

BOOKS FOR THE BAIRNS.—XXXIII.

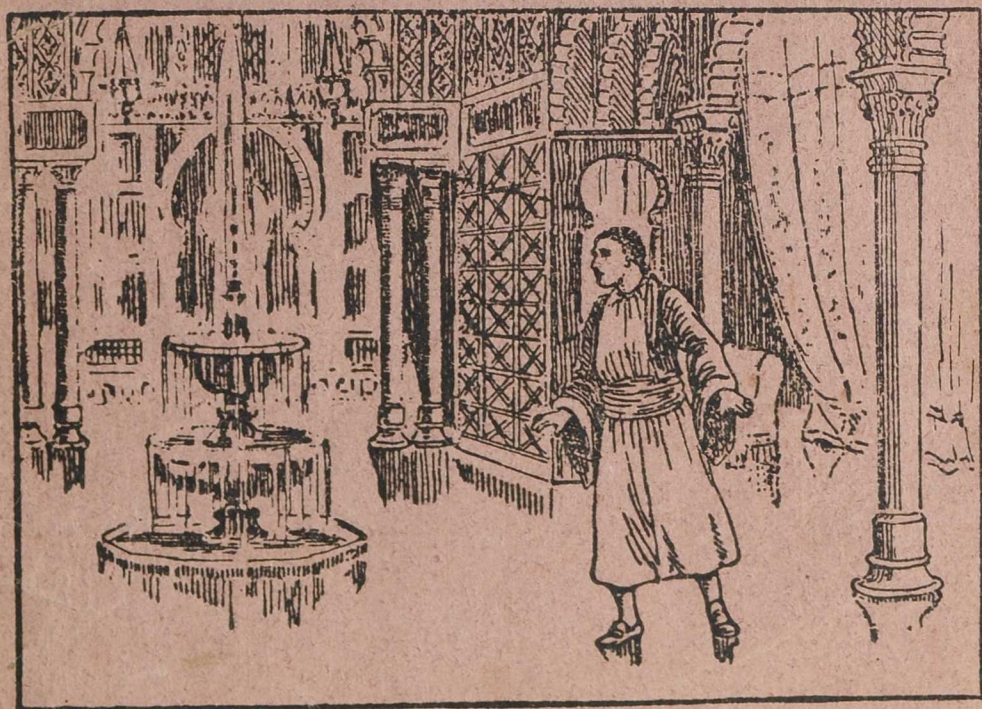
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AND THE
WONDERFUL LAMP.

FROM "THE ARABIAN NIGHTS."

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3 3

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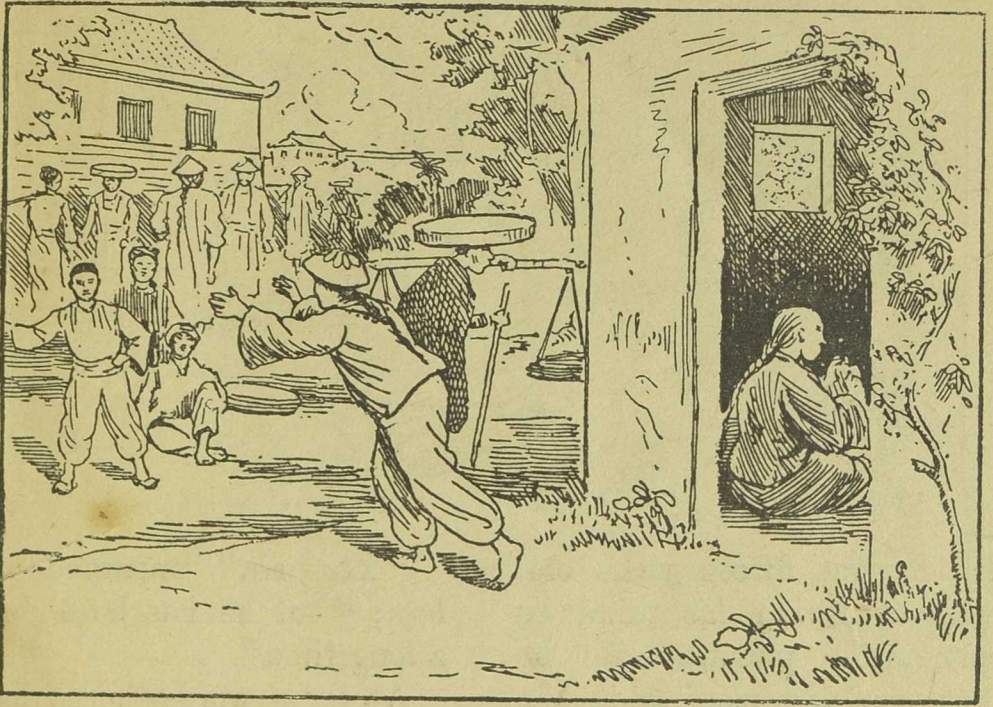
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THE STORY OF ALADDIN

AND THE WONDERFUL LAMP.



In one of the rich cities of China there once lived a tailor named Mustapha. He was so poor he could hardly maintain his family, which consisted only of his wife and a son. His son, who was called Aladdin, was a careless, idle fellow. He was disobedient to his father and mother, and would go out early in the morning and stay out all day, playing in the streets. When

he was old enough to learn a trade, his father took him into his own shop, and taught him how to use his needle; but no sooner was his back turned, than Aladdin was gone for that day. Mustapha chastised him, but Aladdin was incorrigible, and his father was so much troubled about him, that he fell sick and died.

Aladdin now gave himself entirely over to his idle habits,



till he was fifteen years old, without giving his mind to any useful pursuit. As he was one day playing in the street, with his evil associates, a stranger passed by.

This stranger was a sorcerer, known as the African magician. Observing in Aladdin's countenance something which assured him that he was a fit boy for his purpose, he inquired his name, and when he had learnt all he desired to know, went up to him, and taking him aside, said, "Child, was not your father called Mustapha the tailor?"

"Yes, sir," answered the boy; "but he has been dead a long time."

At these words the African magician threw his arms about Aladdin's neck, and kissed him several times, with tears in his eyes, and said, "I am your uncle. Your worthy father was my own brother. I knew you at first sight, you are so like him." Then he gave Aladdin a handful of money, saying, "Go to your mother, give my love to her, and tell her that I will visit her to-morrow."

Aladdin ran to his mother, overjoyed at the money his uncle had given him. "Mother," said he, "have I an uncle?"

"No, child," replied his mother.

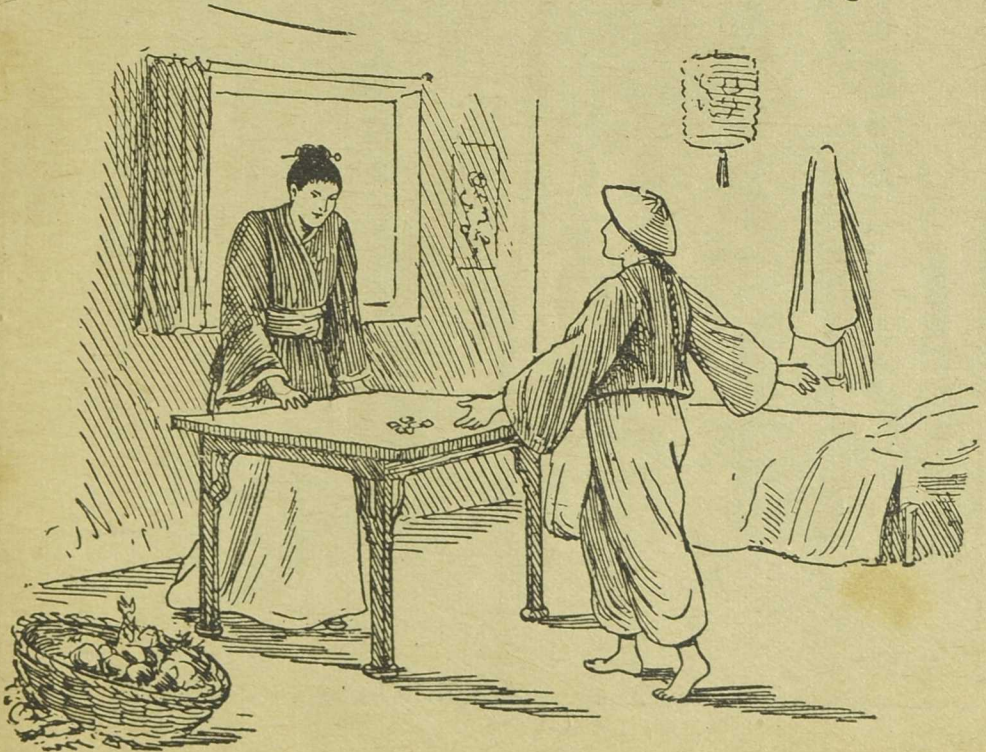
"I am just come," said Aladdin, "from a man who says he is my uncle and my father's brother. He cried and kissed me when I told him my father was dead, and gave me money, sending his love to you, and promising to come and pay you a visit."

"Indeed, child," replied the

mother, "your father had no brother, nor have you an uncle."

The next day the magician found Aladdin playing in another part of the town, and, embracing him, put two pieces of gold into his hand, and said, "Carry this to your mother; tell her that I will come and see her to-night, and bid her get us something for supper; but first show me the house where you live."

Aladdin showed the African magician the house, and carried the two pieces of gold to his





mother, who spent the whole day in preparing the supper.

When the magician knocked at the door, he came in loaded with wine and all sorts of fruits, which he brought for a dessert. After he had given what he brought into Aladdin's hands, he saluted his mother, and desired her to show him the place where his brother Mustapha used to sit on the sofa; and when she had so done, he fell down and kissed it several times, crying out, with tears in his eyes, "My poor brother! how unhappy am I not to have come soon enough to give you one last embrace."

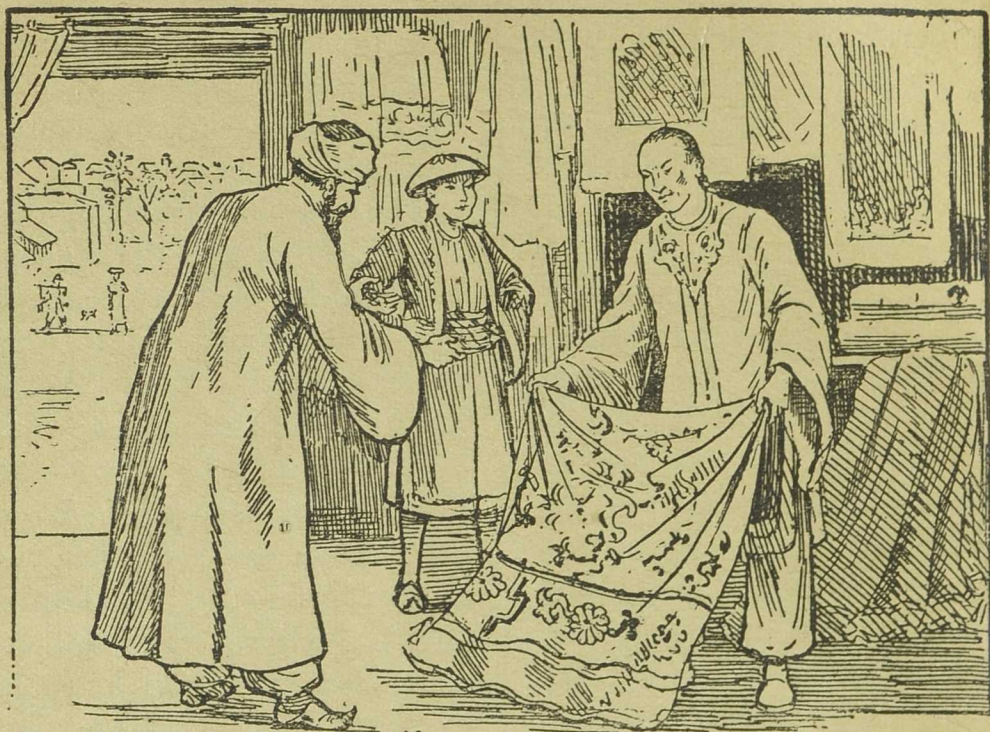
When the magician had sat down he began to talk with Aladdin's mother. "My good sister," said he, "do not be surprised at your never having seen me all the time you have been married to my brother Mustapha. I have been forty years absent from this country, and during that time have travelled into the Indies, Persia, Arabia, Syria, and Egypt, and afterwards crossed over into Africa, where I took up my abode. At last, as it is natural for a man, I was de-

sirous to see my native country again; but nothing ever afflicted me so much as hearing of my brother's death."

The magician perceiving that the widow wept at the remembrance of her husband, changed the conversation, and turning to her son, asked him, "What business do you follow?"

At this question the youth hung down his head, and was not a little abashed when his mother answered, "Aladdin is an idle fellow. His father, when alive, strove all he could to teach him his trade, but could not succeed; and since his death, notwithstanding all I can say to him, he does nothing but idle away his time in the streets. I am resolved, one of these days, to turn him out of doors, and let him provide for himself."

Aladdin's mother burst into tears; and the magician said, "This is not well, nephew; you must think of helping yourself, and getting your livelihood. If you have no mind to learn any handicraft, I will take a shop for you, furnish it with all sorts of fine stuffs and linens; and then with the



money you make of them you can lay in fresh goods, and live in an honourable way."

This plan just suited Aladdin, who hated work. He told the magician he had a greater inclination to that business than to any other. "Well, then," said the African magician, "I will carry you with me to-morrow, clothe you as handsomely as the best merchants in the city, and afterwards we will open a shop."

The widow no longer doubted that the magician was her husband's brother. She thanked

him for his good intentions; and after having exhorted Aladdin to render himself worthy of his uncle's favour, served up supper; and then the magician took his leave.

He came the next day, as he had promised, and took Aladdin to a merchant, who sold all sorts of clothes ready made, and a variety of fine stuffs, and bade Aladdin choose those he preferred, which he paid for.

When Aladdin found himself so handsomely dressed, he returned his uncle thanks, who thus addressed him :

“As you are soon to be a merchant, it is proper you should frequent these shops, and be acquainted with them.”

He then showed him the finest mosques, carried him to the khans or inns where the merchants and travellers lodged, and afterwards to the Sultan's palace, and at last brought him to his own khan.

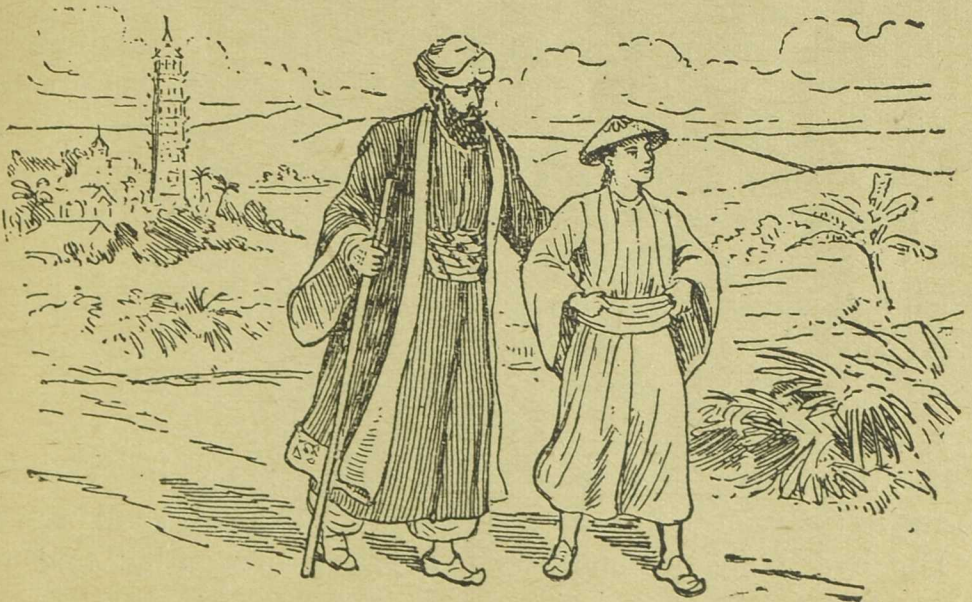
At night, when Aladdin would have taken leave of his uncle to go home, the magician would not let him go by himself, but accompanied him to his mother.

Early next morning, the magician called again for

Aladdin, and said he would take him to spend that day in the country, and on the next he would purchase the shop. He then led him out at one of the gates of the city, to some magnificent palaces, to each of which belonged beautiful gardens, into which anybody might enter.

By this means the magician drew Aladdin beyond the gardens, and crossed the country, till they nearly reached the mountains.

At last they arrived between two mountains, which was the place where the magician intended to execute the design





that had brought him from Africa to China. "We will go no farther now," said he; "I will show you here some extraordinary things; but while I strike a light, gather up all the loose dry sticks you can see, to kindle a fire with." Aladdin found so many dried sticks, that he soon collected a great heap. The magician presently set them on fire, and when they were in a blaze, threw in some incense.

He had scarcely done so, when the earth opened just

before the magician, and discovered a stone with a brass ring fixed in it. Aladdin was so frightened that he would have run away, but the magician caught hold of him, and gave him such a box on the ear that he knocked him down. Aladdin got up trembling, and, with tears in his eyes, asked what he had done.

"Do not be afraid," said he, "for I shall not ask anything of you but that you obey me punctually. Know,

then, that under this stone there is hidden a treasure, destined to be yours, and which will make you richer than the greatest monarch in the world. No person but yourself is permitted to lift this stone or enter the cave; so you must do what I may command, for it is a matter of great consequence both to you and me. Take hold of the ring, and lift up that stone."

"Indeed," replied Aladdin, "I am not strong enough; you must help me."

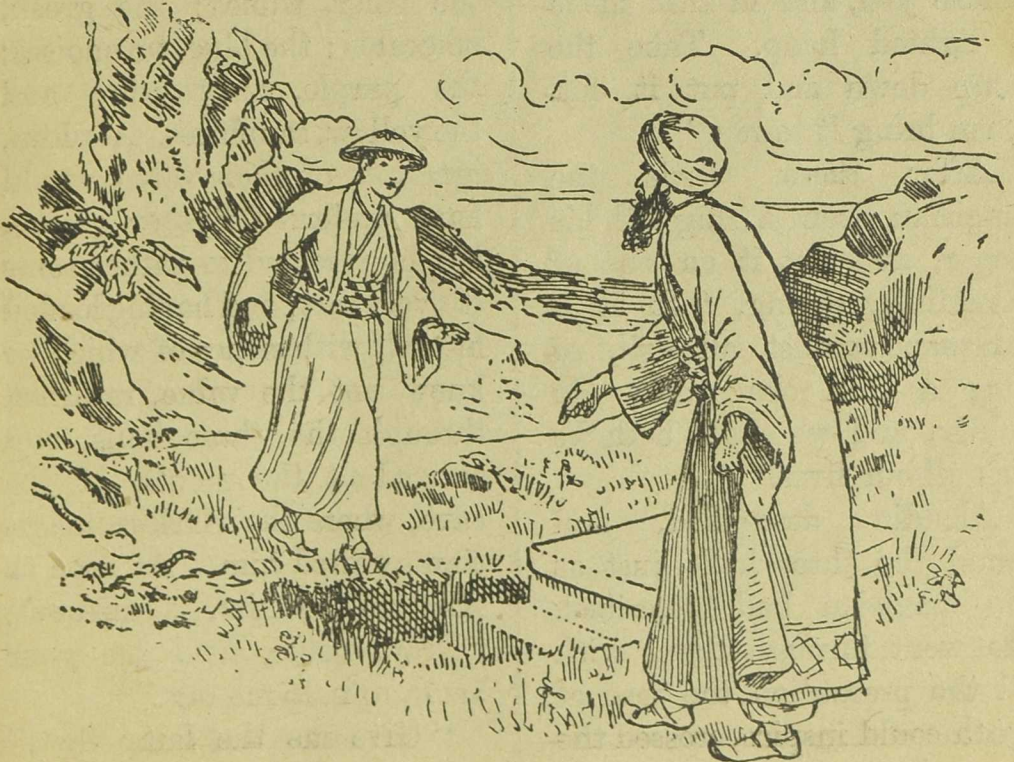
"You have no occasion for

my assistance," answered the magician; "if I help you, we shall be able to do nothing. Take hold of the ring, and lift it up; you will find it will come easily."

Aladdin did as the magician bade him, raised the stone, and laid it on one side.

Then there appeared a staircase leading to a door.

"Descend those steps, and open that door," said the magician. "It will lead you into a palace divided into three halls. In each of these you will see four brass cisterns



full of gold and silver; but do not meddle with them. Before you enter the first hall, be sure to tuck up your robe, wrap it about you, and then pass through the second into the third without stopping. Above all things, have a care that you do not touch the walls; for if you do, you will die instantly. At the end of the third hall you will find a door which opens into a garden, planted with fine trees loaded with fruit. Walk across the garden to a terrace, where you will see a niche before you, and in that niche a lighted lamp. Take the lamp down and put it out. Then bring it to me."

After these words the magician drew a ring off his finger, and put it on one of Aladdin's, saying, "It is a talisman against all evil, so long as you obey me. Go boldly, and we shall both be rich all our lives."

Aladdin descended, and found the three halls just as the magician had described. He went through them with all the precaution the fear of death could inspire, crossed the

garden without stopping, and took down the lamp from the niche. But as he came down from the terrace, he stopped in the garden to observe the trees, which were loaded with fruit of different colours on each tree. Some bore fruit entirely white, and some clear and transparent as crystal; some pale red, and others deeper; some green, blue, and purple, and others yellow; in short, there was fruit of all colours. The white were pearls; the clear and transparent, diamonds; the deep red, rubies; the paler, rubies; the green, emeralds; the blue, turquoises; the purple, amethysts; and the yellow, sapphires. Aladdin, ignorant of their value, would have preferred figs or grapes, but he resolved to gather some of every sort; and having loaded himself with riches of which he knew not the value, returned through the three halls, and arrived at the mouth of the cave, where the African magician awaited him. As soon as Aladdin saw him, he cried out, "Pray, uncle, lend me your hand, to help me out."

"Give me the lamp first,"





replied the magician; "it will be troublesome to you."

But Aladdin refused, and the magician, provoked at this refusal, flew into a passion, threw a little of his incense into the fire, and pronounced two magical words, when the stone which had closed the mouth of the staircase moved into its place again.

This action revealed to Aladdin that he was no uncle of his, but one who designed him evil. The truth was that he had learnt from his magic books the secret and the value of this wonderful lamp, the

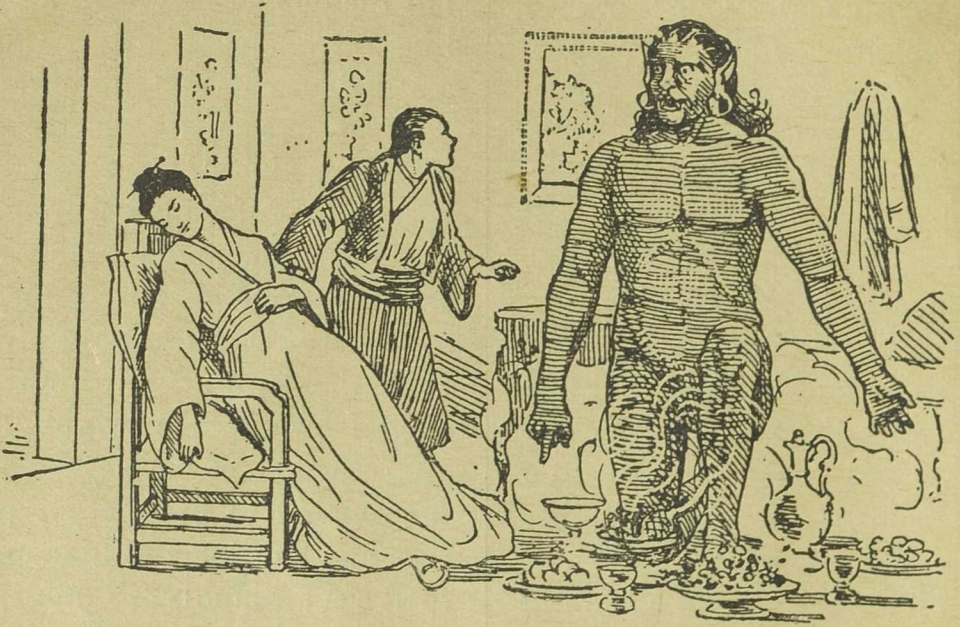
owner of which would be made richer than any king, and hence his journey to China. His art had also told him that he was not permitted to take it himself, but must receive it as a voluntary gift from the hands of another person. Hence he employed Aladdin, and hoped to make him obedient to his word and will. When he failed he set out to return to Africa. Aladdin cried to his uncle to tell him he was ready to give him the lamp; but in vain, since his cries could not be heard. He descended to the bottom of the steps, and re-

doubled his cries and tears. In this emergency he said, "There is no strength or power but in the great and high God"; and in joining his hands to pray he rubbed the ring which the magician had put on his finger. Immediately a genie of frightful aspect appeared, and said, "What wouldst thou have? I am ready to obey thee. I serve him who possesses the ring on thy finger; I, and the other slaves of that ring."

At another time Aladdin would have been frightened at the sight of so ugly a figure,

but the danger he was in made him answer, "Whoever thou art, deliver me from this place." He had no sooner spoken than he found himself on the very spot where the magician had last left him, and no sign of cave or opening, nor disturbance of the earth. Returning God thanks to find himself once more in the world, he made the best of his way home. He related to his mother all that had happened to him, and then slept soundly till late the next morning, when the first thing he said to his mother





was, that he wanted something to eat, and wished she would give him his breakfast. "Alas! child," said she, "I have not a bit of bread to give you."

"Mother," replied Aladdin, "give me the lamp I brought home with me yesterday; I will go and sell it, and the money I shall get for it will serve both for breakfast and dinner, and perhaps supper too."

Aladdin's mother took the lamp and said, "Here it is, but it is very dirty." She had no sooner begun to rub it, than a hideous genie appeared before her, and said to her in

a voice of thunder, "What wouldst thou have? I am ready to obey thee as thy slave, and the slave of all those who have that lamp in their hands."

Aladdin's mother fainted, when Aladdin snatched the lamp out of his mother's hand, and said to the genie boldly, "I am hungry, bring me something to eat."

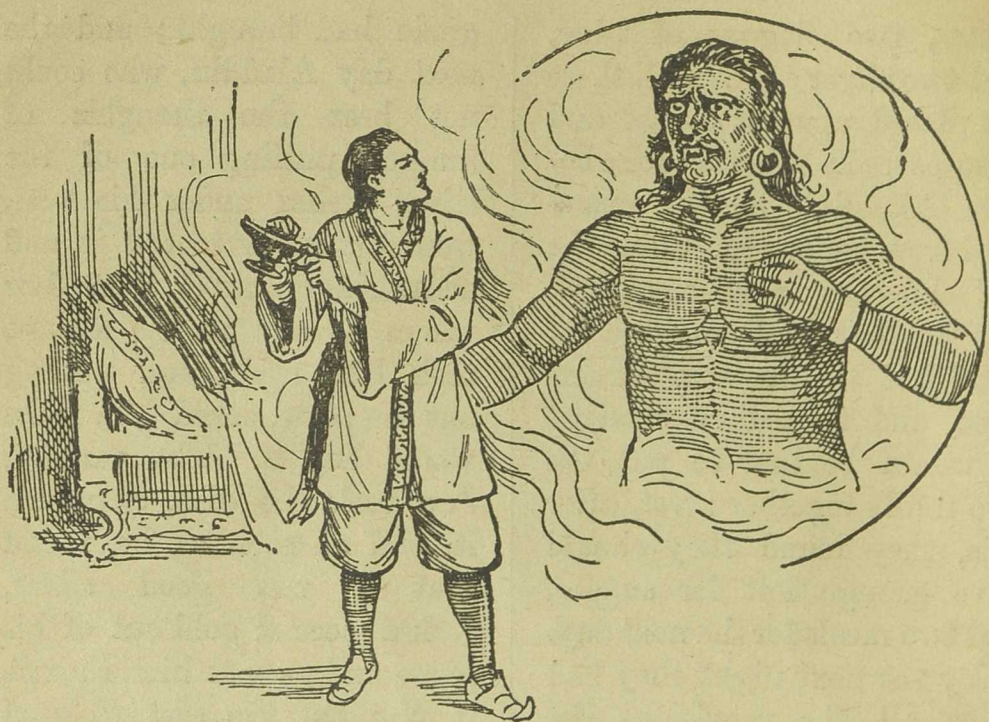
The genie disappeared, and in an instant returned with a silver tray, holding twelve covered dishes of the same metal, which contained the most delicious foods; six large white bread cakes on two

plates, two flagons of wine, and two silver cups. All these he placed upon a carpet and disappeared; this was done before Aladdin's mother recovered from her swoon. When she did she was much surprised, but mother and son sat at breakfast till it was dinner-time, and then they thought it would be best to put the two meals together; yet, after this, they found they should have enough left for supper, and two meals for the next day.

By the next night they had eaten all the provisions the

genie had brought; and the next day Aladdin, who could not bear the thoughts of hunger, putting one of the silver dishes under his vest, went out early to sell it, and addressing himself to a Jew whom he met in the streets, took him aside, and pulling out the plate, asked him if he would buy it. The cunning Jew took the dish, examined it, and as soon as he found that it was good silver, took a piece of gold out of his purse and gave it him, though it was but the sixtieth part





of the worth of the plate. Aladdin took the money eagerly and ran home, but on the way he called at a baker's, bought some cakes of bread, changed his money, and on his return gave the rest to his mother, who went and purchased provisions enough to last them some time. After this manner they lived, till Aladdin had sold the twelve dishes singly, as necessity pressed, to the Jew. When he had sold the last dish he had recourse to the tray, which weighed ten times as much as

the dishes, and for which the Jew gave ten pieces of gold.

When all this money was spent, Aladdin had recourse again to the lamp. He took it in his hands, looked for the part where his mother had rubbed it with the sand, rubbed it also, when the genie immediately appeared, and said, "What wouldst thou have? I am ready to obey thee as thy slave."

"I am hungry," said Aladdin, "bring me something to eat."

The genie disappeared, and presently returned with a tray,

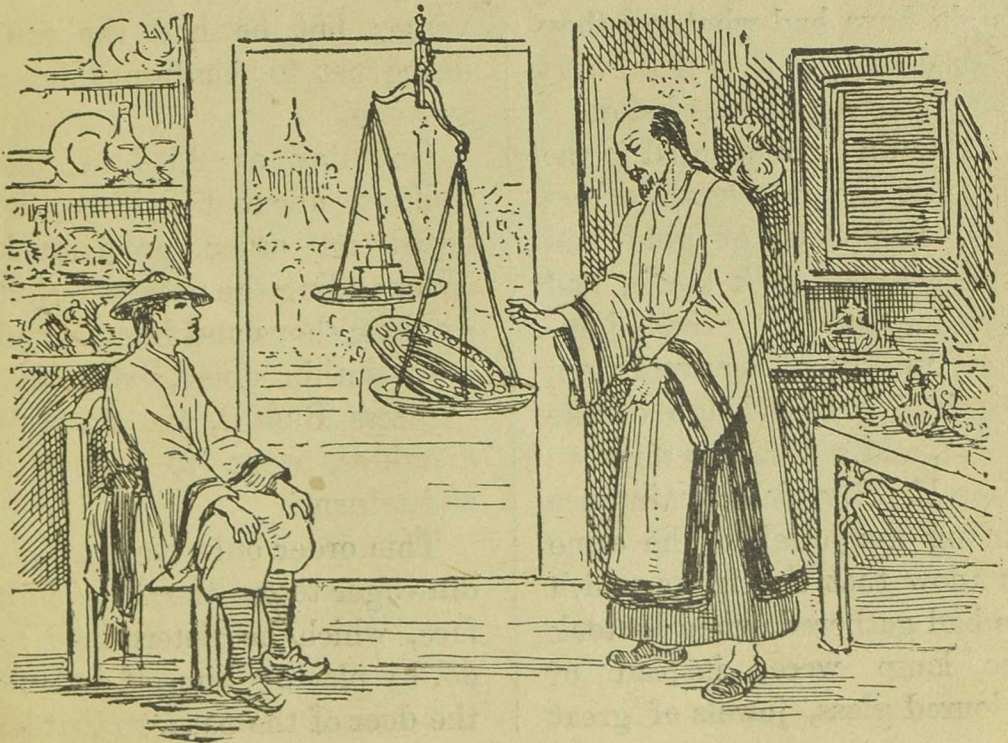
the same number of covered dishes as before, set them down, and vanished.

When once more Aladdin found that their provisions were again expended, he took one of the dishes, and went to look for the Jew; but passing a goldsmith's shop, the goldsmith called to him, and said, "My lad, I imagine that you have something to sell to the Jew, whom I often see you visit; but perhaps you do not know that he is dishonest. I will give you the full worth of what you have to sell, or I will

direct you to other merchants who will not cheat you."

This offer induced Aladdin to pull his plate from under his vest and show it to the goldsmith, who took a pair of scales, weighed the dish, and assured him that his plate would fetch by weight sixty pieces of gold, which he offered to pay down immediately. Aladdin thanked him for his fair dealing, and never after went to any other person.

Though Aladdin and his mother had an inexhaustible treasure in their lamp, and





might have had whatever they wished for, yet they lived with the same frugality as before.

Aladdin frequented the shops of the merchants, where they sold cloth of gold and silver, linens, silk stuffs, and jewellery, and oftentimes joining in their conversation, acquired a knowledge of the world, and a desire to improve himself. By his acquaintance among the jewellers, he came to know that the fruits which he had gathered when he took the lamp were, instead of coloured glass, jewels of great

value; but he had the prudence not to mention this to any one.

One day as Aladdin was walking about the town, he heard an order proclaimed, commanding the people to shut up their shops and houses, and keep within doors, while the Princess Buddir, the Sultan's daughter, went to the bath and returned.

This order only made Aladdin eager to see the Princess's face, which he determined to do, by placing himself behind the door of the bath, so that he

could not fail to see her face.

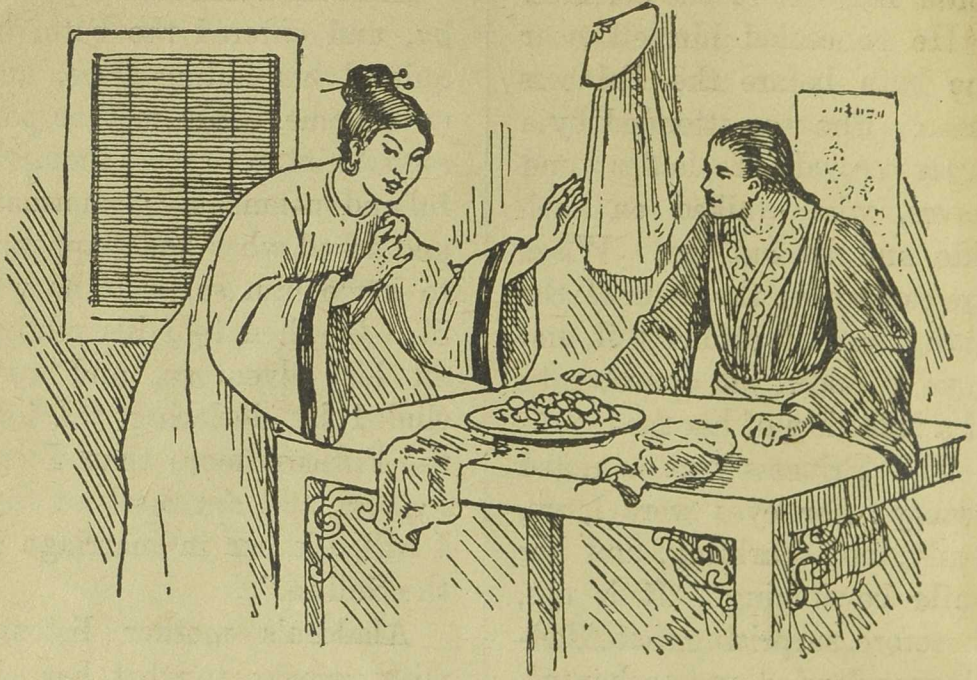
He concealed himself near the bath before the Princess came. She was attended by a great crowd of ladies and slaves, who walked on each side and behind her. When she came near the door of the bath, she took off her veil, and gave Aladdin an opportunity of a full view of her face.

The Princess was a noted beauty: her eyes were large, lively, and sparkling, and her smile bewitching. It is not, therefore, surprising that Aladdin was dazzled and enchanted.

After the Princess had passed by, and entered the bath, he quitted his hiding-place, and went home. His mother perceived him to be more thoughtful and melancholy than usual; and asked what had happened to make him so, or if he was ill. He then told his mother all his adventure, and concluded by declaring, "I love the Princess more than I can express, and am resolved that I will ask her in marriage of the Sultan."

Aladdin's mother listened with surprise to what her son





told her; but when he talked of asking the Princess in marriage, she laughed aloud, and said he must be mad.

“I assure you, mother,” replied Aladdin, “that I am not mad, but in my right senses. I am resolved to demand the Princess of the Sultan in marriage; nor do I despair of success. I have the slaves of the lamp and of the ring to help me, and you know how powerful their aid is. And I have another secret to tell you: those pieces of glass, which I got from the trees in the garden of the underground

palace, are jewels of great value. All the precious stones the jewellers have in Bagdad are not to be compared to mine for size or beauty; and I am sure that the offer of them will secure the favour of the Sultan. You have a large dish fit to hold them; fetch it, and let us see how they will look, when we have arranged them according to their different colours.

Aladdin’s mother brought the china dish, when he took the jewels out of the two purses in which he had kept them, and placed them in

order, according to his fancy. Aladdin's mother, emboldened by the sight of these rich jewels, and fearful lest her son should be guilty of greater extravagance, complied with his request, and promised to go early in the next morning to the palace of the Sultan. Aladdin rose before daybreak, awakened his mother, pressing her to go to the Sultan's palace and to get admittance, if possible, before the Grand Vizier and the great officers of state went in to take their seats in the divan, where the Sultan always attended in person.

She took the china dish, in which they had put the jewels the day before, and set forward for the Sultan's palace. When she came to the gates, notwithstanding the crowd of people was great, she got into the divan, a spacious hall, the entrance into which was very magnificent. She placed herself just before the Sultan and the great lords, who sat in council on his right and left hand. Several causes were called, according to their order, pleaded and adjudged, until the time the divan generally broke up, when the Sultan,





rising, returned to his apartment, attended by the ministers of state.

Aladdin's mother, seeing the Sultan retire, and all the people depart, judged rightly that he would not sit again that day, and resolved to go home; and on her arrival said, with much simplicity, "Son, I have seen the Sultan; but he was so much taken up with those who attended on all sides of him that I pitied him, and wondered at his patience. At last I believe he was heartily tired, for he rose up suddenly, and would not hear a great many who

were ready prepared to speak to him, but went away, at which I was well pleased, for indeed I began to lose all patience, and was extremely fatigued with staying so long. But there is no harm done; I will go again; perhaps the Sultan may not be so busy."

She went six times afterwards on the days appointed, placed herself always directly before the Sultan, but with as little success as the first morning. On the sixth day, however, when the Sultan returned to his own apartment, he said to his Grand Vizier, "I have

for some time observed a certain woman, who attends constantly every day that I give audience, with something wrapped up in a napkin. If she comes to our next audience, do not fail to call her, that I may hear what she has to say."

On the next audience day, when Aladdin's mother went and placed herself in front of the Sultan as usual, the Grand Vizier called the chief of the mace-bearers, and, pointing to her, bade him bring her before the Sultan. The woman followed the mace-bearer, and

when she reached the Sultan, he said, "Good woman, I have observed you to stand many days from the beginning to the rising of the divan; what business brings you here?"

After these words Aladdin's mother prostrated herself, and when she arose, said, "Monarch of monarchs, I beg of you to pardon the boldness of my petition, and to assure me of your pardon and forgiveness." "Well," replied the Sultan, "I will forgive you, be it what it may; speak boldly."



When Aladdin's mother had taken all these precautions, for fear of the Sultan's anger, she told him faithfully the errand on which her son had sent her. The Sultan listened without showing the least anger; but before he gave her any answer, asked her what she had brought tied up in the napkin. She took the china dish, untied it, and presented it to the Sultan, whose surprise was great when he saw so many beautiful and valuable jewels. At last, when he had recovered himself, he received the present from Aladdin's mother's hand, saying, "How rich, how beautiful!" After he had admired and handled all the jewels, he turned to his Grand Vizier, and said, "Behold, admire, wonder! and confess that your eyes never beheld jewels so rich and beautiful before." The Vizier was charmed. "Well," continued the Sultan, "what sayest thou to such a present? Is it not worthy of the Princess my daughter? And ought I not to bestow her on one who values her at so great a price?"

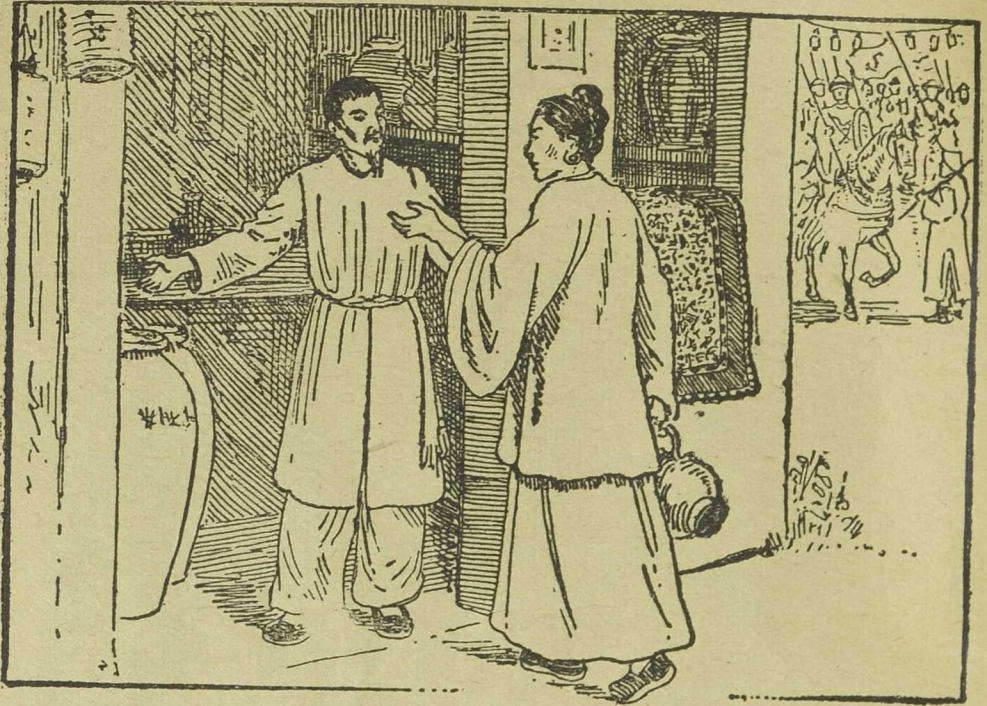
"I cannot but own," replied

the Grand Vizier, "that the present is worthy of the Princess; but I beg of your Majesty to grant me three months before you come to a final resolution. I hope before that time my son, whom you have regarded with your favour, will be able to make a nobler present than this Aladdin, who is an entire stranger to your Majesty."

The Sultan granted his request, and he said to the woman, "Good woman, go home, and tell your son that I agree to the proposal you have made me; but I cannot marry the Princess my daughter for three months; at the expiration of that time come again." Aladdin's mother returned home much more gratified than she had expected, and told her son the condescending answer she had received from the Sultan's own mouth; and that she was to come to the divan again that day three months.

Aladdin thought himself the most happy of men at hearing this news, and thanked his mother for the pains she had taken in the affair, the





good success of which was of so great importance to his peace, that he counted every day, week, and even hour as it passed. When nearly three months were passed, his mother, having no oil in the house, went out to buy some, and found a general rejoicing—the houses dressed with foliage, silks, and carpeting, and every one striving to show their joy according to their ability. The streets were crowded with officers, mounted on horses, each attended by a great many footmen. Aladdin's mother asked the oil merchant

what was the meaning of all this preparation of public festivity.

“Whence came you, good woman,” said he, “that you do not know that the Grand Vizier's son is to marry the Princess Buddir, the Sultan's daughter, to-night? These officers whom you see are to assist at the procession to the palace, where the ceremony is to be solemnized.”

Aladdin's mother, on hearing this, ran home quickly. “Child,” cried she, “you are undone! the Sultan's fine promises will come to naught.

This night the Grand Vizier's son is to marry the Princess."

Aladdin was thunderstruck, but he bethought himself of the lamp, and of the genie who had promised to obey him; and without indulging in idle words against the Sultan, the Vizier, or his son, he determined, if possible, to prevent the marriage.

Going into his chamber, he took the lamp, rubbed it in the same place as before, when immediately the genie appeared, and said to him, "What wouldst thou have?"

I am ready to obey thee as thy slave; I, and the other slaves of the lamp."

"Hear me," said Aladdin. "The Sultan's daughter, who was promised me as my bride, is this night to be married to the son of the Grand Vizier. Bring them both hither to me immediately after the ceremony."

"Master," replied the genie, "I obey you."

Aladdin supped with his mother, as was their wont, and then went to his own apartment, and sat up to





await the return of the genie, according to his commands.

In the meantime the festivities in honour of the Princess's marriage were conducted in the Sultan's palace with great magnificence. The ceremonies were at last brought to a conclusion, and the Princess and the son of the Vizier retired to the apartments prepared for them. No sooner had they entered and dismissed their attendants than the faithful slave of the lamp, to the great amazement and alarm of the bride and bridegroom, seized them both, and by an agency invisible to them transported them into Aladdin's chamber.

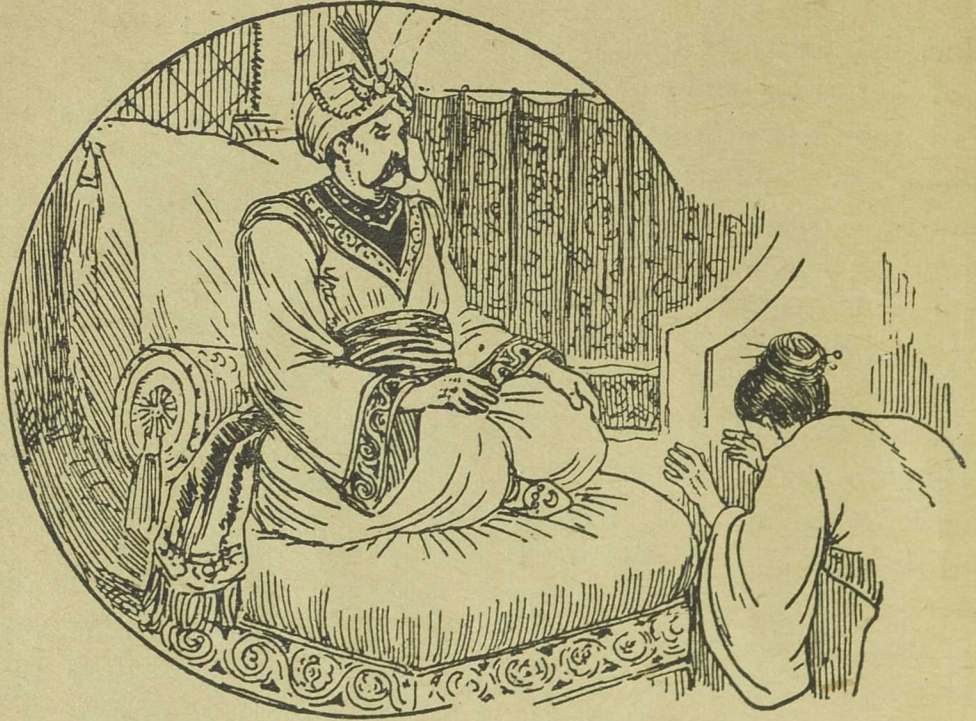
"Remove the bridegroom," said Aladdin to the genie, "and keep him a prisoner till to-morrow dawn, and then return with him here."

On Aladdin being left alone with the Princess, he endeavoured to calm her fears, and explained to her the treachery practised upon him by the Sultan her father. He promised, however, to treat her with the utmost possible respect. At break of day, the

genie appeared at the appointed hour, bringing back the bridegroom. At Aladdin's command, he transported the bride and bridegroom, by the same invisible agency, back to the palace of the Sultan.

The next night the same thing occurred again, and having passed the night in the same unpleasant way, they were in the morning conveyed back to the palace of the Sultan. Scarcely had they been replaced in their apartment, when the Sultan came to make his compliments to his daughter, and the Princess then told him all that had happened. The Sultan, on hearing these strange tidings, consulted with the Grand Vizier; and finding from him that his son had been subjected to even worse treatment by an invisible agency, he determined to cancel the marriage and all the festivities, which were yet to last for several days.

This sudden change in the mind of the Sultan gave rise to various speculations and reports. Nobody but Aladdin knew the secret, and he kept it with the most scrupulous



silence ; and neither the Sultan nor the Grand Vizier, who had forgotten Aladdin and his request, had the least thought that he had any hand in the strange adventures that befell the bride and bridegroom.

On the very day that the three months mentioned in the Sultan's promise expired, the mother of Aladdin again went to the palace, and stood in the same place in the divan. The Sultan knew her again, and directed his Vizier to have her brought before him. After having prostrated herself, she

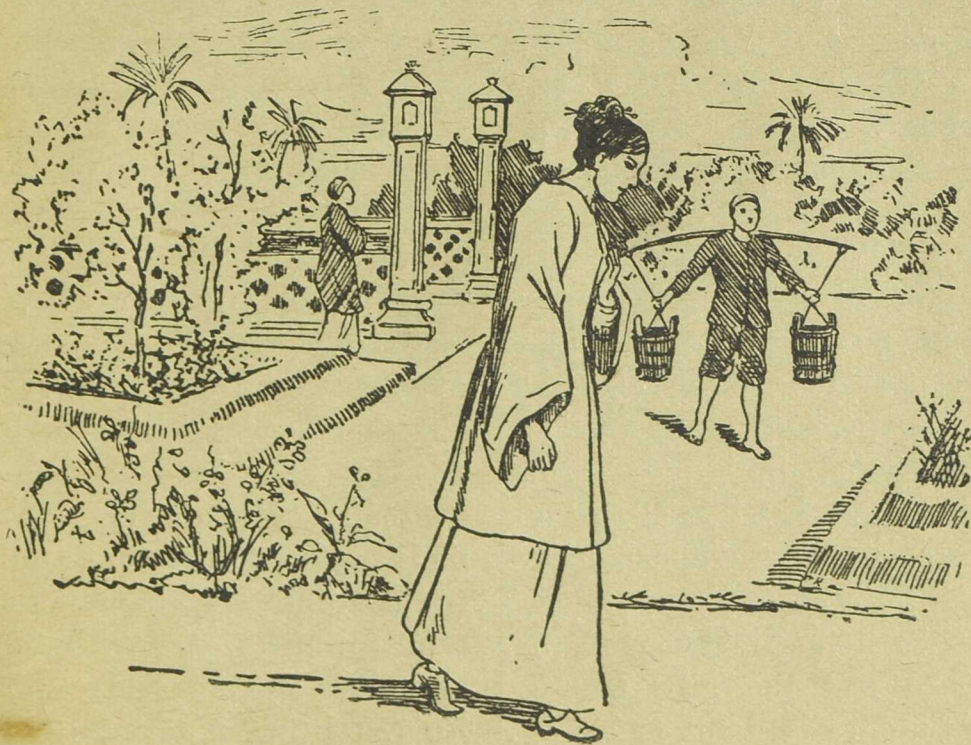
said, "Sire, I come at the end of three months to ask of you the fulfilment of the promise you made to my son." The Sultan little thought the request of Aladdin's mother was made to him in earnest, or that he would hear any more of the matter. He therefore took counsel with his Vizier, who suggested that the Sultan should attach such conditions to the marriage that no one of the humble condition of Aladdin could possibly fulfil. Then the Sultan replied to the mother of Aladdin :

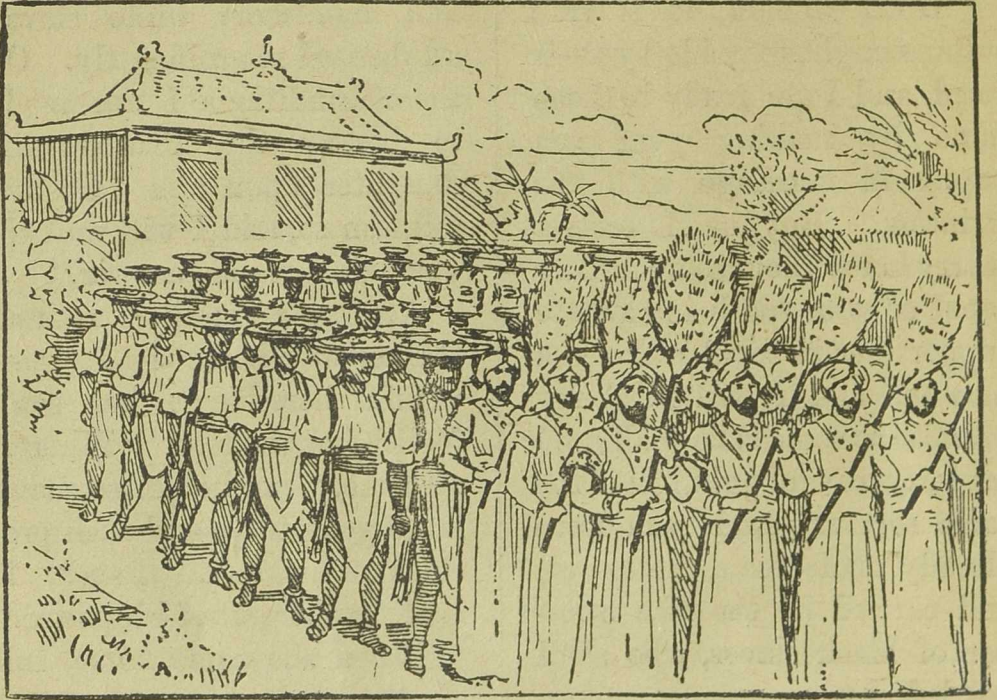
“Good woman, it is true sultans ought to abide by their word, and I am ready to keep mine by making your son happy in marriage with the Princess. But as I cannot marry her without some further proof of your son being able to support her in royal state, you may tell him I will fulfil my promise as soon as he shall send me forty trays of gold, full of the same sort of jewels you have already made me a present of, and carried by the like number of black slaves, who shall be led by as many young

and handsome white slaves, all dressed magnificently. On these conditions I am ready to bestow the Princess my daughter upon him. Go and tell him so, and I will wait till you bring me his answer.”

Aladdin's mother retired. On her way home she laughed within herself at her son's foolish imagination. “Where,” said she, “can he get so many large gold trays and such precious stones to fill them? It is altogether out of his power.”

When she came home, full of these thoughts, she told





Aladdin of her interview with the Sultan and the conditions on which he consented to the marriage. "The Sultan expects your answer immediately, and I believe he may wait long enough!"

"Not so long, mother, as you imagine," replied Aladdin. "This demand is a mere trifle. I will prepare at once to satisfy his request."

Aladdin retired to his own apartment and summoned the genie of the lamp, and required him to immediately prepare and present the gift, before the Sultan closed his morning

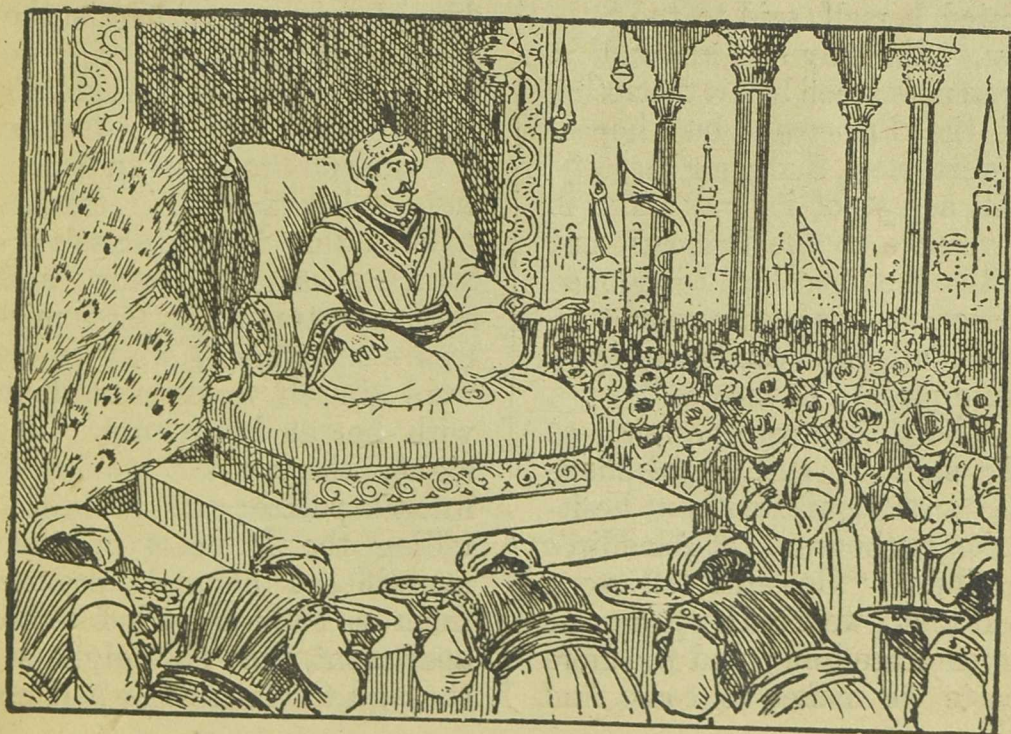
audience. The genie professed his obedience to the owner of the lamp, and disappeared. Within a short time, a train of forty black slaves, led by the same number of white slaves, appeared opposite the house in which Aladdin lived. Each black slave carried on his head a basin of gold, full of pearls, diamonds, rubies, and emeralds. Aladdin then addressed his mother: "Madam, pray lose no time; before the Sultan and the divan rise, I would have you return to the palace with this present as the dowry demanded for the Princess, that he may

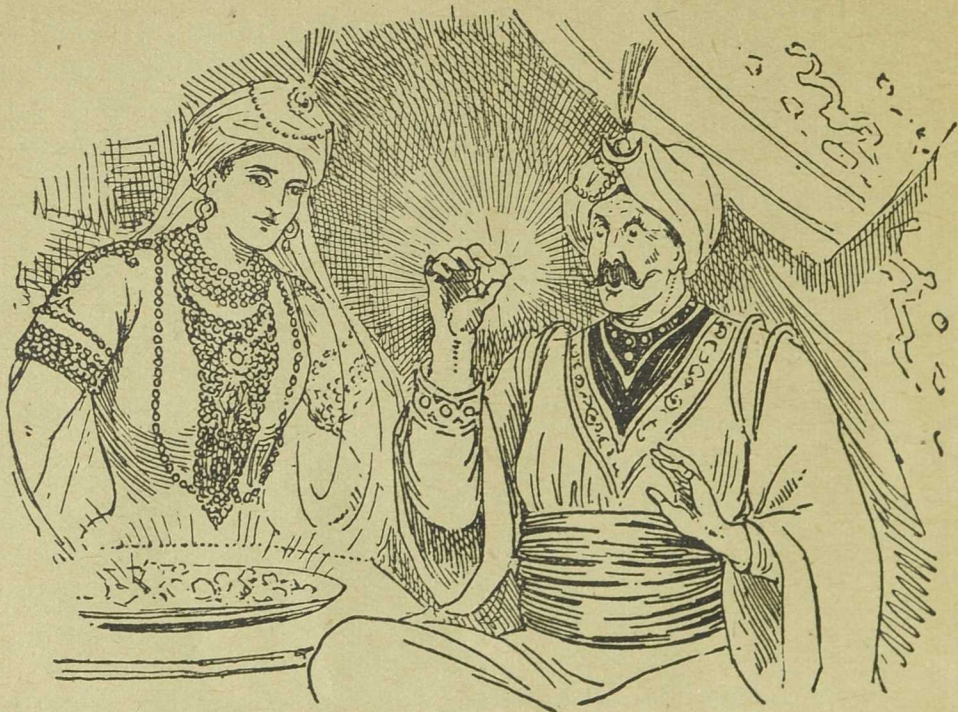
judge of my diligence and of the ardent and sincere desire I have to procure myself the honour of this alliance."

As soon as this magnificent procession, with Aladdin's mother at its head, had begun to march from Aladdin's house, the whole city was filled with the crowds of people desirous to see so grand a sight. The graceful bearing of each slave, the lustre of their jewelled girdles, and the brilliancy of the aigrettes of precious stones in their turbans, excited the greatest admiration. Nothing, indeed, was ever seen so beautiful and brilliant in the Sultan's palace.

As the Sultan, who had been informed of their approach, had given orders for them to be admitted, they went into the divan in regular order, one part turning to the right, and the other to the left. After they had formed a semicircle before the Sultan's throne, the black slaves laid the golden trays on the carpet, prostrated themselves, touching the carpet with their foreheads, and the white slaves did the same. When they rose the black slaves uncovered the trays, and then all stood with their arms crossed over their breasts.

In the meantime Aladdin's mother advanced to the foot of





the throne, and having prostrated herself, said to the Sultan, "Sire, my son knows this present is much below the notice of the Princess; but hopes, nevertheless, that your Majesty will accept of it, and make it agreeable to the Princess, and with the greater confidence since he has endeavoured to fulfil all the conditions you were pleased to impose."

The Sultan, overpowered at the sight of such royal magnificence, replied without hesitation to the words of Aladdin's mother: "Go and tell your son that I wait with open arms to embrace him; and the more haste he makes to come and

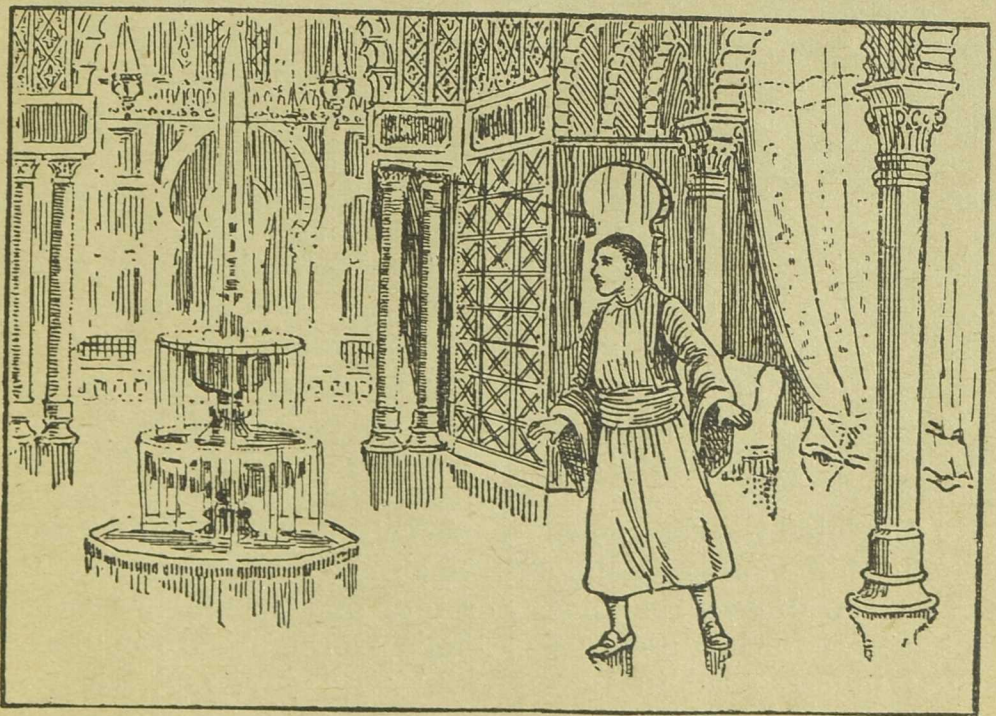
receive the Princess my daughter from my hands, the greater pleasure he will do me." As soon as Aladdin's mother had retired, the Sultan put an end to the audience, and, rising from his throne, ordered that the Princess's attendants should come and carry the trays into their mistress's apartment, whither he went himself to examine them with her at his leisure. The eighty slaves were conducted into the palace; and the Sultan, telling the Princess of their magnificent apparel, ordered them to be brought before her apartment, that she might see through the lattices he had not

exaggerated in his account of them.

In the meantime Aladdin's mother reached home. "My son," said she, "you may rejoice you are arrived at the height of your desires. The Sultan has declared that you shall marry the Princess. He waits for you with impatience."

Aladdin made very little reply, but retired to his chamber. There he rubbed his lamp, and the obedient genie appeared. "Genie," said Aladdin, "convey me at once to a bath, and supply me with the richest robe ever worn by a monarch." No sooner were the words out of his mouth

than the genie rendered him, as well as himself, invisible, and transported him into a bath of the finest marble of all sorts of colours, where he was undressed, without seeing by whom, in a magnificent and spacious hall. He was then well rubbed and washed with various scented waters. After he had passed through several degrees of heat, he came out quite a different man from what he was before. His skin was clear as that of a child, his body lightsome and free; and when he returned into the hall, he found, instead of his own poor raiment, a robe, the magnificence of which



astonished him. The genie helped him to dress, and transported him back to his own chamber, where he asked him if he had any other commands. "Yes," answered Aladdin, "bring me a charger that surpasses in beauty and goodness the best in the Sultan's stables; with a saddle and bridle to correspond. Furnish also twenty slaves, as richly clothed as those who carried the present to the Sultan, to walk by my side and follow me, and twenty more to go before me in two ranks. Besides these, bring my mother six women slaves to attend her, richly dressed. I want also ten thousand pieces of gold in ten purses. Go, and make haste."

As soon as Aladdin had given these orders, the genie disappeared, but presently returned with the horse, the forty slaves, ten of whom carried each a purse containing ten thousand pieces of gold, and six women slaves, each carrying on her head a different dress for Aladdin's mother, wrapped up in a piece of silver tissue, and presented them all to Aladdin.

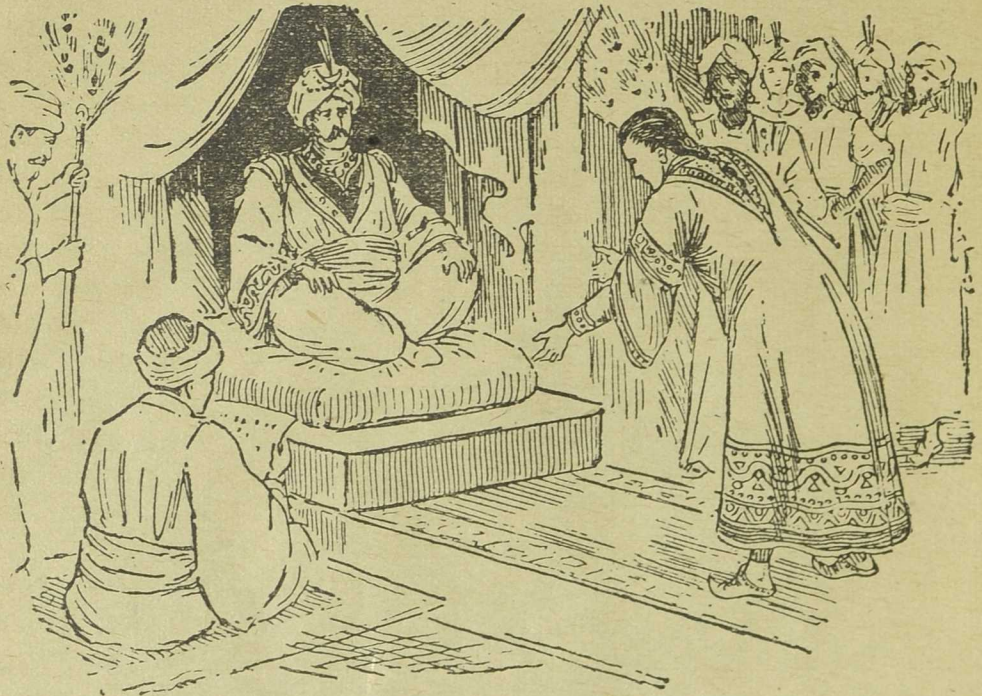
He presented the six women slaves to his mother, telling her that the dresses they had brought were for her use. Of the ten purses Aladdin took

four, which he gave to his mother; the other six he left in the hands of the slaves who brought them, with an order to throw them by handfuls among the people as they went to the Sultan's palace. The six slaves who carried the purses he ordered likewise to march before him, three on the right hand and three on the left.

When Aladdin had thus prepared himself for his first interview with the Sultan, he dismissed the genie, and mounting his charger, began his march, and though he never was on horseback before, appeared with a grace the most experienced horseman might envy. The people through whom he passed made the air echo with their acclamations, especially every time the six slaves who carried the purses threw handfuls of gold among the populace.

On Aladdin's arrival at the palace, the Sultan was surprised to find him more richly and magnificently robed than he had ever been himself, and was impressed with his good looks and dignity of manner, which were so different from what he expected in the son of one so humble as Aladdin's mother. He embraced him with joy, and when he





would have fallen at his feet, held him by the hand, and made him sit near his throne. He shortly after led him, amidst the sound of trumpets, and all kinds of music, to a magnificent entertainment, at which the Sultan and Aladdin ate by themselves, and the great lords of the court, according to their rank and dignity, sat at different tables. After the feast, the Sultan sent for the Chief Cadi, and commanded him to draw up a contract of marriage between the Princess Buddir and Aladdin. When the contract had been drawn, the Sultan asked Aladdin if he would stay in

the palace and complete the ceremonies of the marriage that day. "Sire," said Aladdin, "though great is my impatience to enter on the honour granted me by your Majesty, yet I beg you to permit me first to build a palace worthy to receive the Princess your daughter. I pray you to grant me sufficient ground near your palace, and I will have it completed with the utmost expedition." The Sultan granted Aladdin his request, after which he took his leave with as much politeness as if he had been bred up and had always lived at court.

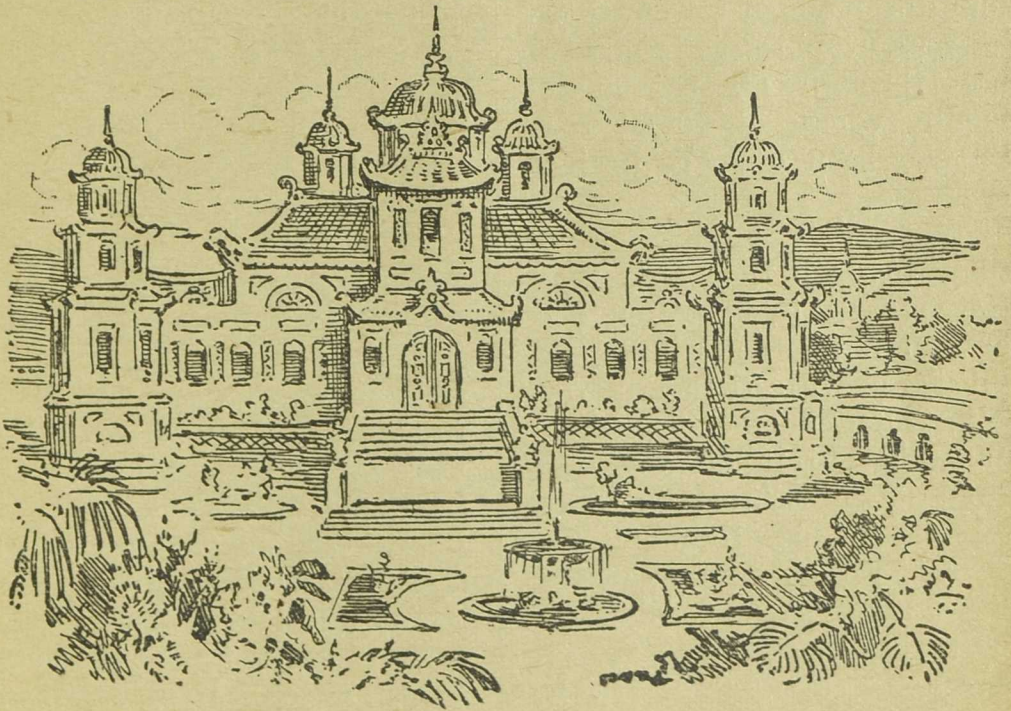
Aladdin returned home

amidst the acclamations of the people, who wished him all happiness and prosperity. As soon as he dismounted, he took the lamp, and summoned the genie as usual, who professed his allegiance.

“Genie,” said Aladdin, “build me a palace fit to receive the Princess. Let its materials be made of nothing less than the finest marble. Let its walls be massive gold and silver bricks laid alternately. Let each front contain six windows, and let the lattices of these (except one, which must be left unfinished) be enriched with diamonds, rubies, and emeralds, so that they shall

exceed everything of the kind ever seen in the world. Let there be an inner and outer court in front of the palace, and a garden; but, above all things, provide a safe treasure-house, and fill it with gold and silver. Let there be also kitchens and storehouses, stables full of the finest horses, with grooms and officers, attendants and slaves, both men and women, to form a retinue for the Princess and myself. Go and execute my wishes.”

When Aladdin gave these commands to the genie, the sun was set. The next morning at daybreak the genie presented himself, and, having obtained





Aladdin's consent, transported him in a moment to the palace he had made. The genie led him through all the apartments, where he found that all had been done as he had ordered.

When the Sultan's porters came to open the gates, they were amazed to find what had been an unoccupied garden filled up with a magnificent palace, and a splendid carpet extending to it all the way from the Sultan's palace. They told the strange tidings to the Grand Vizier, who informed the Sultan, who exclaimed, "It must be Aladdin's palace, which I gave him leave to

build for my daughter. He has wished to surprise us, and let us see what wonders can be done in only one night."

Aladdin, on his being conveyed by the genie to his own home, requested his mother to go to the Princess, and tell her that the palace would be ready for her reception in the evening. She went, attended by her women slaves, in the same order as on the preceding day. Shortly after her arrival at the Princess's apartment, the Sultan himself came in, and was surprised to find her, whom he had known in such humble guise, to be now more richly attired than his own

daughter. This gave him a higher opinion of Aladdin, who took such care of his mother, and made her share his wealth and honours. Shortly after her departure, Aladdin, mounting his horse, and attended by his retinue, left his paternal home for ever, and went to the palace in the same pomp as on the day before. Nor did he forget to take with him the wonderful lamp, to which he owed all his good fortune, nor to wear the ring which was given him as a talisman. The Sultan entertained Aladdin with magnificence, and at night, on the conclusion of the marriage

ceremonies, the Princess took leave of the Sultan her father. Bands of music led the procession, followed by a hundred state ushers, and four hundred of the Sultan's young pages carried torches on each side, which, together with the illuminations of the Sultan's and Aladdin's palaces, made it as light as day. In this order the Princess, conveyed in her litter, and accompanied also by Aladdin's mother, carried in another litter and attended by her women slaves, proceeded on the carpet which was spread from the Sultan's palace to that of Aladdin. On her arrival Aladdin was ready to receive



her at the entrance, and led her into a large hall, where a noble feast was served up. The dishes were of gold, and contained the most delicate foods. The vases, basins, and goblets were gold also, and of exquisite workmanship. The Princess, dazzled to see so much riches collected in one place, said to Aladdin, "I thought, Prince, that nothing in the world was so beautiful as my father's palace, but the sight of this hall alone is sufficient to show I was deceived."

When the supper was ended, there entered a company of dancers, who performed, according to the custom of the country, singing at the same time verses in praise of the bride and bridegroom. The next morning Aladdin ordered one of the horses to be got ready, mounted it, and went in the midst of a troop of slaves to the Sultan's palace to entreat him to take a repast in the Princess's palace, attended by his Grand Vizier and all the lords of his court. The Sultan consented with pleasure, and, preceded by the officers of his palace, and followed by all the great lords of his court, accompanied Aladdin.

The nearer the Sultan approached Aladdin's palace, the

more he was struck with its beauty; but when he entered it, came into the hall, and saw the windows, enriched with diamonds, rubies, emeralds, all large perfect stones, he was completely surprised, and said to his son-in-law, "This palace is one of the wonders of the world; for where in all the world besides shall we find walls built of gold and silver, and diamonds, rubies, and emeralds composing the windows? But what most surprises me is that a hall of this magnificence should be left with one of its windows unfinished."

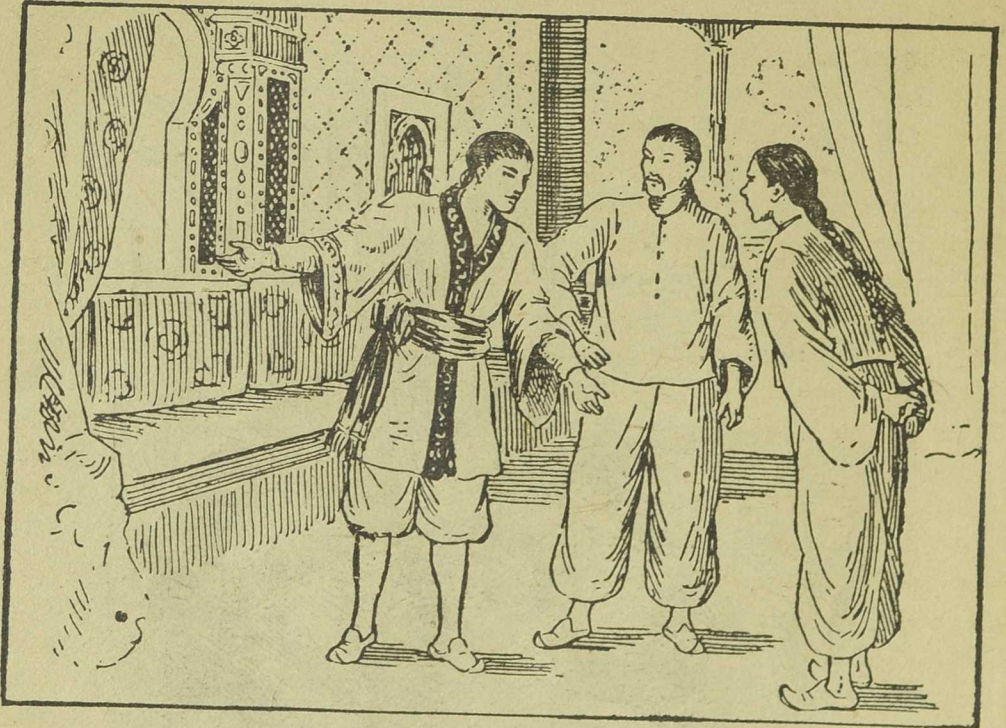
"Sire," answered Aladdin, "the omission was by design, since I wished that you should have the glory of finishing this hall."

"I take your intention kindly," said the Sultan, "and will give orders about it immediately."

After the Sultan had finished this magnificent entertainment, he was informed that the jewellers and goldsmiths attended; upon which he returned to the hall, and showed them the window which was unfinished. "I sent for you," said he, "to fit up this window in as great perfection as the rest. Examine them well, and make all the haste you can."

The jewellers and gold-





smiths examined the three-and-twenty windows with great attention, and after they had consulted together, to know what each could furnish, they returned and said, "Sire, we are all willing to exert our utmost care and industry to obey you; but we cannot furnish jewels enough for so great a work." "I have more than are necessary," said the Sultan; "come to my palace, and you shall choose what may answer your purpose."

So he ordered his jewels to be brought out, and the jewellers took a great quantity, particularly those Aladdin had made him a present of, which

they soon used, without making any great advance in their work. In short, they used all the jewels the Sultan had, and borrowed of the Vizier, but yet the work was not half done.

Aladdin, who knew that all the Sultan's endeavours to make the window like the rest were in vain, sent for the jewellers and goldsmiths, ordered them to undo what they had begun, and to carry all their jewels back to the Sultan and to the Vizier. They undid in a few hours what they had been six weeks about, and retired, leaving Aladdin alone in the hall. He took the lamp, which he carried about him,

rubbed it, and presently the genie appeared. "Genie," said Aladdin, "I ordered thee to leave one of the four-and-twenty windows of this hall imperfect, and thou hast executed my commands punctually; now I would have thee make it like the rest."

The genie immediately disappeared. Aladdin went out of the hall, and, returning soon after, found the window as he wished it to be, like the others.

In the meantime the Sultan ordered a horse to be brought, and rode to his son-in-law's palace, to inquire why he had ordered the completion of the window to be stopped. Alad-

din met him at the gate, and, without giving any reply to his inquiries, conducted him to the grand saloon, where the Sultan, to his great surprise, found the window which was left imperfect to correspond exactly with the others. "My son," said he, "what a man you are to do such surprising things always in the twinkling of an eye! There is not your fellow in the world; the more I know, the more I admire you."

Aladdin did not confine himself in his palace; but every time he went out, he caused two slaves, who walked by the side of his horse, to throw



handfuls of money among the people as he passed through the streets and squares. This generosity gained him the love and blessings of the people. Thus Aladdin, while he paid all respect to the Sultan, won by his liberality the affections of the people.

Aladdin had conducted himself in this manner several years, when one day the African magician returned. What was his surprise to find that Aladdin, instead of dying in the cave, had made his escape, and was living in royal splendour, by the aid of the genie of the wonderful lamp. Directly he saw the wonderful palace of Prince Aladdin, he knew that none but the genies, the slaves of the lamp, could have performed such wonders. To his great joy he learned that the lamp was still in the palace. "Well," said he, rubbing his hands in glee, "I shall have the lamp, and I shall make Aladdin return to his original mean condition."

The next day the magician learnt that Aladdin had gone on a hunting expedition, which was to last for eight days, of which only three had expired. The magician wanted to know no more. He resolved at once on his plans. He went to a copper-smith, and asked for a dozen

copper lamps. The master of the shop told him he had not so many by him, but if he would have patience till the next day he would have them ready. The magician appointed his time, and desired him to take care that they should be handsome and well polished.

The next day the magician called for the twelve lamps, paid the man his full price, put them into a basket hanging on his arm, and went to Aladdin's palace. As he approached, he began crying, "Who will exchange old lamps for new ones?" As he went along, a crowd of children collected, who hooted, and thought him, as did all who chanced to be passing by, a madman or a fool, to offer to change new lamps for old ones.

The magician still continued crying, "Who will change old lamps for new ones?" He repeated this so often, walking backward and forward in front of the Palace, that the Princess, hearing a man cry something, and seeing a great mob crowding about him, sent one of her women slaves to know what he cried.

The slave returned, laughing so heartily that the Princess rebuked her. "Madam," answered the slave, laughing



D. J. FANG.

“OLD LAMPS FOR NEW!”



still, "who can forbear laughing, to see an old man with a basket on his arm, full of fine new lamps, asking to change them for old ones?" A male slave hearing this, said, "Now you speak of lamps, I know not whether the Princess may have observed it, but there is an old one upon a shelf of the Prince Aladdin's robing room, and whoever owns it will not be sorry to find a new one in its stead. If the Princess chooses, she may have the pleasure of trying if this old man is so silly as to give a new lamp for an old one."

The Princess, who knew not the value of this lamp, entered

into the fun, and commanded the slave to take it and make the exchange. The slave obeyed, went out of the hall, and no sooner got to the palace gates than he saw the magician, called to him, and showing him the old lamp, said, "Give me a new lamp for this."

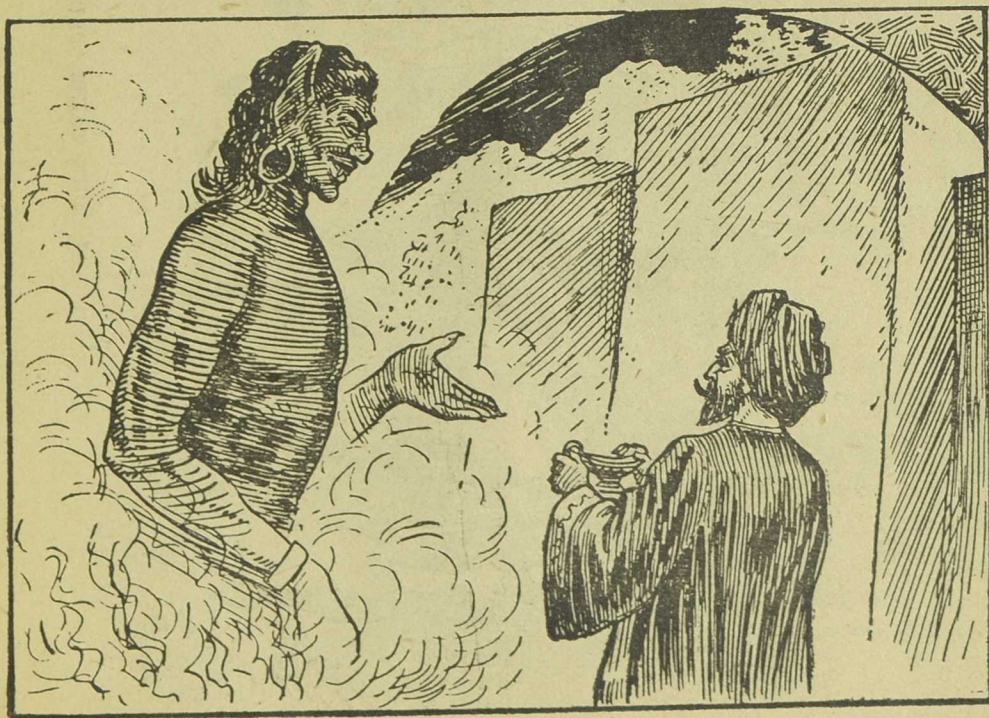
The magician never doubted but this was the lamp he wanted. He snatched it out of the slave's hand, and thrusting it as far as he could into his breast, offered him his basket, and bade him choose which he liked best. The slave picked out one and carried it to the Princess.

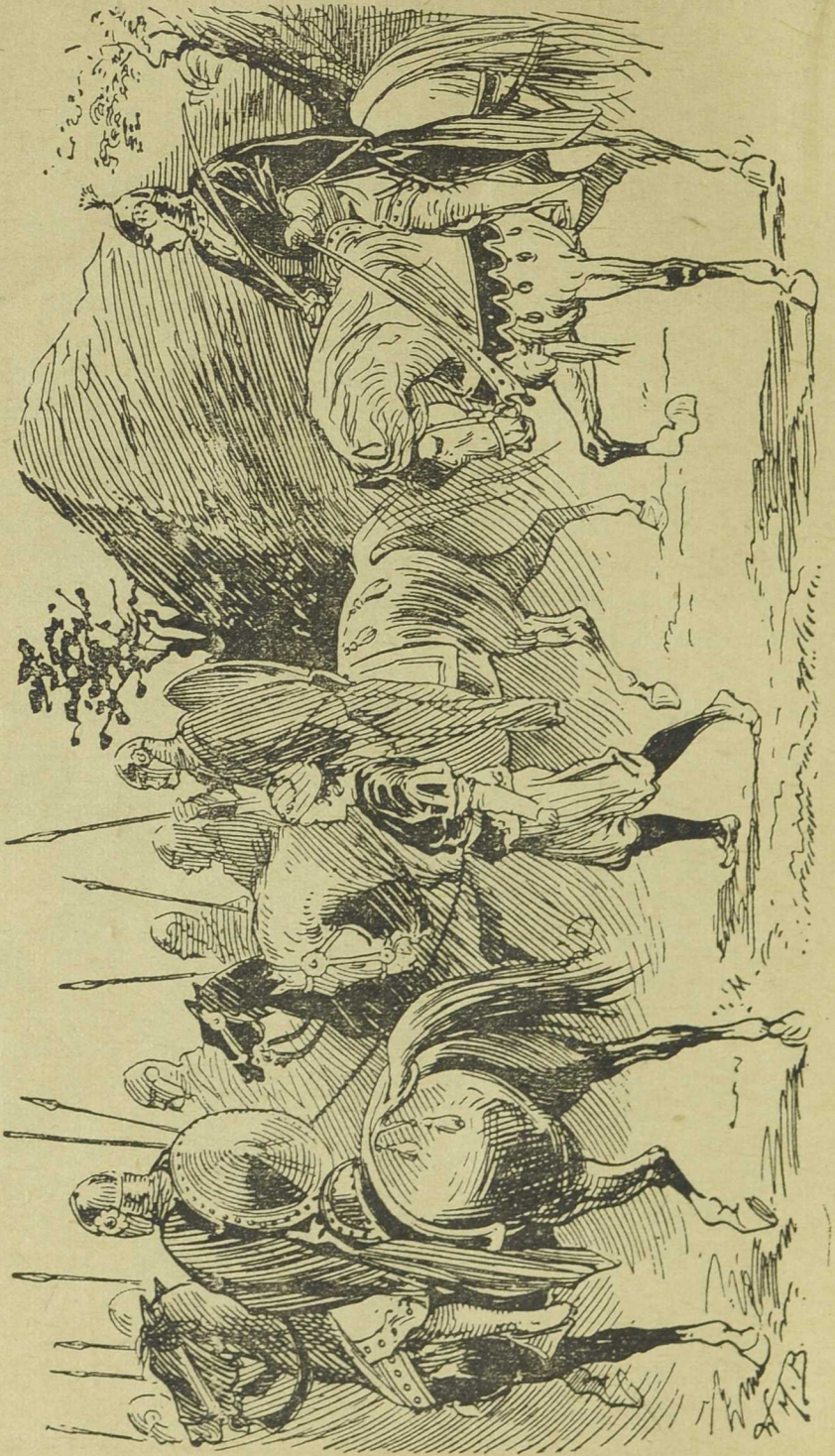
The African magician stayed no longer, nor cried any more, "New lamps for old ones," but hurried away.

As soon as he was out of sight, he hastened down the least-frequented streets, walked till he came to one of the city gates, reached a lonely spot, and when it became quite dark he pulled the lamp out and rubbed it. At that summons the genie appeared, and said, "What wouldst thou have? I am ready to obey thee as thy slave, and the slave of all those who have that lamp in their hands; both I, and the other slaves of the lamp." "I command thee," replied

the magician, "to transport me immediately, and the palace which thou and the other slaves of the lamp have built in this city, with all the people in it, to Africa." The genie immediately transported him and the palace, entire, to the spot whither he had been desired to convey it.

Early the next morning, when the Sultan, according to custom, went to admire Aladdin's palace, his amazement was unbounded to find that it could nowhere be seen. He could not comprehend how so large a palace, which he had seen plainly every day for some years, should vanish so





ALADDIN TAKEN PRISONER BY THE SULTAN.

soon, and not leave the least remains behind. In his perplexity he ordered the Grand Vizier to be sent for.

The Grand Vizier, who bore no good will to Aladdin, intimated his suspicion that the palace was built by magic, and that Aladdin had made his hunting excursion an excuse for the removal of his palace with the same suddenness with which it had been erected. He induced the Sultan to have Aladdin seized as a prisoner of state. On his son-in-law being brought before him, he would not hear a word from him, but ordered him to be put to death. The decree caused so much discontent among the people, whose affection Aladdin had secured by his charities, that the Sultan, fearful of an insurrection, was obliged to grant him his life. When Aladdin found himself at liberty, he again addressed the Sultan: "Sire, I pray you to let me know the crime by which I have thus lost the favour of thy countenance." "Your crime!" answered the Sultan, "wretched man! do you not know it? Follow me, and I will show you." The Sultan then took Aladdin into the apartment from whence he was wont to look at and admire his palace, and said, "You

ought to know where your palace stood; look, and tell me what has become of it." Aladdin did so, and, being utterly amazed at the loss of his palace, was speechless. At last recovering himself, he said, "It is true, I do not see the palace. It is vanished; but I had no concern in its removal. I beg you to give me forty days, and if in that time I cannot restore it, I will offer my head to be disposed of at your pleasure."

"I give you the time you ask, but at the end of the forty days forget not to present yourself before me."

Aladdin went out of the Sultan's palace in a condition of humiliation. The lords who had courted him in the days of his splendour now declined to have any communication with him. For three days he wandered about the city, exciting the wonder and compassion of the multitude by asking everybody he met if they had seen his palace, or could tell him anything of it. On the third day he wandered into the country, and as he was approaching a river, he fell down the bank with so much violence that he rubbed the ring which the magician had given him so hard by holding on the rock to save himself, that immediately the same genie appeared whom



he had seen in the cave where the magician had left him.

“What wouldst thou have?” said the genie; “I am ready to obey thee as thy slave, and the slave of all those that have that ring on their finger; both I, and the other slaves of the ring.”

Aladdin, agreeably surprised at an offer of help so little expected, replied, “Genie, show me where the palace I caused to be built now stands, or transport it back where it first stood.”

“Your command,” answered the genie, “is not wholly in my power; I am only the slave of the ring, and not of the lamp.”

“I command thee, then,” replied Aladdin, “by the power of the ring, to transport me to the spot where my palace stands.”

These words were no sooner out of his mouth, than the genie transported him into Africa, where his palace stood, at no great distance from a city, and placing him exactly under the window of the Princess’s apartment, left him.

Now it so happened that shortly after Aladdin had been transported by the slave of the ring to the neighbourhood of his palace, one of the attendants of the Princess, looking through the window, perceived him, and instantly

told her mistress. The Princess, who could not believe the joyful tidings, hastened herself to the window, and seeing Aladdin, immediately opened it. The noise of opening the window made Aladdin turn his head that way, and perceiving the Princess, he saluted her with an air that expressed his joy. "To lose no time," said she to him, "I have sent to have the private door opened for you; enter and come up."

The private door, which was just under the Princess's apartment, was soon opened, and Aladdin went up into the chamber. It is impossible to

express the joy of both at seeing each other, after so cruel a separation. After embracing and shedding tears of joy, they sat down, and Aladdin said, "I beg of you, Princess, to tell me what is become of an old lamp which stood upon a shelf in my robing-chamber."

"Alas!" answered the Princess, "I was afraid our misfortune might be owing to that lamp; and what grieves me most is, that I have been the cause of it. I was foolish enough to change the old lamp for a new one, and the next morning I found myself in this unknown country, which I am told is Africa."





“Princess,” said Aladdin, interrupting her, “you have explained all by telling me we are in Africa. I desire you only to tell me if you know where the old lamp now is.”

“The African magician carries it carefully wrapped up in his bosom,” said the Princess; “and this I can assure you, because he pulled it out before me and showed it to me in triumph.”

“Princess,” said Aladdin, “I think I have found the means to deliver you and to regain possession of the lamp, on which all my prosperity depends. To execute this design it is necessary for me to go to

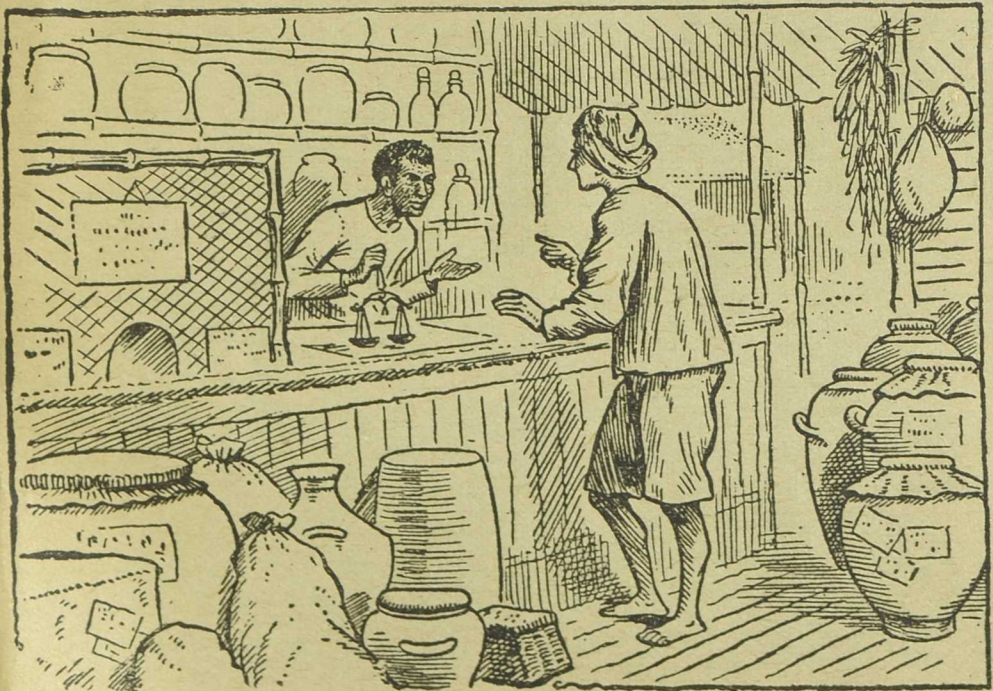
the town. I shall return by noon, and will then tell you what must be done by you to insure success. In the mean time, I shall disguise myself, and I beg that the private door may be opened at the first knock.”

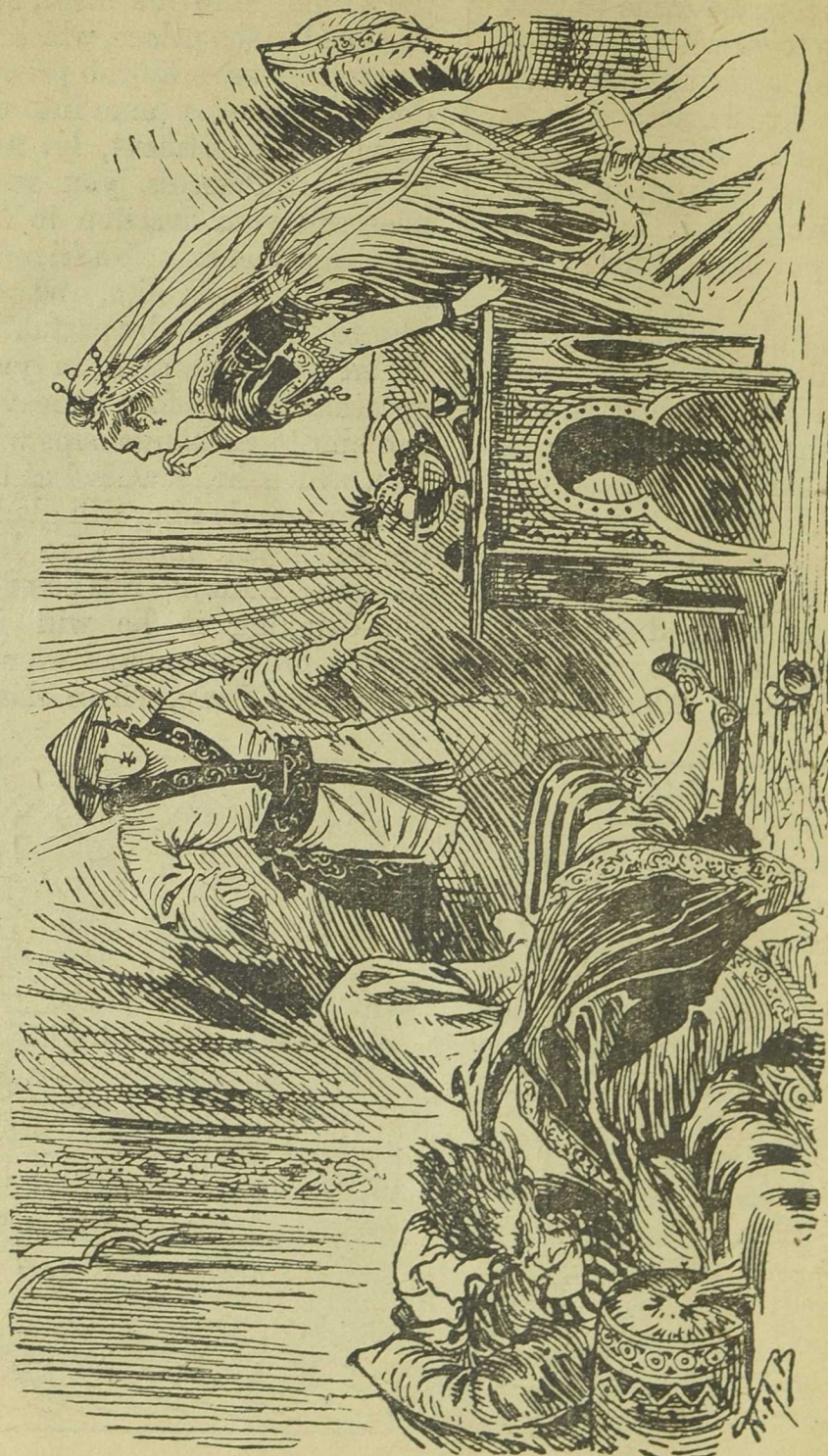
When Aladdin was out of the palace, he looked round him on all sides, and perceiving a peasant going into the country, hastened after him, and made a proposal to him to change clothes, which the man agreed to. When they had made the exchange, the countryman went about his business, and Aladdin entered the neighbouring city. After traversing

several streets, he came to that part of the town where the merchants and artizans had their particular streets according to their trades. He went into that of the druggists, and asked a druggist if he had a certain powder, which he named.

The druggist, judging Aladdin by his habit to be very poor, told him he had it, but that it was very dear; upon which Aladdin pulled out his purse, and, showing him some gold, asked for half a drachm of the powder, which the druggist weighed and gave him, telling him the price was a piece of gold. Aladdin put

the money into his hand, and hastened to the palace, which he entered at once by the private door. When he came into the Princess's apartment, he said to her, "Princess, you must overcome your aversion to the magician, and assume a friendly manner towards him, and ask him to oblige you by partaking of an entertainment in your apartments. Before he leaves, ask him to exchange cups with you, which he, gratified at the honour you do him, will gladly do, when you must give him the cup containing this powder. On drinking it he will instantly fall asleep, and we will obtain the lamp, whose slaves





THE DEATH OF THE MAGICIAN.

will do all our bidding, and restore us and the palace to the capital of China."

The Princess obeyed to the utmost her husband's instructions. She assumed a look of pleasure on the next visit of the magician, and asked him to an entertainment, which he most willingly accepted. At the close of the evening she asked him to exchange cups with her, and giving the signal, had the drugged cup brought to her, which she gave to the magician. He drank it out of compliment to the Princess to the very last drop, when he fell backward lifeless on the sofa. The door was opened, and Aladdin admitted to the hall. The Princess rose from her seat, and ran, overjoyed, to embrace him; but he stopped her, and said, "Princess, retire to your apartment, and let me be left alone, while I endeavour to transport you back to China as speedily as you were brought from thence."

When the Princess, her women and slaves were gone out of the hall, Aladdin shut the door, and going directly to the dead body of the magician, opened his vest, took out the lamp, and, rubbing it, the genie immediately appeared. "Genie," said Aladdin, "I command thee to transport this palace

instantly to the place from whence it was brought hither." The genie bowed his head in token of obedience, and disappeared. Immediately the palace was transported into China, and its removal was only felt by two little shocks, the one when it was lifted up, the other when it was set down, and both in a very short interval of time.

On the morning after the restoration of Aladdin's palace, the Sultan was looking out of his window, and mourning over the fate of his daughter, when he saw the palace. Joy and gladness succeeded to sorrow and grief. He ordered a horse to be saddled, which he mounted that instant, thinking he could not make haste enough to the place.

Aladdin rose that morning by daybreak, put on one of the most magnificent dresses his wardrobe afforded, and went up into the hall of twenty-four windows, from whence he perceived the Sultan approaching, and received him at the foot of the great staircase, helping him to dismount.

He led the Sultan into the Princess's apartment. The happy father embraced her with tears of joy; and the Princess, on her side, afforded similar testimonies of her ex-



treme pleasure. After a short interval, devoted to mutual explanations of all that had happened, the Sultan restored Aladdin to his favour, and expressed his regret for the apparent harshness with which he had treated him. "My son," said he, "be not displeased at my proceedings against you; they arose from my paternal love, and therefore you ought to forgive the excesses to which it hurried me." "Sire," replied Aladdin, "I have not the least reason

to complain of your conduct, since you did nothing but what your duty required. This infamous magician, the basest of men, was the sole cause of my misfortune."

Within a few years afterwards the Sultan died in a good old age, and as he left no male children, the Princess Buddir succeeded him, and she and Aladdin reigned together many years, and left a numerous and illustrious family.

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