried him out of doors to the end of the street, where he set him upright, resting against a shop,



and so trudged home again without looking behind him.

A few minutes before the break of day, a Christian merchant, who was very rich, and furnished the sultan's palace with most things it wanted; this merchant, I say, having sat up all night debauching, stepped then out of his house to go to bathe: though he was drunk, he was sensible that the night was far spent, and the people would quickly be called to the morning-prayers that began at the break of day; therefore he quickened his pace, to get in time to the bath, for fear a Turk, meeting him in his way to the mosque, should carry him to prison for a drunkard. However, as he came to the end of the street, he stopped upon some necessary occasion, and leaned against the shop where the sultan's purveyor had put the hunch-backed corpse; and the corpse, being jostled, tumbled upon the merchant's back. The merchant, thinking it was a robber come to attack him, knocked him down with a swinging box on

the ear; and after redoubling his blows, cried out, Thieves!

The outcry alarmed the watch, who came up immediately, and finding a Christian beating a Turk, (for Hump-back was of our religion), "What reason have you," said he, "to abuse a Mussulman after this rate?" "He would have robbed me," replied the merchant, "and jumped upon my back with an intent to take me by the throat." "If he did," said the watch, "you have revenged yourself sufficiently; come get off him." At the same time he stretched out his hand to help little hump-back up; but observing he was dead, "Ah! hey-day," said he, "is it thus that a Christian dares to assassinate a Mussulman?" So he laid hold of the Christian, and carried him to the sheriff's house, where he was kept till the judge was stirring, and ready to examine him. In the meantime, the Christian merchant grew sober, and the more he reflected upon this adventure, the less could he conceive how such single fisty-cuffs could kill the man.

The judge, having heard the report of the watch, and viewed the corpse, which they had taken care to bring to his house, interrogated the Christian merchant upon it, and he could not deny the crime, though he had not committed it. But the judge, considering that little hump-back belonged to the sultan, for he was one of his buffoons, would not put the Christian to death till he knew the sultan's pleasure. For this end he went to the palace, and acquainted the sultan with what had happened, and received from the sultan this answer: "I have no mercy to shew to a Christian that kills a Mussulman: Go do your office." Upon this the judge ordered a gibbet to be erected, and sent criers all over the city, to proclaim that they were about to hang a Christian for killing a Mussulman.

In fine, the merchant was brought out of goal to the foot of the gallows; and the hangman having put the rope about his neck, was going to give him a swing, when the sultan's arveyor shoved through the crowd, made up to the gibbet, calling to the hangman to stop,

for that the Christian had not committed the murder, but himself had done it. Upon that, the sheriff who attended the execution, put interrogatories to the purveyor, who told him every circumstance of his killing little hunch-back, and conveying his corpse to the place where the Christian merchant had found him. "You were about," added he, "to put to death an innocent person; for how can he be guilty of the death of a man who was dead before he came at him? My burden is sufficient in having killed a Turk, without loading my conscience with the additional charge of the death of a Christian that is not guilty."

The sultan of Casgar's purveyor having publicly charged himself with the death of the little hunch-backed man, the sheriff could not avoid doing justice to the merchant. "Let the Christian go," said he, "and hang this man in his room, since it appears by his own confession that he is guilty." Thereupon the hangman released the merchant, and clapped the rope round the purveyor's neck; but, just

when he was going to pull him up, he heard the voice of the Jewish doctor, earnestly entreating him to suspend the execution, and make room for him to come and throw himself at the gallows foot.

When he appeared before the judge, "My lord," said he, "this Mussulman is not guilty; all the guilt lies at my door. Last night a man and a woman, unknown to me, came to my door with a sick man they had brought along; and they knocking at the door, my maid went and opened without a light, and received from them a piece of money, with a commission to come and desire me, in their name, to step down and look upon a sick person. While she was delivering her message to me, they conveyed the sick person to the stair-head, and then disappeared. I went down without staying for my servant to light a candle, and, in the dark, happened to stumble upon the sick person, and kicked him down stairs. In fine, I saw he was dead, and that it was the crooked Mussulman whose death you are now about to avenge: So my wife

and I took the corpse, and after conveying it up to the leads of our house, shoved it to the roof of the purveyor our next neighbour's house, and let it down the chimney into the chamber. The purveyor, finding it in his house, took the little man for a thief, and, after beating him, concluded he had killed him: But, that it was not so, you will be convinced by this my deposition, so that I am the only author of the murder; and though it was committed undesignedly, I have resolved to expiate my crime, by keeping clear of the charge of the death of two Mussulmen, and hindering you to execute the sultan's purveyor, whose innocence I have now revealed. So pray dismiss him, and put me in his place, for I alone am the cause of the death of the little man."

The chief justice, being persuaded that the Jewish doctor was the murderer, gave orders to the executioner to seize him, and release the purveyor: Accordingly the doctor was just a-going to be hung up, when the tailor appeared, crying to the executioner to

hold his hand, and make room for him, that he might come and make his confession to the lord justice. Room being made, "My lord," said he to the judge, "you have narrowly escaped taking away the lives of three innocent persons; but if you will have the patience to hear me, I will discover to you the real murderer of the crook-backed man: if his death is to be expiated by another, that must be mine. Yesterday, towards the evening, as I was at work in my shop, and had a mind to be merry, the little hunch-back came to my door half drunk, and sat down before it. He sung a little, and so I invited him to pass the evening at my house. Accordingly he accepted of the invitation, and went in with me: we sat down to supper, and I gave him a plate of fish; but, in eating, a bone stuck in his throat; and though my wife and I did our utmost to relieve him, he died in a few minutes. His death afflicted us extremely; and, for fear of being charged with it, we carried the corpse to the Jewish doctor's house, and knocked at the door.

The maid coming down and opening the door, I desired her to go up again forthwith, and ask her master to come down, and give his advice to a sick person that we had brought along with us; and withal, to encourage him, I charged her to give him a piece of money, which I had put into her hand. When she was gone up again, I carried the hump-back up stairs, and laid him upon the uppermost step; and then my wife and I made the best of our way home. The doctor coming down, made the corpse fall down stairs, and there-upon, he took himself to be the author of his death. Now, this being the case," continued he, "release the doctor, and let me die in his room."

The chief justice, and all the spectators, could not sufficiently admire the strange emergencies that ensued upon the death of the little crooked gentleman. "Let the Jewish doctor go," said the judge, "and hang up the tailor, since he confesses his crime. It is certain that this history is very uncommon, and deserves to be recorded in letters of gold."



The executioner, having dismissed the doctor, made every thing ready to tie up the tailor.

While the executioner was making ready to hang up the tailor, the sultan of Casgar, wanting the company of his crooked jester, asked where he was? and one of his officers told him what follows: "The hunch-back, Sir, whom you inquire after, got drunk last night, and, contrary to his custom, slipped out of the palace, and went a-sauntering in the city, and this morning was found dead. A man was brought before the chief justice, and charged with the murder of him; but when he was going to be hanged, up came a man, after him another, who took the charge upon themselves. and cleared one another. This examination has continued a long while, and the judge is now examining a third man that gives himself out as the real author of the murder."

Upon this intelligence, the sultan of Casgar sent a hussar to the place of execution. "Go," said he to his messenger, "make all the haste you can, and bring the arraigned

persons before me immediately ; and withal, bring the corpse of poor hump-back, that I may see him once more." Accordingly the hussar went, and happened to arrive at the place of execution at the same time that the executioner was going to tie up the tailor. So he cried aloud to the executioner to suspend the execution : The hangman, knowing the hussar, did not dare to proceed, but untied the tailor, and then the hussar acquainted the judge with the sultan's pleasure. So the judge obeyed, and went straight to the palace, accompanied by the tailor, the Jewish doctor, and the Christian merchant ; and made four of his men carry the hunch-back corpse along with them.

When they appeared before the sultan, the judge threw himself at the prince's feet ; and, after recovering himself, gave him a faithful relation of what he knew of the story of the hump-backed man. The sultan found the story so uncommon, that he ordered his private historians to write it, with its circumstances.

