


MOTHER FAIRY-TALES



A BOOK OF THE BEST FAIRY
TALES THAT MOTHERS CAN
TELL THEIR CHILDREN 

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MOTHER FAIRY-TALES

M O T H E R FAIRY-TALES

A Book of the Best Fairy Tales
That Mothers Can Tell
Their Children.

With One Hundred and
Seventeen Illustrations.

P H I L A D E L P H I A
HENRY ALTEMUS COMPANY



ON A SUMMER AFTERNOON

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Cinderella; or, the Little Glass Slipper

THERE lived once a gentleman who married for his second wife the proudest woman ever seen. She had two daughters of the same spirit, who were indeed like her in all things. On his side, her husband had a young daughter, who was of great goodness and sweetness of temper; in this she was like her mother, who was the best woman in the world.

No sooner was the wedding over than the stepmother began to show her ill-humor; she could not bear her young step-daughter's gentle ways, because they made those of her own daughters appear a thousand times more odious and disagreeable. So she employed her in the meanest work of the house; she it was who must wash the dishes and rub the tables and chairs, and it was her place to clean madam's chamber and that of the misses, her daughters. She



"THE PROUDEST WOMAN EVER SEEN."

herself slept up in a sorry garret, upon a wretched straw bed, while her sisters' rooms had shining floors and curtained beds, and looking-glasses so long and broad that they could see themselves from head to foot in them.



"MUST WASH THE DISHES."

as she was, looked a hundred times more charming than her sisters, decked out in all their splendor.

It happened that the king's son gave a ball, to which he invited all the persons of fashion for miles around; our two misses were among

the number, for they made a great figure in the country. They were delighted with this invitation, and were wonderfully busy choosing such dresses as might become them. This was a new trouble for Cinderella, for it was she who ironed her sisters' linen, and plaited their ruffles. There was little then talked of but what dresses should be worn at the ball. "I," said the eldest,

"will wear my crimson velvet gown." "I," said the youngest, "will wear a dress all flowered with gold and a brooch of diamonds in my hair." Yet they sent for Cinderella to ask her advice, for she had



"PLAITED THEIR RUFFLES."

The poor girl bore everything with patience, not daring to complain to her father. When she had finished her work she used to sit down in the chimney-corner among the cinders; so that in the house she went by the name of Cinderwench. The youngest of the two sisters, however, being rather more civil than the eldest, called her Cinderella. But Cinderella, ragged

excellent taste. She helped them as much as she could, and even offered to dress their hair, which was exactly what they wanted.

While she was busy over this, her sisters said to her, "Cinderella, should not you be glad to go to the ball?" "Ah," said she, "you but mock me; it is not for such as I am to go thither." "You are in the right of it," replied they, "it would make the folk laugh to see a Cinderwench at the ball." Any other than Cinderella would have dressed their hair awry, but she was good and did nothing but her best.

At last the happy moment arrived: they all set off, and Cinderella looked after them till they passed from her sight, when she sat down and began to cry.

Her godmother came in, and seeing her in tears, asked what ailed her. "I want—oh, I want—" sobbed poor Cinderella, without being able to say another word.

Her godmother, who indeed was a fairy, said to her, "You want to go to the ball, is n't it so?" "Oh, yes!" said Cinderella, sighing. "Well, then," said her godmother, "be but a good girl, and I will contrive that you shall go."

Then taking her kindly by the hand, she said, "Run now into the garden and bring me a pumpkin." Cinderella flew at her bidding, and brought back the finest she could get. Her godmother scooped out the inside, leaving nothing but the rind; this done, she struck it with her wand, and the pumpkin was instantly changed into a fine coach, gilded



"OFFERED TO DRESS THEIR HAIR."

all over with gold. She then went to look into the mouse-trap, where she found six mice, all alive; she told Cinderella to raise the door of the mouse-trap, and as each mouse came out, at one tap of her wand they



"HER GODMOTHER THEN CAME IN."

changed into splendid horses; so that now Cinderella had a coach and six horses of a fine dappled mouse-color. "Here, my child, are your coach and horses," said the godmother; "but what shall we do for a coachman? Run and see if there be not a rat in the trap." Cinderella brought the trap, and in it were three huge rats. The fairy made choice of the biggest of the three, and having touched him, he was turned into a fat, jolly coachman, who mounted the hammer-cloth in a trice.

She next said to Cinderella—"Go again into the garden, and you will find six lizards behind the watering-pot; bring them hither." She had no sooner done so, than her godmother turned them into smart footmen, who at once skipped up behind the coach.

Then said the fairy, "Now, then, here is something that will take you to the ball; are you pleased with it?" "Oh, yes," cried she, "but must I go in these dirty clothes?"

Her godmother only touched her with her wand, and her clothes were turned into cloth of gold and silver, all beset with jewels. This done she gave her a pair of glass slippers, the prettiest in the world.

changed into splendid horses; so that now Cinderella had a coach and six horses of a fine dappled mouse-color. "Here, my child, are your coach and horses," said the godmother; "but what shall we do for a coachman? Run and see if there be not a rat in the trap." Cinderella brought the trap, and in it were three huge rats. The fairy made choice of the biggest of the three, and having touched him, he was turned into a fat, jolly coachman, who mounted the hammer-cloth in a trice.



"SHE FOUND SIX MICE."

Being thus decked out, she got into her coach; but her godmother bade her, above all things, not to stay past midnight, telling her that if she stayed a single moment longer all her fine things would return to what they had been before.

She promised her godmother she would not fail to leave the ball before midnight, and then away she drove.

The king's son, being told that a great princess had come, ran out to receive her; he gave her his hand as she stepped from her coach and led her among all the company.

Cinderella no sooner appeared than everyone was silent; both the dancing and the music stopped, and then all the guests might be heard whispering, "Ah, how handsome she is!" All the ladies were busied in gazing at her clothes and head-dress, that they might have some made after the same pattern. The king's son took her to dance with him; she danced so gracefully that they all more and more admired her.

A fine supper was served up, whereof the young prince ate not a morsel, so intently was he busied in gazing on her. She sat down by her sisters, giving them part of the fruit which the prince had presented her with, which very much surprised them. While Cinderella was thus talking with her sisters she heard the clock strike eleven and three-quarters, whereupon she immediately made a curtsy to the company and then hastened. Being got home, she thanked her godmother,



"SHE GOT INTO HER COACH."

and said she could not but wish she might go next day to the ball, because the king's son had desired her.

While she was telling her godmother all that had passed her two sisters knocked at the door, and Cinderella opened. "How long you have stayed!" cried she, pretending to yawn. "If you had been at the ball," said one of them, "let me tell you, sleepiness would not have fallen on you. There came thither the very handsomest princess ever seen with eyes; she showed us a thousand kindnesses, and gave us oranges and citrons." Cinderella asked the name of the princess, but they told her they did not know it, and that the king's son was uneasy, and would give all the world to know who she was.

At this Cinderella, smiling, replied, "She must be very beautiful: could I not see her? Ah! dear Miss Charlotte, do lend me your yellow suit of clothes that you wear every day?" "Oh, indeed!" cried Miss Charlotte, "lend my clothes to such a dirty Cinderwench as thou art!"

The next day the two sisters went to the ball and so did Cinderella, dressed more magnificently than she had been the first night.

The king's son was always with her, and said the kindest things to her imaginable. She was so far from feeling wearied by this, that she forgot the charge her godmother had given her; so she at last counted the clock striking twelve when she took it to be no more than eleven: she then fled as nimble as a deer. The prince followed, but



"THE PRINCE GAZED ON HER."

could not overtake her; she dropped one of her glass slippers, which the prince carefully took up. She got home all out of breath, without coach or footman, and in her old clothes, having nothing left of all her finery but one of the little slippers. The guards of the gate were asked if they had seen a princess go out, but they said they had seen nobody except a young girl very meanly dressed.

When the two sisters returned, 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, yes, but that she hurried away at twelve o'clock, so fast that she dropped one of her glass slippers, which the king's son had taken up; and that he was surely in love with the person to whom the slipper belonged. What they said was perfectly true, for the king's son caused it to be given out that he would marry her whose foot this slipper would exactly fit. So they began by trying it on the princesses, then on the duchesses, and all the court, but in vain; they then brought it to the two sisters, who both tried all they could to force their feet into the slipper, but without success.

Cinderella, who was looking at them all the while, could not help smiling, and said, "Let me see what I can do with the slipper," which made her sisters laugh heartily. "Very likely," said they, "that it would fit your clumsy foot!" The gentleman who was sent to try the slipper saw that she was very handsome, and said he had been ordered



"SHE DROPPED ONE OF HER SLIPPERS."

to try it on everyone that pleased. Then, putting the slipper to her foot, he found that it went on very easily, and fitted her as though it had been made of wax. The astonishment of the two sisters was great, but still greater when Cinderella drew out of her pocket the other slipper, and put it on! At that very moment in came her godmother, and with one touch of her wand, made Cinderella appear more magnificent than ever.



"THEIR ASTONISHMENT WAS GREAT."

The sisters knew her again at once, and throwing themselves at her feet, begged pardon for the ill treatment they had made her undergo. Cinderella forgave them with all her heart, and begged that they would always love her.

She was then led to the palace, where the young prince received her with great joy and in a few days they were married. Cinderella, who was as good as she was beautiful, took her sisters to live in the palace, and shortly

afterward matched them to two great lords of the Court, and they all lived happily ever afterward.



"AND THEY ALL LIVED HAPPILY EVER AFTERWARD."





PUSS IN BOOTS

LONG ago there died a miller whose whole property was a mill, an ass, and a cat. All this had to be divided between his three sons; and it was quickly done without the help of either lawyer or clerk. The eldest took the mill, the second took the ass, and the youngest had nothing but the cat.

He, indeed, was greatly cast down at his poor lot: "My brothers," said he, "will be able to earn their living honestly by working together; but as for me, when I have eaten my cat and made a muff of his skin, I shall have to die of hunger."

The cat, who heard all this, but made believe that he did not, said to his master, "Don't be downhearted, master; all you have to do is to give me a bag, and have a pair of boots made for me, because of the brambles which scratch my legs, and then you will see that your share is not such a poor one as you think."

Although his master put no great faith in this, yet he had seen his cat do so many cunning tricks to catch rats and mice, when he hung himself up by his feet and lay like dead in the flour, that he did not despair of getting help in his difficulty.



"DON'T BE DOWN-HEARTED, MASTER," SAID THE CAT.

When the cat had all that he wanted, he booted himself bravely, and hung the bag about his neck; then, holding the strings in his two front paws, he set off for a rabbit warren, where lived great numbers of rabbits. He put some bran and sowthistles into his bag, and stretched himself out as though he were dead, waiting until some young rabbit should be innocent and confiding enough to put his nose into the bag and eat its contents.



"I SHALL HAVE TO DIE OF HUNGER."

when he had pulled the strings, took him and killed him without pity.

In high delight with his booty, he went off to the king's palace and asked to see him. He was shown up to His Majesty's chamber, and when he had entered he made a deep bow and said, "Here, sire, is a rabbit that my lord the Marquis of Carabas (for this was the name he had invented for his master) has desired me to present to you."

"Tell your master," said the king, "that I thank him for his gift."

Another day the cat went and hid himself in a wheatfield with his bag gaping open, and when two partridges had walked in, he pulled the strings and caught them both. Then he went and presented them to the king, just as he had done with the rabbit. The king again



"HE BOOTED HIMSELF BRAVELY."

graciously received the two partridges, and bade his servants offer food and drink to the cat.

For two or three months the cat went on carrying game from his master to the king. Then one day, when he knew that the king was to take the air along the riverside with his daughter, who was the most beautiful princess in the world, he said to his master:

"If you will but do as I bid you, your fortune is made; you have only to go and bathe in the river at the spot which I will show you, and leave the rest to me."

The Marquis of Carabas did all that his cat advised, without knowing why or wherefore. So it fell out that while he was bathing the king passed by and the cat began to cry out as loud as he could:

"Help! help! My Lord Marquis of Carabas is drowning!"

At this noise the king put his head out of the coach, and seeing it was the cat which had so often brought him game, he ordered his guards to run immediately to the help of his lordship the Marquis of Carabas.

While they were pulling the poor marquis out of the river the cat came up to the coach and told the king that, while his master was bathing, there came by some rogues, who had gone off with his clothes, though he had cried "Stop thief!" at the top of his voice; the rogues had hidden them under a great stone. The king at once ordered the officers of his wardrobe to run and fetch one of his best suits for the Lord Marquis of Carabas.



"TELL YOUR MASTER I THANK HIM."

The king paid him a thousand compliments, and as the fine clothes they had brought him set off his good air (for he was a comely lad), the king's daughter fell in love with him on the spot, and the king would have him come into his coach.

The cat, who was overjoyed to see his plan had begun to succeed, went on in front; and meeting with some country people who were mowing a meadow, he said to them, "Good mowers, if you do not tell the king that the meadow you mow belongs to the Marquis of Carabas you shall be chopped as small as mincemeat."

Sure enough, the king asked the mowers to whom the meadow they were mowing belonged.

"To my Lord Marquis of Carabas," answered they all together, for the cat had frightened them well.

"That is a fine property of yours,"

"I congratulate you."

"As you see, Your Majesty," answered he, "it is a meadow that never fails to yield a plentiful harvest every year."

The cat, who still went on before, met with some reapers, and said to them:



"HELP! HELP! MY LORD IS DROWNING."

"Good reapers, if you do not tell the king that all this corn belongs to the Marquis of Carabas you shall be chopped as small as mincemeat."

The king, who passed by a moment after, must needs know to whom all the corn belonged.

"To my Lord Marquis of Carabas," replied the reapers; and the king was very well pleased, and so was the marquis, whom he congratulated.

The cat went always before, saying the same words to all he met; and the king was astonished at the vast estates of my Lord Marquis of Carabas. Master Puss came at last to a stately castle, the lord of which was an ogre, the richest that had ever been known, for all the country through which the king had passed was his property. The cat who had taken good care to find out who this ogre was and what he could do, asked leave to speak to him, saying, "He could not pass so near his castle, without having the honor of paying his respects to him."

The ogre received him as civilly as an ogre could do, and bade him sit down.

"I have been told," said the cat, "that you have the gift of being able to change yourself into any creature you have a mind to. You can, for example, turn yourself into a lion or elephant, and the like?"

"That is true," answered the ogre, very briskly; "and to convince you, you shall see me now become a lion."



"YOU SHALL BE CHOPPED SMALL."

Puss was so sadly terrified to see a lion so near him, that he immediately climbed into the gutter, not without great trouble and danger because of his boots, which were of no use at all to him in walking upon the tiles. A little while after, when Puss saw that the ogre had again taken his natural form, he came down, and owned that he had been very much frightened.

"I have been told, too," said the cat, "but I can scarce believe it, that you can also turn yourself into one of the smallest animals—for example, a rat or a mouse; but I must own to you I believe this to be impossible."

"Impossible!" cried the ogre; "you shall see!"—and at once he changed himself into a mouse, and began to run about the floor. Puss no sooner saw this than he pounced upon him and ate him up.

Meanwhile the king, who saw as he passed this fine castle of the ogre's, had a mind to go into it. Puss, who heard the noise of His Majesty's coach wheeling over the drawbridge, ran out, and said to the king: "Your Majesty is welcome to this castle of the Marquis of Carabas."

"How! my Lord Marquis," said the king, "and does this castle belong to you? I have seen nothing finer than this courtyard with all the great buildings round it; let us go in, if you please!"

The king went up first, the marquis following, handing the princess. They went into a great hall, where they found a splendid



"YOU SHALL SEE ME BECOME A LION."

feast the ogre had prepared for his friends, who dared not enter, knowing the king was there. His Majesty was delighted with the pleasant behavior of the marquis, and so was his daughter; so much so, that after having taken a glass or two of wine, he said to him, "My Lord Marquis, you only will be to blame if you are not my son-in-law."

The marquis, making many low bows, accepted the honor the king offered him, and forthwith married the princess the very same day.

Puss became a great lord, and never ran after mice any more except for his own amusement.





THE WHITE CAT

ONCE upon a time there was a king who had three sons, who were all so clever and brave that he began to be afraid that they would want to reign over the kingdom before he was dead. Now the King, though he felt that he was growing old, did not at all wish to give up the government of his kingdom while he could still manage it very well, so he thought the best way to live in peace would be to divert the minds of his sons by promises which he could always get out of when the time came for keeping them.

So he sent for them all, and, after speaking to them kindly, he added:

“You will quite agree with me, my dear children, that my great age makes it impossible for me to look after my affairs of state as carefully as I once did. I begin to fear that this may affect the welfare of my subjects, therefore I wish that one of you should succeed to

my crown; but in return for such a gift as this it is only right that you should do something for me. Now, as I think of retiring into the country, it seems to me that a pretty, lively, faithful little dog would be very good company for me; so, without any regard for your ages, I promise that the one who brings me the most beautiful little dog shall succeed me at once.”

The three princes were greatly surprised by their father's sudden fancy for a little dog, but as it gave the two younger ones a chance they would not otherwise have had of being king, and as the eldest was too polite to make any objection, they accepted the commission with pleasure. They bade farewell to the King, who gave them presents of silver and precious stones, and appointed to meet them at the same hour, in the same place, after a year had passed, to see the little dogs they had brought for him.

Then they went together to a castle which was about a league from the city, accompanied by all their particular friends, to whom they gave a grand banquet, and the three brothers promised to be friends always, to share whatever good fortune befell them, and not to be parted by any envy or jealousy; and so they set out, agreeing to meet at the same castle at the appointed time, to present themselves before the King together. Each one took a different road, and the two eldest met with many adventures; but it is about the youngest that you are going to hear. He was young, and gay, and handsome, and knew everything that a prince ought to know; and as for his courage, there was simply no end to it.

Hardly a day passed without his buying several dogs—big and little, greyhounds, mastiffs, spaniels, and lapdogs. As soon as he had bought a pretty one he was sure to see a still prettier, and then he had to get rid of all the others and buy that one, as, being alone, he found it impossible to take thirty or forty thousand dogs about with him. He journeyed from day to day, not knowing where he was going, until at last, just at nightfall, he reached a great, gloomy forest. He did not know his way, and, to make matters worse, it began to thunder, and the rain poured down. He took the first path he could find, and after walking for a long time he fancied he saw a faint light,

and began to hope that he was coming to some cottage where he might find shelter for the night. At length, guided by the light, he reached the door of the most splendid castle he could have imagined. This door was of gold covered with carbuncles, and it was the pure red light which shone from them that had shown him the way through the forest. The walls were of the finest porcelain in all the most delicate colors, and the prince saw that all the stories he had ever read were pictured upon them; but as he was quite terribly wet, and the rain still fell in torrents, he could not stay to look about any more, but came back to the golden door. There he saw a deer's foot hanging by a chain of diamonds, and he began to wonder who could live in this magnificent castle.

"They must feel very secure against robbers," he said to himself. "What is to hinder anyone from cutting off that chain and digging out those carbuncles, and making himself rich for life?"

He pulled the deer's foot, and immediately a silver bell sounded and the door flew open, but the Prince could see nothing but numbers of hands in the air, each holding a torch. He was so much surprised that he stood quite still, until he felt himself pushed forward by other hands, so that, though he was somewhat uneasy, he could not help going. With his hand on his sword, to be prepared for whatever might happen, he entered a hall paved with lapis-lazuli, while two lovely voices sang:

The hands you see floating above
Will swiftly your bidding obey;
If your heart dreads not conquering Love,
In this place you may fearlessly stay.

The Prince could not believe that any danger threatened him when he was welcomed in this way, so, guided by the mysterious hands, he went towards a door of coral, which opened of its own accord, and he found himself in a vast hall of mother-of-pearl, out of which opened a number of other rooms, glittering with thousands of lights, and full of such beautiful pictures and precious things that the Prince felt quite bewildered. After passing through sixty rooms

the hands that conducted him stopped, and the Prince saw a most comfortable-looking arm-chair drawn up close to the chimney corner; at the same moment the fire lighted itself, and the pretty, soft, clever hands took off the Prince's wet, muddy clothes, and presented him with fresh ones made of the richest stuffs, all embroidered with gold and emeralds. He could not help admiring everything he saw, and the deft way in which the hands waited on him, though they sometimes appeared so suddenly that they made him jump.

When he was quite ready—and I can assure you that he looked very different from the wet and weary Prince who had stood outside in the rain, and pulled the deer's foot—the hands led him to a splendid room, upon the walls of which were painted the histories of Puss in



"CONDUCTED BY TWO CATS CARRYING SWORDS."

Boots and a number of other famous cats. The table was laid for supper with two golden plates, and golden spoons and forks, and the side-board was covered with dishes and glasses of crystal set with precious stones. The Prince was wondering who the second place could be for, when suddenly in came about a dozen cats carrying guitars and rolls of music, who took their places at one end of the room, and under the direction of a cat who beat time with a roll of paper began to mew in every imaginable key, and to draw their claws across the strings of the guitars, making the strangest kind of music that could be heard. The

Prince hastily stopped up his ears, but even then the sight of these comical musicians sent him into fits of laughter.

"What funny thing shall I see next?" he said to himself, and instantly the door opened, and in came a tiny figure covered by a long black veil. It was conducted by two cats wearing black mantles and carrying swords, and a large party of cats followed, who brought in cages full of rats and mice.

The Prince was so much astonished that he thought he must be dreaming, but the little figure came up to him and threw back its veil, and he saw that it was the loveliest little white cat it is possible to imagine. She looked very young and very sad, and in a sweet little voice that went straight to his heart she said to the Prince:

"King's son, you are welcome; the Queen of the Cats is glad to see you."

"Lady Cat," replied the Prince, "I thank you for receiving me so kindly, but surely you are no ordinary pussy-cat? Indeed, the way you speak and the magnificence of your castle prove it plainly."

"King's son," said the White Cat, "I beg you to spare me these compliments, for I am not used to them. But now," she added, "let supper be served, and let the musicians be silent, as the Prince does not understand what they are saying."

So the mysterious hands began to bring in the supper, and first they put on the table two dishes, one containing stewed pigeons and the other a fricassée of fat mice. The sight of the latter made the Prince feel as if he could not enjoy his supper at all; but the White Cat, seeing this, assured him that the dishes intended for him were prepared in a separate kitchen, and he might be quite certain that they contained neither rats nor mice; and the Prince felt so sure that she would not deceive him that he had no more hesitation in beginning. Presently he noticed that on the little paw that was next him the White Cat wore a bracelet containing a portrait, and he begged to be allowed to look at it. To his great surprise he found it represented an extremely handsome young man, who was so like himself that it might have been his own portrait! The White Cat sighed as he looked at it, and seemed sadder than ever, and the Prince dared not ask any ques-

tions for fear of displeasing her; so he began to talk about other things, and found that she was interested in all the subjects he cared for himself, and seemed to know quite well what was going on in the world. After supper they went into another room, which was fitted up as a theatre, and the cats acted and danced for their amusement, and then the White Cat said good-night to him, and the hands conducted him into a room he had not seen before, hung with tapestry worked with butterflies' wings of every color; there were mirrors that reached from the ceiling to the floor, and a little white bed with curtains of gauze tied up with ribbons. The Prince went to bed in silence, as he did not quite know how to begin a conversation with the hands that waited on him, and in the morning he was awakened by a noise and confusion outside his window, and the hands came and quickly dressed him in hunting costume. When he looked out all the cats were assembled in the courtyard, some leading greyhounds, some blowing horns, for the White Cat was going out hunting. The hands led a wooden horse up to the Prince, and seemed to expect him to mount it, at which he was very indignant; but it was no use for him to object, for he speedily found himself upon its back, and it pranced gayly off with him.

The White Cat herself was riding a monkey, which climbed even up to the eagles' nests when she had a fancy for the young eaglets. Never was there a pleasanter hunting party, and when they returned to the castle the Prince and the White Cat supped together as before, but when they had finished she offered him a crystal goblet, which must have contained a magic draught, for, as soon as he had swallowed its contents, he forgot everything, even the little dog that he was seeking for the King, and only thought how happy he was to be with the White Cat! And so the days passed, in every kind of amusement, until the year was nearly gone. The Prince had forgotten all about meeting his brothers; he did not even know what country he belonged to; but the White Cat knew when he ought to go back, and one day she said to him:

"Do you know that you have only three days left to look for the little dog for your father, and your brothers have found lovely ones?"

Then the Prince suddenly recovered his memory, and cried:

"What can have made me forget such an important thing? My whole fortune depends upon it; and even if I could in such a short time find a dog pretty enough to gain me a kingdom, where should I find a horse who could carry me all the way in three days?" And he began to be very vexed. But the White Cat said to him: "King's son, do not trouble yourself; I am your friend, and will make everything easy for you. You can still stay here for a day, as the good wooden horse can take you to your country in twelve hours."

"I thank you, beautiful Cat," said the Prince; "but what good will it do me to get back if I have not a dog to take to my father?"

"See here," answered the White Cat, holding up an acorn; "there is a prettier one in this than in the Dog-star."

"Oh, White Cat dear," said the Prince, "how unkind you are to laugh at me now!"

"Only listen," she said, holding the acorn to his ear.

And inside it he distinctly heard a tiny voice say, "Bow-wow!"

The Prince was delighted, for a dog that can be shut up in an acorn must be very small indeed. He wanted to take it out and look at it, but the White Cat said it would be better not to open the acorn till he was before the King, in case the tiny dog should be cold on the journey. He thanked her a thousand times, and said good-bye quite sadly when the time came for him to set out.

"The days have passed so quickly with you," he said, "I only wish I could take you with me now."

But the White Cat shook her head and sighed deeply in answer.

After all, the Prince was the first to arrive at the castle where he had agreed to meet his brothers, but they came soon after, and stared in amazement when they saw the wooden horse in the courtyard jumping like a hunter.

The Prince met them joyfully, and they began to tell him all their adventures; but he managed to hide from them what he had been doing, and even led them to think that a turnspit dog which he had with him was the one he was bringing for the King. Fond as they all were of one another, the two eldest could not help being glad to think

that their dogs certainly had a better chance. The next morning they started in the same chariot. The elder brothers carried in baskets two such tiny, fragile dogs that they hardly dared to touch them. As for the turnspit, he ran after the chariot, and got so covered with mud that one could hardly see what he was like at all. When they reached the palace everyone crowded around to welcome them as they went into the King's great hall; and when the two brothers presented their little dogs nobody could decide which was the prettier. They were already

arranging between themselves to share the kingdom equally when the youngest stepped forward, drawing from his pocket the acorn the White Cat had given him. He opened it quickly, and there upon a white cushion they saw a dog so small that it could easily have been put through a ring.

The Prince laid it upon the ground, and it got up at once and began to dance. The King did not know what to say, for it was impossible that anything could be prettier than this little creature. Nevertheless, as he was in no hurry to part with his crown, he told his sons that, as they had been so successful the first time, he would ask them to go once again, and seek by land and sea for a piece of muslin so fine that it could be drawn through the eye of a needle. The brothers were not very willing to set out again, but the two eldest consented because it gave them



"HE OPENED THE ACORN THE WHITE CAT HAD GIVEN HIM."

another chance, and they started as before. The youngest again mounted the wooden horse and rode back at full speed to his beloved White Cat. Every door of the castle stood wide open, and every window and turret was illuminated, so it looked more wonderful than before. The hands hastened to meet him, and led the wooden horse off to the stable, while he hurried in to find the White Cat. She was asleep in a little basket on a white satin cushion, but she very soon started up when she heard the Prince, and was overjoyed at seeing him once more.

"How could I hope that you would come back to me, King's son?" she said.

And then he stroked and petted her, and told her of his successful journey, and how he had come back to ask her help, as he believed that it was impossible to find what the King demanded. The White Cat looked serious, and said she must think what was to be done, but that, luckily there were some cats in the castle who could spin very well, and if anybody could manage it they could, and she would set them the task herself. ♡

And then the hands appeared carrying torches, and conducted the Prince and the White Cat to a long gallery which overlooked the river, from the windows of which they saw a magnificent display of fireworks of all sorts; after which they had supper, which the Prince liked even better than the fireworks, for it was very late, and he was hungry after his long ride. And so the days passed quickly as before; it was impossible to feel dull with the White Cat, and she had quite a talent for inventing new amusements—indeed, she was cleverer than a cat has any right to be. But when the Prince asked her how it was that she was so wise, she only said:

"King's son, do not ask me; guess what you please. I may not tell you anything."

The Prince was so happy that he did not trouble himself at all about the time, but presently the White Cat told him that the year was gone, and that he need not be at all anxious about the piece of muslin, as they had made it very well.

"This time," she added, "I can give you a suitable escort;" and on looking out into the courtyard the Prince saw a superb chariot of bur-

nished gold, enameled in flame color with a thousand different devices. It was drawn by twelve snow-white horses, harnessed four abreast; their trappings were of flame-colored velvet, embroidered with diamonds. A hundred chariots followed, each drawn by eight horses, and filled with officers in splendid uniforms, and a thousand guards surrounded the procession. "Go!" said the White Cat, "and when you appear before the King in such state he surely will not refuse you the crown which you deserve. Take this walnut, but do not open it until you are before him, then you will find in it the piece of stuff you asked me for."

"Lovely Blanchette," said the Prince, "how can I thank you properly for all your kindness to me? Only tell me that you wish it, and I will give up for ever all thought of being king, and will stay with you always."

"King's son," she replied, "it shows the goodness of your heart that you should care so much for a little white cat, who is good for nothing but to catch mice; but you must not stay."

So the Prince kissed her little paw and set out. You can imagine how fast he traveled when I tell you that they reached the King's palace in just half the time it had taken the wooden horse to get there. This time the Prince was so late that he did not try to meet his brothers at their castle, so they thought he could not be coming, and were rather glad of it, and displayed their pieces of muslin to the King proudly, feeling sure of success. And indeed the stuff was very fine,



"THE PRINCE KISSED HER LITTLE PAW."

and would go through the eye of a very large needle; but the King, who was only too glad to make a difficulty, sent for a particular needle, which was kept among the Crown jewels, and had such a small eye that everybody saw at once that it was impossible that the muslin should pass through it. The Princes were angry, and were beginning to complain that it was a trick, when suddenly the trumpets sounded and the youngest Prince came in. His father and brothers were quite astonished at his magnificence, and after he had greeted them he took the walnut from his pocket and opened it, fully expecting to find the piece of muslin, but instead there was only a hazel-nut. He cracked it, and there lay a cherry-stone. Everybody was looking on, and the King was chuckling to himself at the idea of finding the piece of muslin in a nutshell.

However, the Prince cracked the cherry-stone, but everyone laughed when he saw it contained only its own kernel. He opened that and found a grain of wheat, and in that was a millet seed. Then he himself began to wonder, and muttered softly:

"White Cat, White Cat, are you making fun of me?"

In an instant he felt a cat's claw give his hand quite a sharp scratch, and hoping that it was meant as an encouragement he opened the millet seed, and drew out of it a piece of muslin four hundred ells long, woven with the loveliest colors and most wonderful patterns; and when the needle was brought it went through the eye six times with the greatest ease! The King turned pale, and the other Princes stood silent and sorrowful, for nobody could deny that this was the most marvelous piece of muslin that was to be found in the world.

Presently the King turned to his sons, and said, with a deep sigh:

"Nothing could console me more in my old age than to realize your willingness to gratify my wishes. Go, then, once more, and whoever at the end of a year can bring back the loveliest princess shall be married to her, and shall, without further delay, receive the crown, for my successor must certainly be married."

The Prince considered that he had earned the kingdom fairly twice over, but still he was too well bred to argue about it, so he just went back to his gorgeous chariot, and, surrounded by his escort, re-

turned to the White Cat faster than he had come. This time she was expecting him, the path was strewn with flowers, and a thousand braziers were burning scented woods which perfumed the air. Seated in a gallery from which she could see his arrival, the White Cat waited for him.

"Well, King's son," she said, "here you are once more, without a crown."

"Madam," said he, "thanks to your generosity, I have earned one twice over; but the fact is that my father is so loth to part with it that it would be no pleasure to me to take it."

"Never mind," she answered; "it's just as well to try and deserve it. As you must take back a lovely princess with you next time I will be on the lookout for one for you. In the meantime let us enjoy ourselves; to-night I have ordered a battle between my cats and the river rats on purpose to amuse you."

So this year slipped away even more pleasantly than the preceding ones. Sometimes the Prince could not help asking the White Cat how it was she could talk.

"Perhaps you are a fairy," he said. "Or has some enchanter changed you into a cat?"

But she only gave him answers that told him nothing. Days go by so quickly when one is very happy that it is certain the Prince would never have thought of its being time to go back, when one evening, as they sat together, the White Cat said to him that if he wanted to take a lovely princess home with him the next day he must be prepared to do as she told him.

"Take this sword," she said, "and cut off my head!"

"I!" cried the Prince, "I cut off your head! Blanchette, darling, how could I do it?"

"I entreat you to do as I tell you, King's son," she replied.

The tears came into the Prince's eyes as he begged her to ask him anything but that—to set him any task she pleased as a proof of his devotion, but to spare him the grief of killing his dear Pussy. But nothing he could say altered her determination, and at last he drew his sword, and desperately, with a trembling hand, cut off the little

white head. But imagine his astonishment and delight when suddenly a lovely princess stood before him, and, while he was still speechless with amazement, the door opened and a goodly company of knights and ladies entered, each carrying a cat's skin! They hastened with every sign of joy to the Princess, kissing her hand and congratulating her on being once more restored to her natural shape. She received them graciously, but after a few minutes begged that they would leave her alone with the Prince, to whom she said:

"You see, Prince, that you were right in supposing me to be no ordinary cat. My father reigned over six kingdoms. The queen, my mother, whom he loved dearly, had a passion for traveling and exploring, and when I was only a few weeks old she obtained his permission to visit a certain mountain of which she had heard many marvelous tales, and set out, taking with her a number of her attendants. On the way they had to pass near an old castle belonging to the fairies. Nobody had ever been into it, but it was reported to be full of the most wonderful things, and my mother remembered to have heard that the fairies had in their garden such fruits as were to be seen and tasted nowhere else. She began to wish to try them for herself, and turned her steps in the direction of the garden. On arriving at the door, which blazed with gold and jewels, she ordered her servants to knock loudly, but it was useless; it seemed as if all the inhabitants of the castle must be asleep or dead. Now the more difficult it became to obtain the fruit the more the queen was determined that have it she would. So she ordered that they should bring ladders and get over the wall into the garden; but though the wall did not look very high, and they tied the ladders together to make them very long, it was quite impossible to get to the top.

"The queen was in despair, but as night was coming on she ordered that they should encamp just where they were, and went to bed herself, feeling quite ill, she was so disappointed. In the middle of the night she was suddenly awakened, and saw, to her surprise, a tiny, ugly old woman seated by her bedside, who said to her:

"I must say that we consider it somewhat troublesome Your Majesty to insist upon tasting our fruit; but, to save you any annoy-

ance, my sisters and I will consent to give you as much as you can carry away, on one condition—that is, that you shall give us your little daughter to bring up as our own.'

"Ah, my dear madam," cried the Queen, "is there nothing else that you will take for the fruit? I will give you my kingdoms willingly.'

"No," replied the old fairy, 'we will have nothing but your little daughter. She shall be as happy as the day is long, and we will give her everything that is worth having in fairyland, but you must not see her again until she is married.'

"Though it is a hard condition,' said the Queen, 'I consent, for I shall certainly die if I do not taste the fruit, and so I should lose my little daughter either way.'

"So the old fairy led her into the castle, and though it was

still the middle of the night, the Queen could see plainly that it was far more beautiful than she had been told, which you can easily believe, Prince," said the White Cat, "when I tell you that it was this castle that we are now in.

"Will you gather the fruit yourself, Queen,' said the old fairy, 'or shall I call it to come to you?'

"I beg you to let me see it come when it is called,' cried the Queen; 'that will be something quite new.'

"The old fairy whistled twice, then she cried:



"A LOVELY PRINCESS STOOD BEFORE HIM."

"Apricots, peaches, nectarines, cherries, plums, pears, melons, grapes, apples, oranges, lemons, gooseberries, strawberries, raspberries, come!"

"And in an instant they came tumbling in, one after another, and yet they were neither dusty nor spoilt, and the Queen found them quite as good as she had fancied them. You see they grew upon fairy trees.

"The old fairy gave her golden baskets in which to take the fruit away, and it was as much as four hundred mules could carry. Then she reminded the Queen of her agreement, and led her back to the camp, and next morning she went back to her kingdom; but before she had gone very far she began to repent of her bargain, and when the King came out to meet her she looked so sad that he guessed that something had happened, and asked what was the matter. At first the Queen was afraid to tell him, but when, as soon as they reached the palace, five frightful little dwarfs were sent by the fairies to fetch me, she was obliged to confess what she had promised. The King was very angry, and had the Queen and myself shut up in a great tower and safely guarded, and drove the little dwarfs out of his kingdom; but the fairies sent a great dragon, who ate up all the people he met, and whose breath burnt up everything as he passed through the country; and at last, after trying in vain to rid himself of the monster, the King, to save his subjects, was obliged to consent that I should be given up to the fairies. This time they came themselves to fetch me, in a chariot of pearl drawn by sea-horses, followed by the dragon, who was led with chains of diamonds. My cradle was placed between the old fairies, who loaded me with caresses, and away we whirled through the air to a tower which they had built on purpose for me. There I grew up surrounded with everything that was beautiful and rare, and learning everything that is ever taught to a princess, but without any companions but a parrot and a little dog, who could both talk; and receiving every day a visit from one of the old fairies, who came mounted upon the dragon. One day, however, as I sat at my window I saw a handsome young prince, who seemed to have been hunting in the forest which surrounded my prison, and who was standing and looking up at

me. When he saw that I observed him he saluted me with great deference. You can imagine that I was delighted to have some one new to talk to, and in spite of the height of my window our conversation was prolonged till night fell, then my Prince reluctantly bade me farewell. But after that he came again many times, and at last I consented to marry him, but the question was how I was to escape from my tower. The fairies always supplied me with flax for my spinning, and by great diligence I made enough cord for a ladder that would reach to the foot of the tower; but, alas! just as my Prince was helping me to descend it, the crossst and ugliest of the old fairies flew in. Before he had time to defend himself my unhappy lover was swallowed up by the dragon. As for me, the fairies, furious at having their plans defeated, for they intended me to marry the king



"FIVE FRIGHTFUL DWARFS WERE SENT TO FETCH ME."

of the dwarfs and I utterly refused, changed me into a white cat. When they brought me here I found all the lords and ladies of my father's court awaiting me under the same enchantment, while the people of lesser rank had been made invisible, all but their hands.

"As they laid me under the enchantment the fairies told me all my history, for until then I had quite believed that I was their child, and warned me that my only chance of regaining my natural form was to win the love of a prince who resembled in every way my unfortunate lover."

"And you have won it, lovely Princess," interrupted the Prince.

"You are indeed wonderfully like him," resumed the Princess—

"in voice, in features, and everything; and if you really love me all my troubles will be at an end."

"And mine, too," cried the Prince, throwing himself at her feet, "if you will consent to marry me."

"I love you already better than anyone in the world," she said; "but now it is time to go back to your father, and we shall hear what he says about it."

So the Prince gave her his hand and led her out, and they mounted the chariot together; it was even more splendid than before, and so was the whole company. Even the horses' shoes were of rubies with diamond nails, and I suppose that is the first time such a thing was ever seen.

As the Princess was as kind and clever as she was beautiful, you may imagine what a delightful journey the Prince found it, for everything the Princess said seemed to him quite charming.

When they came near the castle where the brothers were to meet, the Princess got into a chair carried by four of the guards; it was hewn out of one splendid crystal, and had silken curtains, which she drew round her that she might not be seen.

The Prince saw his brothers walking upon the terrace, each with a lovely princess, and they came to meet him, asking if he had also found a wife. He said that he had found something much rarer—a little white cat! At which they laughed very much, and asked him if he was afraid of being eaten up by mice in the palace. And then they set out together for the town. Each prince and princess rode in a splendid carriage; the horses were decked with plumes of feathers, and glittered with gold. After them came the youngest prince, and last of all the crystal chair, at which everybody looked with admiration and curiosity. When the courtiers saw them coming they hastened to tell the King.

"Are the ladies beautiful?" he asked, anxiously.

And when they answered that nobody had ever before seen such lovely princesses he seemed quite annoyed.

However, he received them graciously, but found it impossible to choose between them.

Then, turning to his youngest son, he said:

"Have you come back alone, after all?"

"Your Majesty," replied the Prince, "will find in that crystal



"THERE SHE STOOD IN ALL HER BEAUTY."

chair a little white cat, which has such soft paws and mews so prettily that I am sure you will be charmed with it."

The King smiled, and went to draw back the curtains himself, but at a touch from the Princess the crystal shivered into a thousand splinters, and there she stood in all her beauty; her fair hair floated over her shoulders and was crowned with flowers, and her softly-falling robe was of the purest white. She saluted the King gracefully, while a murmur of admiration rose from all around.

"Sire," she said, "I am not come to deprive you of the throne you fill so worthily. I have already six kingdoms; permit me to bestow one upon you and upon each of your sons. I ask nothing but your friendship and your consent to my marriage with your youngest son; we shall still have three kingdoms left for ourselves."

The King and all the courtiers could not conceal their joy and astonishment, and the marriage of the three princes was celebrated at once. The festivities lasted several months, and then each king and queen departed to their own kingdom and lived happily ever after.



THE SLEEPING BEAUTY

THERE was formerly, in a distant country, a king and a queen, the most beautiful and happy in the world; having nothing to cloud their delight, but the want of children to share in their happiness. This was their whole concern: physicians, waters, vows, and offerings were tried, but all to no purpose. At last, however, after long waiting, a daughter was born. At the christening the princess had seven fairies for her godmothers, who were all they could find in the whole kingdom, that every one might give her a gift.

The christening being over, a grand feast was prepared to entertain and thank the fairies; before each of them was placed a magnificent cover, with a spoon, a knife, and a fork, of pure gold and exquisite workmanship, set with divers precious stones; but, as they were all sitting down at the table, they saw come into the hall a very old fairy, whom they had not invited, because it was near fifty years since she had been out of a certain tower, and was thought to have been either dead or enchanted.

The king ordered her a cover, but could not furnish her with such a case of gold as the others had, because he had only seven

made for the seven fairies. The old fairy, thinking that she was slighted by not being treated in the same manner as the rest, murmured out some threats between her teeth.



"A VERY OLD FAIRY."

One of the young fairies who sat by her overheard how she grumbled, and, judging that she might give the little princess some unlucky gift, she went, as soon as she rose from the table, and hid herself behind the hangings, that she might speak last, and repair, as much as she possibly could, the evil which the old fairy might intend.

In the meantime all the fairies began to give their gifts

to the princess in the following manner:—

The youngest gave her gift that she should be the most beautiful person in the world.

The second, that she should have wit like an angel.

The third, that she should have a wonderful grace in everything that she did.

The fourth, that she should sing like a nightingale.

The fifth, that she should dance like a flower in the wind.

And the sixth, that she would play on all kinds of musical instruments to the utmost degree of perfection.

The old fairy's turn coming next, she advanced forward, and with a shaking head, that seemed to show more spite than age, she said,—That the princess, when she was fifteen years old, would have her hand pierced with a spindle and die



"HID BEHIND THE HANGINGS."



"WHAT ARE YOU DOING?" ASKED THE PRINCESS."

of the wound. This terrible gift made the whole company tremble, and every one of them fell a-crying.

At this very instant the young fairy came out from behind the curtains and spoke these words aloud: "Assure yourselves, O King and Queen, that your daughter shall not die of this disaster. It is true, I have not the power to undo what my elder has done. The princess shall, indeed, pierce her hand with a spindle; but instead of dying, she shall only fall into a profound sleep, which shall last a hundred years, at the end of which time a king's son shall come, and awake her from it."

The king, to avoid this misfortune told by the old malicious fairy, caused at once his royal command to be issued forth, whereby every person was forbidden, upon pain of death, to spin with a distaff or spindle; nay, even so much as to have a spindle in any of their houses.

About fifteen or sixteen years after, the king and queen being gone to one of their houses of pleasure, the young princess happened one day to divert herself by wandering up and down the palace, when, going up from one apartment to another, she at length came into a little room at the top of the tower, where an old woman, all alone, was spinning with her spindle.



"AN OLD WOMAN WAS SPINNING."

Now either she had not heard of the king's command issued forth against spindles, or else it was the wicked fairy who had taken this disguise.

"What are you doing there, Goody?" said the princess. "I am spinning, my pretty child," said the old woman. "Ha!" said the princess, "that is very amusing; how do you do it? Give it to me, that I may see if I can do so, too." The old woman gave it her. She had no sooner taken it into her hand than, whether being very hasty at it

or somewhat awkward, or that the decree of the spiteful fairy had caused it, is not to be certainly known; but, however, sure it is that the spindle immediately ran into her hand, and she directly fell down upon the ground in a swoon. Thereupon the old woman cried out for help, and people came in from every quarter in great numbers: some threw water upon the princess's face, unlaced her, struck her on the

palm of her hands, and rubbed her temples with Hungary water; but all they could do did not bring her to herself.

The good fairy who had saved her life by condemning her to sleep one hundred years, was in the kingdom of Matakia, twelve thousand leagues off, when this accident befell the princess; but she was instantly informed of it by a little dwarf, who had boots of seven leagues, that is, boots with which he could tread over seven leagues of ground at one stride. The fairy left the kingdom immediately, and arrived at the palace about an hour after, in a fairy chariot drawn by dragons. The king handed her out of the chariot and she approved of everything he had done; but as she had a very great foresight, she thought that when the princess



"SHE FELL DOWN IN A SWOON."

should awake, she might not know what to do with herself, being all alone in the old palace; therefore she touched with her wand everything in the palace, except the king and the queen—governesses, maids of honor, ladies of the bed-chamber, gentlemen, officers, stewards, cooks, under-cooks, scullions, guards, with their beef-eaters, pages, and

footmen; she likewise touched all the horses that were in the stables, pads as well as others, the great dog in the outer court, and the little spaniel that lay by her on the bed.

Immediately on her touching them they all fell asleep, that they might not wake before their mistress, and that they might be ready to wait upon her when she wanted them. The very spits at the fire, as full as they could be of partridges and pheasants, and everything in the place, whether alive or not, fell asleep also.

All this was done in a moment, for fairies are not long in doing their business.

And now the king and queen, having kissed their child without waking her, went very sorrowfully forth from the palace, and issued a command that no one should come near it. This, however, was not needed; for, in less than a quarter of an hour, there got up all around



"BOOTS OF SEVEN LEAGUE."

the park such a vast number of trees, great and small bushes, and brambles, twined one within the other, that neither man nor beast could pass through, so that nothing could be seen but the very tops of the towers, and not that even, unless it were a good way off. Nobody doubted but that here was an extraordinary example of the fairies' art, that the



"TOUCHED THEM WITH HER WAND."

princess, while she remained sleeping, might have nothing to fear from any curious people.

When a hundred years were gone and past, the son of a king then reigning, who was of another family from that of the sleeping princess, being out a-hunting on that side of the country, asked what these

towers were which he saw in the midst of a great thick wood. Every one answered according as they had heard; some said it was an old ruinous castle haunted by spirits; others, that all the sorcerers and witches kept their sabbath or weekly meeting in that place.

The most common opinion was that an ogre lived there, and that he carried thither all the little children he could catch, that he might eat them up at his leisure, without anybody being able to follow him, as having himself only power to pass through the wood.

The prince was at a stand, not knowing what to believe, when an aged man spoke to him thus:

"May it please your highness, it is about fifty years since I heard from my father, who heard my grandfather say, that there was then in that castle a princess, the most beautiful that was ever seen; that she must sleep there for a hundred years, and would be wakened by a king's son, whom she was awaiting."

The young prince was all on fire at these words, believing without considering the matter, that he could put an end to this rare adventure; and pushed on by love and ambition, resolved that moment to attempt it.

Scarce had he advanced towards the wood, when all the great trees, the bushes, the brambles, gave way of their own accord, and let him pass through. He went up to the castle, which he saw at the end of a large avenue, and entered into it; what not a little surprised him was, he saw none of his people could follow him, because the trees closed again, as soon as he passed through them.

However, he did not cease from valiantly pursuing his way. He



"AN AGED MAN SPOKE TO HIM."



"THE PRINCE PUSHED ON."

came into a spacious outward court, where everything he saw might have frozen up the most hardy person with horror. There reigned all over a most frightful silence, the image of death everywhere showing itself, and there was nothing to be seen but stretched-out bodies of men and animals, seeming to be dead. He, however, very well knew by the rosy faces and red noses of the beef-eaters that they were only asleep; and their goblets, wherein still remained some few drops of wine, plainly showed that they had fallen asleep while drinking. He then, crossing a court paved with marble, went up-stairs, and came into the guard-chamber, where the guards were standing in their ranks, with their halberds on their shoulders, and snoring as loud as they could. After that he went through several rooms full of gentlemen and ladies all asleep, some sitting and some standing. At last he came into a cham-



"THE GUARDS WITH THEIR HALBERDS."

ber all gilt with gold; here he saw, upon a bed, the curtains of which were all open, the fairest sight that ever he beheld—a princess who appeared to be about fifteen or sixteen years of age, and whose resplendent beauty had in it something divine. He approached with trembling and admiration, and fell down before her on his knees. And now the enchant-



"ALL ASLEEP."

ment was at an end; the princess awaked, and, looking at him kindly, said, "Is it you, my prince? I have waited for you a long time!"

The prince, charmed with these words, and much more with the manner in which they were spoken, answered that he loved her better

than the whole world. Then they talked for four hours together and yet said not half of what they had got to say.

In the meantime all the palace awaked, every one thinking on his particular business. The chief lady of honor, being ready to die of hunger, grew very impatient, and told the princess, aloud, that supper was served up. The prince then gave her his hand; though her attire was very magnificent, his royal highness did not forget to tell her that she was dressed like his great-grandmother; but, however, she looked not the less beautiful and charming for all that.

They went into the great hall of looking-glasses, where they held the wedding supper, and were served by the officers of the princess; the violins and hautboys played all old tunes, but very excellent, though it was now about a hundred years since they had any practice.

After supper the lord almoner married them in the chapel of



"IS IT YOU, MY PRINCE?"

the castle, and they lived happily ever afterward.





LITTLE RED RIDING-HOOD

IN a great wide forest, full of beautiful trees and green glades and thorny thickets, there lived a long time ago a wood-cutter and his wife, who had only one child, a little girl. She was so pretty and so good that the sun seemed to shine more brightly when its light fell upon her rosy little face, and the birds would seem to sing more sweetly when she was passing by.

Her real name was Maisie; but the neighbors round about all called her "Little Red Riding-Hood," because of a scarlet riding-hood and cloak that her kind old grandmother had made for her, and which she nearly always wore.

She was a happy, merry little child, with a smile and a gentle word for everybody, and so you may easily believe that everybody loved her, and was glad to catch a glimpse of her golden curls and her scarlet cloak as she tripped along, singing, under the green boughs.

Now, this, let me tell you before I forget, was at the time when all the birds and beasts, or very nearly all, could speak just as well as you or I; and nobody was surprised to hear them talk, as I suppose one would be nowadays.

Well, as I was saying, Little Red Riding-Hood lived with her parents in a little white cottage with a green door and a thatched roof,

and red and white roses climbing all over the walls, and even putting their pretty heads in at the latticed windows, to peep at the child who was so like them.

It was on a bright spring morning early in May, when little Red Riding-Hood had just finished putting away the breakfast-cups, that her mother came bustling in from the dairy.

"Here's a to-do," she said. "Farmer Hodge has this very minute told me that he hears your Grannie is n't quite well, and I can't leave the cheese-making this morning for love or money! Do you go, my dear, and find out how she is—and—stay—take her this little pot of sweet fresh butter, and these two new-laid eggs, and these nice tasty little pasties. Maybe they'll tempt her to eat a bit. Here's your basket, and don't be too long away, honey."



"DON'T BE TOO LONG AWAY."

So little Red Riding-Hood pulled her hood over her curls, and set off down the sunny, green slope, with her basket in her hand, at a brisk pace. But as she got deeper into the forest, she walked more slowly. Everything was so beautiful; the great trees waved their huge

arms over her, the birds were calling to one another from the thorns all white with blossom, and the child began singing as she went, she could not have told why, but I think it was because the beautiful world made her feel glad.

The path wound along through the trees, and, as it grew wider after turning a corner, Red Riding-Hood saw that she was likely to have company on her walk; for, where two cross-paths divided, there sat a big gray Wolf licking his long paws, and looking sharply about him. And "Good morning, Red Riding Hood," said he.

"Good morning, Mr. Wolf," she answered.

"And where may you be going, sweet lass?" said the Wolf, as he walked beside her.

"Oh, Grannie isn't very well, and mother cannot leave the cheese-making this morning, and so I'm taking her some little dainties in my basket, and I am to see how she is, and tell mother when I get back," said the child, with a smile.

"And," said the Wolf, "where does your good Grannie live, little lady?"

"Through the copse, and down the hollow, and over the bridge, and three meadows after the mill."

"Does she, indeed?" cried he. "Why, then, I do believe she is a very dear old friend of mine, whom I have not seen for years and years. Now, I'll tell you what we'll do, you and I: I will go by this way, and you shall take that, and whoever gets there first shall be the winner of the game."

So the Wolf trotted off one way and Red Riding-Hood went the other; and I am sorry to say that she lingered and loitered more than she ought to have done on the road.

Well, what with one thing and another, the sun was right up in the very midmost middle of the sky when she crossed the last meadow from the mill and came in sight of her grandmother's cottage, and the big lilac bushes that grew by the garden gate.

"Oh, dear, how I must have lingered!" said the child, when she saw how high the sun had climbed since she set out on her journey; and, pattering up the garden path, she tapped at the cottage door.

"Who's there?" said a very gruff kind of voice from inside.

"It's only I, Grannie dear, your little Red Riding-Hood, with some goodies for you in my basket," answered the child.

"Then pull the bobbin," cried the voice, "and the latch will go up."



"WHERE DOES YOUR GRANNIE LIVE?"



"THE WOLF IS THE WINNER OF THE GAME."

"What a dreadful cold poor Grannie must have, to be sure, to make her so hoarse," thought the child. Then she pulled the bobbin and the latch went up, and Red Riding-Hood pushed open the door and stepped inside the cottage.

It seemed very dark in there after the bright sunlight outside, and all Red Riding-Hood could see was that the window-curtains and the

bed-curtains were still drawn, and her grandmother seemed to be lying in bed with the bed-clothes pulled almost over her head, and her great white frilled night-cap nearly hiding her face.

Now, you and I have guessed by this time, although poor Red Riding-Hood never even thought of such a thing, that it was not her Grannie at all, but the wicked Wolf, who had hurried to the cottage and put on Grannie's nightcap and popped into her bed, to pretend that he was Grannie herself.

And where was Grannie all this time, you will say? Well, we shall see presently.

"Come and sit down beside my bed, dearie," wheezed the Wolf, "and let us have a little chat." Then the Wolf stretched



She came knocking at the door.

out his large, hairy paws and began to unfasten the basket.

"Oh!" said Red Riding-Hood, "what great arms you have, Grannie!"

"All the better to hug you with," said the Wolf.

"And what great rough ears you have, Grannie!"

"All the better to hear you with, my little dear."

"And your eyes, Grannie; what great yellow eyes you have!"

"All the better to see you with, my pet," grinned the Wolf.

"And oh! oh! Grannie!" cried the child, in a sad fright, "what great sharp teeth you have!"

"All the better to eat you with!" growled the Wolf, springing up suddenly at Red Riding-Hood. But just at that very moment the door flew open, and two tall wood-cutters rushed in with their heavy axes and killed the wicked Wolf in far less time than it takes me to tell you about it.

"But where is Grannie?" asked little Red Riding-Hood, when she had thanked the brave wood-cutters. "Oh! where can poor Grannie be? Can the cruel Wolf have eaten her up?"

And she began to cry and sob bitterly—when, who should walk in but Grannie herself, as large as life and as hearty as ever, with her marketing basket on her arm! For it was another old dame in the village who was not very well, and Grannie had been down to visit her and give her some of her own famous herb tea.

So everything turned out right in the end, and all lived happily ever after; but I promise you that little Red Riding-Hood never made friends with a Wolf again!





JACK THE GIANT-KILLER

IN the reign of King Arthur there lived in the county of Cornwall, near the Land's End of England, a wealthy farmer who had an only son called Jack. He was brisk and of a ready, lively wit, so that whatever he could not perform by force and strength he did by his quick wit and cleverness. Never was any person heard of that could worst him, and he very often baffled wise men by his sharp and ready invention.

In those days the Mount of Cornwall was kept by a huge and monstrous giant of eighteen feet in height and about three yards in girth, of a fierce and grim face, the terror of all the towns and villages near. He lived in a cave in the midst of the Mount, and would not suffer anyone else to live near him. His food was other men's cattle, which often became his prey, for whensoever he wanted food he would wade over to the mainland, where he would furnish himself with whatever came in his way. The good folk, at his approach, forsook their homes while he seized on their cattle, making nothing of carrying half a dozen oxen on his back at a time; and as for their sheep and hogs,

he would tie them round his waist like a bunch of bandeliers. This course he had followed for many years, so that all Cornwall had become poor through his robberies.



"THEN LET ME UNDERTAKE IT."

One day Jack, happening to be present at the town hall when the magistrates were sitting in council about the giant, asked what reward would be given to the person who destroyed him.

"The giant's treasure," they said, was the reward.

Quoth Jack, "Then let me undertake it."

So he took a horn, shovel, and pickaxe, and went over to the Mount in the beginning of a dark winter's evening, when he fell to work, and before morning had dug

a pit twenty-two feet deep, and nearly as broad, covering it over with long sticks and straw. Then strewing a little mold upon it, it appeared like plain ground. This done, Jack placed himself on the contrary side of the pit, farthest from the giant's lodging, and, just at the break of the day, he put the horn to his mouth, and blew, "Tantivy, Tantivy." The unexpected noise aroused the giant, who rushed from his cave, crying:

"You bold villain, are you come here to disturb my rest? You shall pay dearly for this. Satisfaction I will have, and this it shall be, I will take you whole and broil you for breakfast." He had no sooner uttered this, than tumbling into the pit, he made the very foundations of the Mount to shake.



"GAVE HIM A MOST WEIGHTY KNOCK."

"Oh, giant," quoth Jack, "where are you now? Oh, faith, you are gotten now into Lob's Pound, where I will surely plague you for your wicked words: what do you think now of broiling me for your breakfast? Will no other diet serve you but poor Jack?"

Thus having teased the giant for a while, he gave him a most weighty knock with his pickaxe on the very crown of his head and killed him on the spot.

This done, Jack filled up the pit with earth, and went to search



"'YOU BOLD VILLAIN, YOU SHALL PAY DEARLY FOR THIS.'"

the cave, which he found contained much treasure. When the magistrates heard of this, they said he should henceforth be called

JACK THE GIANT-KILLER,

and gave him a sword and an embroidered belt, on which were written these words in letters of gold—

"Here's the right valiant Cornish man,
Who slew the giant Cormelian."

The news of Jack's victory spread over all the West of England so that another giant, named Blunderbore, hearing of it, vowed to be revenged on the little hero, if ever it was his fortune to light on him. This giant was the lord of an enchanted castle standing in the midst of a lonesome wood.

Now Jack, about four months afterwards, walking near this wood in his journey to Wales, being weary, seated himself near a pleasant fountain and fell fast asleep. While he was enjoying his repose, the giant, coming for water, there found him and knew him to be the far-famed Jack, by the lines written on the belt. Without ado he took Jack on his shoulders and carried him towards his enchanted castle. Now, as they passed through a thicket, the rustling of the boughs awakened Jack, who was strangely surprised to find himself in the clutches of the giant. His terror was not yet begun, for, on entering the castle, he saw the ground strewed with human bones, the giant telling him his own would ere long increase them. After this the giant locked poor Jack in an immense chamber, leaving him there while he went to fetch another giant living in the same wood to help him to put an end to Jack. While he was gone, dreadful shrieks and cries affrighted Jack, especially a voice which said many times—

"Do what you can to get away,
Or you'll become the giant's prey;
He's gone to fetch his brother, who
Will kill, likewise devour you, too."

This dreadful noise had almost distracted Jack, who, going to the window, beheld afar off the two giants coming towards the castle. "Now," quoth Jack to himself, "my death or my escape is at hand." Now, there were strong cords in a corner of the room in which Jack was, and two of these he took, and made a strong noose at the end; and while the giants were unlocking the iron gate of the castle, he threw the ropes over each of their heads. Then drawing the other end across a beam, and pull-

ing with all his might, he throttled them. Then, seeing they were black in the face, and sliding down the rope, he came to their heads, when they could not defend themselves, and, drawing his sword, slew them both.



"TIED BY THE HAIR OF THEIR HEADS."

Then, taking the giant's keys, and unlocking the rooms, he found three fair ladies tied by the hair of their heads, almost starved to death.

"Sweet ladies," quoth Jack, "I have killed this monster and his brutish brother, and so set you free."

This said, he gave them the keys, and so went on his journey to Wales.

Having but little money, Jack found it well to make the best of his way by traveling as fast as he could; but, losing his road, he was benighted, and could not get a place to rest in until, coming into a narrow valley, he found a large house, and by reason of his present needs took courage to knock at the gate. But what was his surprise

when there came forth a monstrous giant with two heads; yet he did not appear so fiery as the others were, for he was a Welsh giant, and what he did was by private and secret malice under the false show of friendship. Jack having told his state to the giant, was shown into a bedroom, where, in the dead of night, he heard his host in another room, muttering these words—

"Though here you lodge with me this night,
You shall not see the morning light;
My club shall dash your brains outright!"

"Say'st thou so," quoth Jack; "that is like one of your Welsh tricks, yet I hope to be cunning enough for you." Then, getting out of bed, he laid a billet of wood in the bed in his stead, and hid himself in a corner of the room.

At the dead time of the night, in came the Welsh giant, who struck several heavy blows on the bed with his club, thinking he had broken every bone in Jack's skin. The next morning Jack, laughing in his sleeve, gave him hearty thanks for his night's lodging.



"STRUCK SEVERAL HEAVY BLOWS."

"How have you rested?" quoth the giant; "did you not feel anything in the night?"

"No," quoth Jack, "nothing but a rat, which gave me two or three slaps with her tail."

With that, greatly wondering, the giant led Jack to breakfast, bringing him a bowl containing four gallons of hasty pudding. Being loath to let the giant think it too much for him, Jack put a large leather bag under his loose coat, in such a way that he could convey the pudding into it without its being seen. Then, telling the giant he would show him a trick, taking a knife, Jack ripped open the bag, and out came all the hasty pudding.

Whereupon, saying, "Odds splutters, hur can do that trick herself," the monster took the knife, and, ripping open his body, fell down dead.

Now, it fell in these days that King Arthur's only son begged his father to give him a large sum of money, in order that he might go and seek his fortune in the country of Wales, where lived a beautiful lady possessed with seven evil spirits.

The king did his best to persuade his son from it, but in vain; so at last granted the request, and the prince set out with two horses, one loaded with money, the other for himself to ride upon.

Now, after several days' travel, he came to a market-town in Wales, where he beheld a vast crowd of people gathered together. The prince asked the reason of it, and was told that they had arrested a corpse for several large sums of money which the dead man owed when he died. The prince replied that it was a pity creditors should be so cruel, and said,

"Go bury the dead, and let his creditors come to my lodging, and there their debts shall be paid."

So they came, but in such great numbers that before night he had almost left himself moneyless.

Now Jack the Giant-Killer, coming that way, was so taken with the generosity of the prince, that he wished to be his servant. This being agreed upon, the next morning they set forward on their journey together, when, as they were riding out of the town, an old woman called after the prince, saying,

"He has owed me two-pence these seven years; pray pay me as well as the rest."

Putting his hand to his pocket, the prince gave the woman all he had left, so that after their day's refreshment, which cost what small amount Jack had by him, they were without a penny between them. When the sun began to grow low, the king's son said,

"Jack, since we have no money, where can we lodge this night?"

Jack replied, "Master, we'll do well enough, for I have an uncle lives within two miles of this place; he is a huge and monstrous giant with three heads; he'll fight five hundred men in armor and make them to fly before him."

"Alas!" quoth the prince, "what shall we do there? He'll certainly chop us up at a mouthful. Nay, we are scarce enough to fill one of his hollow teeth."

"It is no matter for that," quoth Jack. "I myself will go before and prepare the way for you; therefore tarry and wait till I return."

Jack then rode away full speed, and coming to the gate of the castle, he knocked so loud that he made the hills around to echo. The giant roared out at this like thunder, "Who's there?"

He was answered, "None but your poor Cousin Jack."



"OH, COUSIN JACK," SAID THE GIANT,
"THIS IS HEAVY NEWS INDEED."

Quoth he, "What news with my poor Cousin Jack?"

He replied, "Dear uncle, heavy news, God wot."

"Prithee," quoth the giant, "what heavy news can come to me?"

I am a giant with three heads, and besides, thou knowest I can fight five hundred men in armor, and make them fly like chaff before the wind."

"Oh, but," quoth Jack, "here's the king's son a-coming with a thousand men in armor to kill you and destroy all that you have."

"Oh, Cousin Jack," said the giant, "this is heavy news indeed! I will immediately run and hide myself, and thou shalt lock, bolt, and bar me in, and keep the keys until the prince is gone."



"LOCK, BOLT, AND BAR ME IN."

Having secured the giant, Jack fetched his master, when they made themselves heartily merry whilst the poor giant lay trembling in a vault under the ground.

Early in the morning Jack furnished his master with a fresh supply of gold and silver, and then sent him three miles forward on his journey, at which time the prince was pretty well out of the smell of the giant. Jack then returned, and let the giant out of the vault, who asked what he should give him for keeping the castle safe.

"Why," quoth Jack, "I desire nothing but the old coat and cap, together with the old rusty sword and slippers which are at your bed's head."

Quoth the giant, "Thou shalt have them; and pray keep them for my sake, for they are things of excellent use. The coat will keep you invisible, the cap will furnish you with knowledge, the sword cuts asunder whatever you strike, and the shoes are of extraordinary swiftness. These may be useful to you, therefore take them with all my heart."

Taking them, Jack thanked his uncle, and then having overtaken his master, they quickly arrived at the house of the lady the prince

sought, who, finding the prince to be a suitor, prepared a splendid banquet for him. After the feasting was done, she wiped his mouth with a handkerchief, saying:

"You must show me that handkerchief to-morrow morning, or else you will lose your head." With that she put it in her bosom.

The prince went to bed in great sorrow, but Jack's cap of knowledge taught him how it was to be got. In the middle of the night she called upon her familiar spirit to carry her to Lucifer. But Jack put on his coat of darkness and his shoes of swiftness, and was there as soon as she.

When she entered the place of the evil one, she gave the handkerchief to old Lucifer, who laid it upon a shelf, whence Jack took it and brought it to his master, who showed it to the lady the next day, and so saved his life. On that day she saluted the prince, telling him he must show her the lips to-morrow morning that she kissed last night or lose his head.

"Ah," he replied, "if you kiss none but mine, I will."



"YOU MUST SHOW ME THAT HANDKERCHIEF."

"That is neither here nor there," said she; "but remember if you do not, death's your portion!"

At midnight she went as before, and was angry with old Lucifer for letting the handkerchief go.

"But now," quoth she, "I will be too hard for the king's son, for I will kiss thee, and he is to show me thy lips."

Which she did, and Jack, who was standing by, cut off the devil's

head and brought it under his invisible coat to his master, who the next morning pulled it out by the horns before the lady.

The enchantment thus broken, the evil spirit left her and she appeared in all her beauty. They were married the next morning, and soon after went to the court of King Arthur, where Jack, for his many great deeds, was made one of the Knights of the Round Table.

Having been successful in all he did, Jack resolved not to remain idle, but to do what he could for the honor of his king and country, and begged King Arthur to fit him out with a horse and money to help him to travel in search of strange and new adventures.



"SHE SUMMONED HER FAMILIAR SPIRIT."

"For," said he, "there are many giants yet living in the farthest part of Wales, to the great damage of your majesty's liege subjects; wherefore, may it please you to encourage me, I do not doubt but in a short time to cut them off root and branch, and so rid all the realm of those giants and monsters of nature."

When the king had heard this noble request, he furnished Jack with all he had need of, and Jack started on his pursuit, taking with him the cap of knowledge, sword of sharpness, shoes of swiftness, and invisible coat, the better to succeed in the dangerous adventures which now lay before him.

Jack traveled over vast hills and wonderful mountains, and on the third day came to a large wood, which he had no sooner entered than he heard dreadful shrieks and cries. Casting his eyes round, he beheld with terror a huge giant dragging along a fair lady and a knight by the hair of their heads, with as much ease if they had been a pair of gloves.



"PULLED IT OUT BY THE HORNS."

At this sight Jack shed tears of pity, and then, getting off from his horse, he put on his invisible coat, and taking with him his sword of sharpness, at length, with a swinging stroke, cut off both the giant's legs below the knee, so that his fall made the trees to tremble.

At this the courteous knight and his fair lady, after returning Jack their hearty thanks, invited him home, there to refresh his strength after the battle, and receive some ample reward for his good services. But Jack vowed he would not rest until he had found out the giant's den. The knight, hearing this, was very sorrowful, and replied:

"Noble stranger, it is too much to run a second risk; this monster lived in a den under yonder mountain with a brother more fierce and fiery than himself. Therefore, if you should go thither and perish in the attempt it would be a heart-breaking to me and my lady. Let me persuade you to go with us, and desist from any further pursuit."

"Nay," quoth Jack; "were there twenty, not one should escape my fury. But when I have finished my task I will come and pay my respects to you."

Jack had not ridden more than a mile and a half, when the cave mentioned by the knight appeared to view, near the entrance of which he beheld the giant sitting upon a block of timber, with a knotted iron club by his side, waiting, as he supposed, for his brother's return with his prey.

His goggle eyes were like flames of fire, his face grim and ugly, and his cheeks like a couple of large flitches of bacon, while the bristles of his beard resembled rods of iron wire and the locks that hung down upon his brawny shoulders were like curled snakes or hissing adders.

Jack alighted from his horse, and, putting on the coat of darkness, approached near the giant, and said, softly,

"Oh, are you there? It will not be long ere I shall take you fast by the beard."

The giant all this while could not see him, on account of his invisible coat, so that Jack, coming up close to the monster, struck a blow with his sword at his head, but missing his aim, he cut off the nose instead. At this the giant roared like claps of thunder, and began to lay about him with his iron club like one stark mad. But Jack, running behind, drove his sword up to the hilt in the giant's back, which caused him to fall down dead. This done, Jack cut off the giant's head and sent it, with his brother's head also, to King Arthur by a wagoner he hired for that purpose.

Jack now resolved to enter the giants' cave in search of their treasure, and, passing along through a great many windings and turnings, he came at length to a large room paved with freestone, at the upper end of which was a boiling caldron and on the right hand a large table, at which the giants used to dine. Then he came to a window, barred with iron, through which he looked and beheld a vast crowd of unhappy captives, who, seeing him, cried out,

"Alas! young man, art thou come to be one amongst us in this miserable den?"

"Ay," quoth Jack. "But pray tell me why it is you are so imprisoned."

"We are kept here," said one, "till such times as the giants have



JACK DEPIED GIANT THUNDERDELL AND LED HIM TOWARD THE DRAWBRIDGE.

a wish to feast, and then the fattest among us is killed. And many are the times they have dined upon murdered men!"

"Say you so?" quoth Jack, and straightway unlocked the gate and let them free, who all rejoiced like condemned men at sight of a reprieve. Then, searching the giants' coffers, he shared the gold and silver amongst them.

It was about sunrise the next day when Jack, after seeing the captives on their way to their homes, mounted his horse to go on his journey, and, by the help of his directions, reached the knight's house about noon. He was received here with all signs of joy by the knight and his lady, who, in respect to Jack, prepared a feast which lasted many days, all the gentry in the neighborhood being of the company. The worthy knight was likewise pleased to present him with a beautiful ring, on which was engraved a picture of the giant dragging the distressed knight and his lady, with this motto:—

"We are in sad distress, you see,
Under a giant's fierce command,
But gain our lives and liberty
By valiant Jack's victorious hand."

But in the midst of all this mirth a messenger brought the dismal tidings that one Thunderdell, a giant with two heads, having heard of the death of his two kinsmen, came from the northern dales to be revenged on Jack, and was within a mile of the knight's seat, the country people flying before him like chaff. But Jack was no whit daunted, and said:

"Let him come! I have a tool to pick his teeth; and you, ladies and gentlemen, walk but forth into the garden, and you shall witness this giant Thunderdell's death and destruction."

The house of this knight was in the midst of a small island with a moat thirty feet deep and twenty feet wide around it, over which lay a drawbridge. Wherefore Jack employed men to cut through this bridge on both sides, nearly to the middle; and then, dressing himself in his invisible coat, he marched against the giant with his sword of

sharpness. Although the giant could not see Jack he smelled his approach, and cried out in these words—

"Fee, fi, fo, fum!
I smell the blood of an Englishman!
Be he alive or be he dead,
I'll grind his bones to make me bread!"

"Say'st thou so," said Jack; "then thou art a monstrous miller indeed."

At which the giant cried out again, "Art thou that villain who killed my kinsmen? Then I will tear thee with my teeth, suck thy blood, and grind thy bones to powder."

"You will catch me first," quoth Jack, and throwing off his invisible coat, so that the giant might see him, and putting on his shoes of swiftness, he ran from the giant, who followed like a walking castle, so that the very earth seemed to shake at every step. Jack led him a long dance, in order that the knights and ladies might see; and at last, to end the matter, ran lightly over the drawbridge, the giant, in full speed, pursuing him with his club. Then, coming to the middle of the bridge, the giant's great weight broke it down, and he tumbled headlong into the water, where he rolled and wallowed like a whale. Jack, standing by the moat, laughed at him all the while; but though the giant foamed to hear him scoff, and plunged from place to place in the moat, yet he could not get out to be revenged. Jack at length got a cart-rope and cast it over the two heads of the giant, and drew him ashore by a team of horses, and then cut off both his heads with his sword of sharpness, and sent them to King Arthur.

After some time spent in mirth and pastime, Jack, taking leave of the knights and ladies, set out for new adventures. Through many woods he passed, and came at length to the foot of a high mountain. Here, late at night, he found a lonesome house, and knocked at the door, which was opened by an ancient man with a head as white as snow.

"Father," said Jack, "have you any place where a traveler may rest that has lost his way?"

"Yes," said the old man; "you are right welcome to my poor cottage."

Whereupon Jack entered, and down they sat together, and the old man began to speak as follows:

"Son, I know you are the great conqueror of giants, and behold, my son, on the top of this mountain is an enchanted castle, kept by a giant named Golligantus, who, by the help of an old conjuror, betrays knights and ladies into his castle, where, by magic art, they are transformed into many shapes and forms; but, above all, I weep for the fate of a duke's daughter, whom they fetched from her father's garden, carrying her through the air in a burning chariot drawn by fiery dragons, when they shut her up within the castle, and transformed her into the shape of a white hind. And though many knights have tried to break the enchantment, and set her free, yet no one could do it, on account of two dreadful griffins which are placed at the castle gate, and which destroy every one who comes near. But you, my son, having an invisible coat, may pass by them unseen, where on the gates of the castle, you will find written in large letters by what means the enchantment may be broken."



"TWO DREADFUL GRIFFINS AT THE GATE."

The old man having ended, Jack gave him his hand, and promised that in the morning he would venture his life to free the lady.

In the morning Jack arose and put on his invisible coat and magic cap and shoes, and prepared himself for the task. Now, when he had reached the top of the mountain, he soon saw the two fiery griffins, but passed them without fear, because of his invisible coat. When he had



"BITING THEIR THUMBS AND TEARING THEIR HAIR."

got beyond them, he found upon the gates of the castle a golden trumpet hung by a silver chain, under which these lines were written:

"Whosoever this trumpet shall blow,
Shall soon the giant overthrow,
And break the black enchantment straight;
So all shall be in happy state."

Jack had no sooner read this but he blew the trumpet, at which the castle trembled to its vast foundations, and the giant and conjuror were in horrid fear, biting their thumbs and tearing their hair, knowing their wicked reign was at an end.

Then the giant, stooping to take up his club, Jack at one blow cut off his head; whereupon the conjuror, mounting up into the air, was carried away in a whirlwind.

Thus was the enchantment broken, and all the lords and ladies who had so long been transformed into birds and beasts returned to their proper shapes, and the castle vanished away in a cloud of smoke.

As a reward for his services, the king gave Jack the duke's daughter in marriage, and the whole kingdom was filled with joy at the wedding; and he and his lady lived in great joy and happiness all the rest of their days.



Jack and the Bean-Stalk

THERE once lived a poor widow, in a cottage which stood in a country village, a long distance from London, for many years.

The widow had only a child named Jack, whom she gratified in everything; the end of her foolish kindness was, that Jack paid little attention to anything she said; and he was heedless and naughty. His follies were not owing to bad nature, but to his mother never having chided him. As she was not rich, and he would not work, she was obliged to support herself and him by selling everything she had. At last nothing remained, only a cow.

The widow, with tears in her eyes, could not help scolding Jack. "Oh! you wicked boy," said she, "by your naughty course of life you have now brought us both to fall! Heedless, heedless boy! I have not money enough to buy a bit of bread for another day; nothing remains but my poor cow, and that must be sold, or we must starve!"

Jack was in a degree of tenderness for a few minutes, but it soon passed over; and then becoming very hungry for want of food he teased his poor mother to let him sell the cow; which at last she sadly allowed him to do.

As he went on his journey he met a butcher, who asked why he was driving the cow from home? Jack replied he was going to sell it. The butcher had some wonderful beans, of different colors, in his bag, which caught Jack's fancy. This the butcher saw, who, knowing Jack's easy temper, made up his mind to take advantage of it, and offered all the beans for the cow. The foolish boy thought it a great offer. The bargain was momentarily struck; and the cow exchanged for a few paltry beans. When Jack hastened home with the beans and told his mother, and showed them to her, she kicked the beans away in a great passion. They flew in all directions, and fell as far as the garden.



"OFFERED ALL THE BEANS."

Early in the morning Jack arose from his bed, and seeing something strange from the window, he hastened downstairs into the garden, where he soon found that some of the beans had taken root, and sprung up wonderfully; the stalks grew of an immense thickness, and had so entwined, that they formed a ladder like a chain in view.

Looking upwards, he could not descry the top, it seemed to be lost in the clouds. He tried it, found it firm, and not to be shaken. A new idea immediately struck him: he would climb the bean-stalk, and see whither it would lead. Full of this plan, which made him forget even his hunger, Jack hastened to tell it to his mother.

He at once set out, and after climbing for some hours, reached the top of the bean-stalk, tired and almost exhausted. Looking round, he was surprised to find himself in a strange country; it seemed to be quite a barren desert; not a tree, shrub, house, or living creature was to be seen.

Jack sat himself pensively upon a block of stone, and thought of



"THE COW WAS EXCHANGED FOR A FEW PALTRY BEANS."

his mother; his hunger attacked him, and now he felt sorrowful for his disobedience in climbing the bean-stalk against her will; and made up his mind that he must now die for want of food.

However, he walked on, hoping to see a house where he might beg something to eat. Suddenly he saw a beautiful young woman at some distance. She was dressed in an elegant manner, and had a small white wand in her hand, on the top of which was a peacock of pure gold. She came near and said: "I will tell to you a story your mother dare not. But before I begin, I require a solemn promise on your part to do what I command. I am a fairy, and unless you perform exactly what I direct you to do, you will take from me the power to assist you; and there is little doubt but that you will die in the attempt." Jack was rather frightened at this caution, but promised to follow her directions.

"Your father was a rich man, with a greatly generous nature. It was his practice never to refuse help to the poor people about him; but, on the contrary, to seek out the helpless and distressed. Not many miles from your father's house lived a huge giant, who was the dread of the country around for cruelty and wickedness. This creature was moreover of a very envious spirit, and disliked to hear others talked of for their goodness and humanity, and he vowed to do him a mischief, so that he might no longer hear his good actions made the subject of every one's talk. Your father was too good a man to fear evil from others; so that it was not long before the cruel giant found a chance to put his wicked threats into practice;



"A WHITE WAND IN HER HAND."

for hearing that your parents were about passing a few days with a friend at some distance from home, he caused your father to be waylaid and murdered, and your mother to be seized on their way homeward.

"At the time this happened you were but a few months old. Your poor mother, almost dead with affright and horror, was borne away by the cruel giant's servants, to a dungeon under his house, in which she and her poor babe were both long kept prisoners. Distracted at the absence of your parents, the servants went in search of them; but no tidings of either could be got. Meantime he caused a will to be found making over all your father's property to him as your guardian, and as such he took open possession.

"After your mother had been some months in prison, the giant offered to restore her to liberty, on condition that she would solemnly swear that she would never tell the story of her wrongs to any one. To put it out of her power to do him any harm, should she break her oath, the giant had her put on



"HE WAYLAID YOUR FATHER."

shipboard, and taken to a distant country; where she was left with no more money for her support than what she got by selling a few jewels she had hidden in her dress.

"I was appointed your father's guardian at his birth; but fairies have laws to which they are subject as well as mortals. A short time before the giant killed your father, I transgressed; my punishment was

the loss of my power for a certain time, which, alas! entirely prevented my helping your father, even when I most wished to do so. The day on which you met the butcher, as you went to sell your mother's cow, my power was restored. It was I who secretly prompted you to take the beans in exchange for the cow. By my power the bean-stalk grew to so great a height, and formed a ladder. The giant lives in this country; you are the person who must punish him for all his wickedness. You will meet with dangers and difficulties, but you must persevere in avenging the death of your father, or you will not prosper in any of your doings.

"As to the giant's goods, every thing he has is yours, though you are deprived of it; you make take, therefore, what part of it you can. You must, however, be careful, for such is his love for gold, that the first loss he discovers will make him outrageous and very watchful for the future. But you must still pursue him; for it is only by cunning that you can ever hope to get the better of him, and become possessed of your rightful property, and the means of justice overtaking him for his barbarous murder.

One thing I desire is, do not let your mother know you are aware of your father's history till you see me again.

"Go along the direct road; you will soon see the house where your cruel enemy lives. While you do as I order you, I will protect and guard you; but remember, if you disobey my commands, a dreadful punishment awaits you."



"ESPIED A LARGE MANSION."

As soon as she had made an end she disappeared, leaving Jack to follow his journey. He walked on till after sunset, when, to his great joy, he espied a large mansion. This pleasant sight revived his drooping spirits; he redoubled his speed, and reached it shortly. A good-looking woman stood at the door; he spoke to her, begging she would give him a morsel of bread and a night's lodging. She expressed the greatest surprise at seeing him; and said it was quite uncommon to see any strange creature near their house, for it was mostly known that her husband was a very cruel and powerful giant, and one that would eat human flesh, if he could possibly get it.



"THERE WAS A GRATING OF IRON."

This account terrified Jack greatly, but still, not forgetting the fairy's protection, he hoped to elude the giant, and therefore he begged the woman to take him in for one night only, and hide him where she thought proper. The good woman at last suffered herself to be persuaded, for she had a kind heart, and at last led him into the house.

First they passed an elegant hall, finely furnished; they then went through several spacious rooms, all in the same style of grandeur, but they seemed to be quite forsaken and desolate. A long gallery came next; it was very dark, just large enough to show that, instead of a wall each side, there was a grating of iron, which parted off a dismal dungeon, from whence issued the groans of several poor victims whom the cruel giant kept shut up in readiness for his very large appetite. Poor Jack was in a dreadful fright at witnessing such a horrible scene, which caused him to fear that he would never see his mother, but he captured lastly for the giant's meal; but still he recollected the fairy, and a gleam of hope forced itself into his heart.

The good woman then took Jack to a large kitchen, where a great fire was kept; she bade him sit down, and gave him plenty to eat and drink. When he had done his meal and enjoyed himself, he was disturbed by a hard knocking at the gate, so loud as to cause the house to shake. Jack was hidden in the oven, and the giant's wife ran to let in her husband.

Jack heard him accost her in a voice like thunder, saying: "Wife! wife! I smell fresh meat!" "Oh, my dear," replied she, "it is nothing but the people in the dungeon." The giant seemed to believe her, and at last seated himself by the fireside, whilst the wife prepared supper.

By degrees Jack managed



"EATING AND DRINKING."

to look at the monster through a small crevice. He was much surprised to see what an amazing quantity he devoured, and supposed he would never have done eating and drinking. After his supper was ended a very curious hen was brought and placed on the table before him.

Jack's curiosity was great to see what would happen. He saw that it stood quiet before

him, and every time the giant said, "Lay!" the hen laid an egg of solid gold. The giant amused himself a long time with his hen; meanwhile his wife went to bed. At length he fell asleep, and snored like the



"LAID AN EGG OF SOLID GOLD."

roaring of a cannon. Jack, finding him still asleep at daybreak, crept softly from his hiding place, seized the hen and ran off with her as fast as his legs could possibly carry him.

Jack easily found his way to the bean-stalk, and came down better and quicker than he expected. His mother was overjoyed to see him. "Now, mother," said Jack, "I have brought you home that which will make you rich." The hen laid as many golden eggs as they desired; they sold them, and soon had as much riches as they wanted.



"FOUND THE BEAN-STALK."

For a few months Jack and his mother lived very happy, but he longed to pay the giant another visit. Early one morning he again climbed the bean-stalk, and reached the giant's mansion late in the evening; the woman was at the door as before. Jack told her a pitiful tale and prayed for a night's shelter. She told him she had admitted a poor, hungry boy once before, and the little ingrate had stolen one of the giant's treasures, and ever since that she had been cruelly used. She, however, led him to the kitchen, gave him a supper and put him in a lumber closet. Soon after the giant came in, took his supper, and ordered his wife to bring down his bags of gold and silver.

Jack peeped out of his hiding place and observed the giant counting over his treasures, and after which he carefully put them in bags again, fell asleep, and snored as before. Jack crept quietly from his hiding place and approached the giant, when a little dog under the



"THE GIANT SLEPT SOUNDLY."

chair barked furiously. Much to his surprise, the giant slept on soundly, and the dog ceased. Jack seized the bags, reached the door in safety, and soon arrived at the bottom of the bean-stalk. When he reached his mother's cottage he found it quite deserted. Full of astonishment he ran into the village, and an old woman directed him to a house, where he found his mother apparently dying. On being told of our hero's safe return his mother revived and soon recovered. Jack then presented two bags of gold and silver to her.



"HIS MOTHER REVIVED."

His mother saw that something preyed upon his mind heavily, and tried to find out the cause; but Jack knew too well what the consequence would be should he discover the cause of his melancholy to her. He did his utmost, therefore, to conquer the great desire which now forced itself upon him in spite of himself for another journey up the bean-stalk, but in vain.



"PUT HIS HAND ON THE LID."

On the longest day Jack arose as soon as it was light, climbed the bean-stalk, and reached the top with some little trouble. He found the road, journey, etc., the same as before.

He arrived at the giant's house in the evening, and found his wife standing as usual at the door.

Jack now appeared a different character, and had disguised himself so completely that she did not appear to remember him. However, when he begged admittance, he found it very difficult to persuade her. At last he prevailed, was allowed to go in, and was hidden in the copper.

When the giant returned, he said, as usual: "Wife! wife!

I smell fresh meat!" But Jack felt quite composed, as he had said so before, and had soon been satisfied. However, the giant started up suddenly, and notwithstanding all his wife could say he searched all round the room. Whilst this was going forward, Jack was much terrified, and ready to die with fear, wishing himself at home a thousand times; but when the giant approached the copper, and put his hand upon the lid, Jack thought his death was certain. Fortunately the giant ended his search there, without moving the lid, and seated himself quietly by the fireside. When the giant's supper was over, he commanded his wife to fetch down his harp. Jack peeped under the copper-lid, and soon saw the most beautiful one that could be imagined. It was put by the giant on the table, who



"THE GIANT PURSUED JACK."

said: "Play," and it instantly played of its own accord. The music was uncommonly fine. Jack was delighted, and felt more anxious to get the harp into his possession than either of the former treasures.

The giant's soul was not attuned to harmony, and the music soon lulled him into a sound sleep. Now, therefore, was the time to carry

off the harp, as the giant appeared to be in a more profound sleep than usual. Jack soon made up his mind, got out of the copper, and seized



"THE GIANT FELL HEADLONG INTO THE GARDEN."

the harp; which, however, being enchanted by a fairy, called out loudly: "Master! Master!"

The giant awoke, stood up, and tried to pursue Jack; but he had drunk so much that he could not stand. Jack ran as quick as he could. In a little time the giant was well enough to walk slowly, or rather to reel after him. Had he been sober, he must have overtaken Jack instantly; but as he then was, Jack contrived to be first at the top of the bean-stalk. The giant called to him all the way along the road in a voice like thunder, and was sometimes very near to him.

The moment Jack got down the bean-stalk he called out for a hatchet. One was brought him directly. Just at that instant the giant began to descend, but Jack with his hatchet cut the bean-stalk close off at the root, and the giant fell headlong into the garden. The fall instantly killed him.

Jack heartily begged his mother's pardon for all the sorrow and affliction he had caused her, promising most faithfully to be dutiful and obedient to her in future. He proved as good as his word, and became a pattern of affectionate behavior and attention to his parent.





Aladdin; or, the Wonderful Lamp

ALADDIN was the son of Mustapha, a poor tailor in one of the rich provinces of China. When the boy was old enough to learn a trade his father took him into his own workshop. But Aladdin, being but an idle fellow, loved play more than work, and spent his days in playing in the public streets with other boys as idle as himself.

His father died while he was very young; but he still continued his foolish ways, and his mother was forced to spin cotton night and day in order to keep herself and him.

When he was about fifteen years old, he was one day playing in the streets with one of his companions. A stranger who was going by stopped and looked at him. This stranger was a famous African magician, who, having need of the help of some ignorant person, no sooner beheld Aladdin than he knew by his whole air, manner, and appearance that he was a person of small prudence, and very fit to be

made a tool of. The magician then artfully inquired of some persons standing near the name and character of Aladdin, and the answers proved to him that he had judged rightly of the boy.



"MUSTAPHA WAS A POOR TAILOR."

The stranger, now pressing in among the crowd of lads, clapped his hand upon Aladdin's shoulder, and said, "My good lad, art not thou the son of Mustapha, the tailor?"

"Yes, sir," said Aladdin, "but my father has been dead this long time."

"Alas!" cried he, "what unhappy news! I am thy father's brother, child. I have been many years abroad; and now that I have come home in the hope of seeing him, you tell me he is dead!" And all the while tears ran down the stranger's cheek and his bosom heaved with sighs. Then pulling out a purse he gave Aladdin two pieces of gold. "Take this, my boy," said he, "to your mother. Tell her that her husband's brother will come and see her to-night and sup with her."

Pleased with the money, Aladdin ran home to his mother. "Mother," said he, "have I an uncle?" His mother told him he had not, whereupon Aladdin pulled out his gold and told her that a man who said he was his father's brother was coming to sup with her that very evening. Full of bewilderment, the good woman set out for the market, where she bought provisions, and was busy preparing the supper when the magician knocked at the door. He entered, followed by a porter bringing all kinds of delicious fruits and sweetmeats for the dessert and several bottles of wine.



"HIS MOTHER HAD TO SPIN COTTON."

After the magician had given what he had brought into Aladdin's hands he saluted his mother, and asked to be shown the place where his brother Mustapha had been wont to sit; and when she had done so he fell down and kissed it several times, saying, with tears in his eyes, "My poor brother! How unhappy am I not to have come soon enough to give you a last embrace!"

As soon as they were set down to supper, he gave Aladdin's mother an account of his travels, saying that for forty years he had been from home, in order to see the wonders of distant countries. Then, turning towards Aladdin, he asked his name. "I am called Aladdin," said he. "Well, Aladdin," replied the magician, "what business do you follow? Are you of any trade?"

At this question Aladdin hung down his head, and was not a little abashed when his mother made answer, "Aladdin is an idle fellow; his father strove all he could to teach him his trade, but could not succeed; and since his death, in spite of all I can say to him, he does nothing

but idle away his time in the streets, so that I despair of his ever coming to any good." With these words the poor woman burst into tears, and the magician, turning to Aladdin, said: "This is not well, nephew; you must think of helping yourself and getting your livelihood, and I will help you as far as I may; what think you,



"A PORTER BRINGING FRUITS."

shall I take a shop and furnish it for you?" Aladdin was overjoyed at the idea, for he thought there was very little labor in keeping a shop, and he told his uncle this would suit him better than anything else.



"I AM THY FATHER'S BROTHER."

"I will take you with me to-morrow," said the magician, "clothe you as handsomely as the best merchants in the city, and then we will open a shop."

Aladdin's mother thanked him very heartily and begged Aladdin to behave so as to prove himself worthy of the good fortune promised by his kind uncle.

Next day the stranger called for Aladdin as he had promised, and led him to a merchant's, where ready-made clothes, suited for all sorts of people, were sold. Then he caused Aladdin to try on the hand-

somest suits, and choosing the one Aladdin also preferred, he paid the merchant for it at once. The pretended uncle then took Aladdin to visit the bazaars and the khans, where the foreign merchants were and the most splendid mosques, and gave him a merry feast in the evening.

When Aladdin's mother saw him return so handsomely dressed and with such fine tales of the company he had been in, she was full of joy. "Generous brother," she cried to the magician, "I know not how to thank you enough for your goodness; may you live



"TOLD THE BOY TO EAT."

many happy years to see my son's gratitude!"

"Aladdin," replied he, "is a good boy. He seems to pay attention to what I say. I have no doubt but we shall make him what we wish. I am sorry for one thing, that I cannot hire the shop for Aladdin to-morrow, as it is Friday, and all the merchants will be absent. We will, however, settle all this business on Saturday; and I will come here to-morrow to take Aladdin and show him the public gardens outside the town."

The next morning Aladdin got up and dressed himself very early,
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so impatient was he to see his uncle. Presently he saw him coming, and ran to meet him. The magician greeted him very kindly: "Come, my good boy," he said with a smile; "I will to-day show you some very fine things."

He then led him through some beautiful gardens with great houses standing in the midst of them; Aladdin did nothing but exclaim at their beauty, and so his uncle, by degrees, led him on farther and farther in the country. Presently, seeing that Aladdin was tired, he bade him sit in one of these gardens by the side of a great basin of pure water, and taking from a piece of linen cloth that was attached to his girdle some cake and fruits, he told the boy to eat of them, and gave him much good advice the while.

Then beguiling the way by kindness and pleasant talk he induced Aladdin to come with him much further, and they walked on till they came to a narrow valley with mountains on all sides.

This was the spot that the magician had all along wanted to reach, and to which he had brought Aladdin for a secret purpose of his own.

"We shall now," said he to Aladdin, "go no farther, and I shall here show you some extraordinary wonders, that no one besides yourself will ever have seen. I am now going to strike a light, and do you, in the meantime, collect all the dry sticks and leaves that you can find, in order to make a fire."

There were so many pieces of dry sticks scattered about this place, that Aladdin very soon collected more than enough, by the time the magician had lighted his match. He then set them on fire, and as soon as they were in a blaze, he threw a certain perfume that



"ALADDIN COLLECTING STICKS."

he had ready in his hand upon them. A dense smoke rose up, while the magician spoke some mysterious words. At the same instant the ground slightly shook, and opening in the spot where they stood, showed a square stone of about a foot and a half across, with a brass ring fixed in the centre.

Aladdin was frightened out of his wits, and was about to run away, when the African suddenly gave him a box on the ear so violent as to beat him down and very nearly to knock some of his teeth out.



"TAKE HOLD OF THIS RING."

Poor Aladdin, with tears in his eyes and trembling in every limb, got up. "My dear uncle," he cried, "what have I done to deserve so severe a blow?" "I have good reasons for it," replied the magician. "Do you but obey me, and you will not repent of it. Underneath that stone is a great hidden treasure, which will make you richer than many kings if you will be docile and attentive to what I shall say to you."

Aladdin had now got the better of his fright. "Well," said he, "what must I do? Tell me; I am ready to obey you in everything!"

"Well said!" replied the magician; "come to me, then; take hold of this ring, and lift up the stone."

To Aladdin's surprise, the stone was raised without any trouble, and then he could see a small opening between three and four feet deep, at the bottom of which was a little door, with steps to go down still lower. "You must now," said the magician, "go down into this cavern, and when you have come to the bottom of the steps, you will see an open door which leads into three great halls. In each of these you will see, on both sides of you, four bronze vases as large as tubs, full of gold and silver, but you must take particular care not to touch any of it. When you get in the first hall, take up your robe and bind

it round you. Then go to the second without stopping, and from thence in the same manner to the third. Above all, mind and be very particular not to go near the walls nor even to touch them with your robe; for if any part of your dress should chance to touch them, your instant death will be the consequence. At the far end of the third, there is a door which leads to a garden planted with beautiful trees, all of which are full of fruit. Go on straight forward, and follow a path which you will see, and which will bring you to the bottom of a flight of fifty steps, at the top of which there is a terrace. When you shall have reached the terrace, you will see a niche before you, in which there is a lighted lamp. Take the lamp and extinguish it. Then throw out the wick and the liquid that is within, and put it in your bosom. When you have done this, bring it to me. Do not be afraid of staining your dress, as what is within the lamp is not oil; and when you have thrown it out, the lamp will dry directly. If you should wish very much to gather any of the fruit in the garden, you may do so; and there is nothing to prevent your taking as much as you please."



"HE FILLED BOTH HIS POCKETS."

When the magician had given these directions to Aladdin, he took off a ring which he had on one of his fingers, and put it on his pretended nephew, telling him, at the same time, that it was to secure him against every evil that might otherwise happen to him; and again bade him be mindful of everything he had said to him. "Go, my child," added he, "descend boldly; we shall now both of us become immensely rich for the rest of our lives."

Aladdin gave a spring, jumped into the opening with a willing mind, and went down to the bottom of the steps. He found the three

halls exactly as the magician had said. He passed through them with the greatest care, as if he was fearful he might be killed if he were careless. He went on to the garden, and mounted to the terrace without stopping. He took the lamp, as it stood lighted in the niche, threw out its contents, and, observing that it was as the magician had said, quite dry, he put it into his bosom. He then came down the terrace and

stopped in the garden to look at the fruit, which he had only seen for an instant as he passed along. The trees of this garden were all full of the most extraordinary fruit. Each tree bore fruits of a different color. Some were white, others sparkling and transparent, like crystal; some were red and of different shades, others green, blue, violet; some of a yellowish hue; in short, of almost every color. The white were pearls; the sparkling and transparent were diamonds; the deep red were rubies, the paler, a particular sort of ruby called balass; the green, emeralds; the blue, turquoises; the violet, amethysts; those tinged with yellow, sapphires; in the same way, all the other colored fruits were varieties of precious



"HE WENT DOWN TO THE BOTTOM."

stones; and the whole of them were of the largest size, and more perfect than were ever seen in the whole world. Aladdin was not yet of an age to know their value, and thought they were all only pieces of colored glass. The variety, however, and contrast of so many beautiful colors, as well as the brilliancy and extraordinary size of each sort, nevertheless tempted him to gather some of each; and he took so many of every color that he filled both his pockets, as well as his two new purses that

the magician had bought for him, at the time he made him a present of his new dress; and as his pockets, which were already full, could not hold his two purses, he fastened them on each side of his girdle, or sash, and also wrapped some in its folds, as it was of silk, and made very full. In this manner he carried them so that they could not fall out. He did not even forget to fill his bosom quite full, between his robe and shirt.

Laden in this manner with the most immense treasure, though ignorant of its value, Aladdin made haste through the three halls, in order that he might not make the African magician wait too long. Having passed through them with the same caution as before, he began to ascend the steps he had come down and reached the entrance of the cave, where the magician was impatiently waiting for him. As soon as Aladdin perceived him he called out,



"ALAS! MY CHILD," REPLIED HIS MOTHER."



"SAT DOWN UPON THE STEP."

Having passed through them with the same caution as before, he began to ascend the steps he had come down and reached the entrance of the cave, where the magician was impatiently waiting for him. As soon as Aladdin perceived him he called out, "Give me your hand, uncle, to help me up." "You had better, my dear boy," replied the magician; "first give me the lamp, as that will only hinder you." "It is not at all in my way," said Aladdin, "and I will give it you when I am out." The magician still persevered in wishing to get the lamp before he helped Aladdin out of the cave; but the latter had in fact so covered it with the fruit

of the trees, that he absolutely refused to give it till he had got out of the cave. The African magician was then in the greatest despair at the obstinate resistance the boy made, and fell into the most violent

rage. He then threw a little perfume upon the fire, which he had taken care to keep up, and he had hardly pronounced two magic words before the stone, which served to shut up the entrance to the cavern, returned of its own accord to the place, with all the earth over it, exactly in the same state as it was when the magician and Aladdin first arrived there.

Aladdin, who was far from expecting this wicked action from his pretended uncle, after all his kindness and generosity, was more horrified and astonished than may be told. When he found himself, as it were, buried alive, he called aloud a thousand times to his uncle, telling him he was ready to give him the lamp. But all his cries were useless, and having no other means of making himself heard, he remained in perfect darkness. His tears having at length ceased, he went down to the bottom of the flight of stairs, intending to go toward the light in the garden, where he had before been. But the walls, which had been opened by enchantment, were now shut by the same means. He felt all around him to the right and left several times, but could not discover the least opening. He then redoubled his cries and tears, sat down upon the step of his dungeon, without the least ray of hope ever again to see the light of day, and only too certain that here must be the end of him.



"HERE IT IS," SHE SAID."

Aladdin remained two days in this state without either eating or drinking. On the third day, feeling his death was near, he lifted up his hands, and joining them, as in the act of prayer, he said in a loud tone of voice, "There is no strength or power but in the high and great God." In this action of joining his hands he happened, without thinking of it, to rub the ring which the African magician had put upon his finger, and of the virtue of which he was as yet ignorant.

Upon its being thus rubbed a Genius of a most enormous figure and a most horrid countenance, instantly rose, as it were, out of the earth before him; he was so tall that his head touched the vaulted roof, and he addressed these words to Aladdin: "What do you wish? I am ready to obey you as your slave; as the slave of him who has the ring on his finger, both I and the other slaves of the ring." Weak and terrified, and scarcely daring to hope, Aladdin cried, "Whoever you are, take me, if you are able, out of this place!" Scarcely had he said it, when he found himself at the outside of the cave, at the very spot where the magician had left him. Scarcely daring to believe his good fortune, he rose up trembling, and seeing the city lying at some distance, made his way back by the same road he had come. A long, weary road he found it to his mother's door, and when he reached it he was fainting from hunger and fatigue.



"DISHERS FILLED WITH THE NICEST MEATS."

His mother, however, whose heart had been almost broken by the loss of him, received him kindly and joyfully, and refreshed him with food and wine. When he was better again, he told his mother all, as it had come about, and showed her the lamp and the colored fruits and the wonderful ring on his finger. His mother, however, thought little of the jewels, as she was quite ignorant of their value, so Aladdin put them all behind one of the cushions of the sofa on which they were sitting. She, however, felt the greatest horror at the wickedness of the magician, and she and Aladdin went to rest filled with thankfulness at his fortunate escape.

Next morning, when Aladdin awoke, his first thought was that he was very hungry, and would like some breakfast. "Alas! my child," replied his mother, "I have not a morsel of bread to give you. You ate last night all the trifling remains of food in the house. Have, however, a little patience, and it shall not be long before I will bring you

some. I have a little cotton of my own spinning; I will go and sell it, and buy something for our dinner."

"Keep your cotton, mother," said Aladdin, "for another time, and give me the lamp which I brought with me yesterday. I will go and sell that, and the money it will fetch will serve us for breakfast and dinner, too; nay, perhaps, also for supper."



"HE HEARD A PROCLAMATION."

Aladdin's mother took the lamp from the place she had put it in. "Here it is," she said to her son, "but it is, I think, very dirty; if I were to clean it a little, perhaps it might sell for something more." She then took some water and a little fine sand to clean it with. But she had scarcely begun to rub this lamp, when instantly, and while her son was present, a hideous and gigantic Genius rose out of the ground before her, and cried with a voice loud as thunder, "What do you wish? I am ready to obey you as your slave, and the slave of those who have the lamp in their hands, both I and the other slaves of the lamp." The mother of Aladdin was too

much terrified to speak, but Aladdin, who had once before seen a similar appearance in the cavern, did not either lose his presence of mind or his judgment. Seizing the lamp, he answered in a firm tone of voice, "I am hungry, bring me something to eat." The genius disappeared, and returned a moment after with a large silver basin, which he carried

on his head, and twelve covered dishes of the same material filled with the nicest meats, properly arranged, and six loaves as white as snow upon as many plates; two bottles of the most excellent wine, and two silver cups in his hand. He placed them all upon the table and instantly vanished.

When Aladdin's mother had recovered from her fright, they both sat down to their meal in the greatest delight imaginable, for never before had they eaten such delicate meats or seen such splendid dishes.

The remains of this feast provided them with food for some days, and when it was all gone Aladdin sold the silver dishes one by one for their support. In this way they lived happily for some years, for Aladdin had been sobered by his adventure, and now behaved with the greatest wisdom and prudence. He took care to visit the principal shops and public places, speaking only with wise and prudent persons, and in this way he gathered much wisdom, and grew to be a courteous and handsome youth besides.



"PLACED HIMSELF BEHIND THE DOOR."

One day as he was walking in the city, Aladdin heard a proclamation of the Sultan, ordering all persons to shut up their shops and retire into their houses until the Princess Badroulbador, the daughter of the Sultan, had passed by on her way to the bath, and again returned.

Aladdin, being hurried along by the crowd of people hastening to their homes, found himself in the doorway of a large building which he guessed to be the baths where the princess was expected.

He at once placed himself behind the door, where he was certain not to be seen, and where he might espy the princess as she passed.

He had long to wait before she came, with a great crowd of her at-

tendants with her, and as she passed she threw aside her veil, so that Aladdin was dazzled by her beauty. She was indeed the most beautiful princess ever seen, and Aladdin fell in love with her at once.

When at last, after long thinking, Aladdin made up his mind to tell his mother of his love for the Princess Badroulbador, she fell a-laughing.

"Alas, my son," she cried, "what are you thinking of? You must surely have lost your senses to talk thus."

"Mother," replied Aladdin, "I do assure you I have not lost my senses; I am perfectly in my right mind. I foresaw very well that you would think me a fool for my pains, but whatever you may say, nothing will prevent me from asking the Princess Badroulbador of the Sultan, her father, in marriage."

"Truly, my son," said his mother, "you seem to have forgotten that your father was but a poor tailor; and, indeed, I do not know who will dare to go and speak to the Sultan about it." "You yourself must," said he, decidedly. "I!" cried his mother in the greatest surprise, "I go to the Sultan! Not I,



"THE MOST BEAUTIFUL PRINCESS EVER SEEN."

indeed; I will take care how I am joined to such folly. You know very well that no one can make any demand of the Sultan without bringing a rich present, and where shall such poor folk as we find such a one?"

Thereupon Aladdin told his mother that while talking with the

merchants in the bazaar he had learned to know the value of their gems, and for a long time he had known that nothing which they had in their shops was half so fine as those jewels he had brought home from the enchanted cave. So his mother fetched them from the drawer where they had long lain hid, and together they arranged them in a dish of fine porcelain. Both mother and son were dazzled by the splendid sparkling and glancing of the gems and their brilliant colors, and Aladdin's mother, now sure that her son's present was one that could not fail to please the Sultan, at last agreed to do everything as her son wished. She took the porcelain dish, in which the present of jewels was, and folded it up in a very fine linen cloth. She then took another less fine, and tied the four corners of it together, that she might carry it with less trouble.



"SHE SET OUT TO THE PALACE."

She afterwards set out, to the great joy of Aladdin, and took the road towards the palace of the Sultan. The Grand Vizier, accompanied by the other viziers and proper officers of the court, had already gone in before she arrived at the gate. The crowd made by those who had business at the divan was very great. The doors were opened, and she went into the divan with the rest. It formed a most beautiful saloon, very large and spacious, with a grand and magnificent entrance. She stopped, and placed herself so that she was opposite the Sultan, the Grand Vizier, and other officers, who formed the council on both sides.

After the various causes had been heard, the Sultan and his court retired, without anyone's having taken the slightest notice of Aladdin's mother. Day after day the good woman went back, until at last her patience and perseverance touched the Sultan's heart, and he sent for her to hear what was her business.

Trembling, Aladdin's mother told him of her son's boldness, and begged the mercy of the Sultan for him and for herself. The Sultan

heard her kindly, then before giving any answer to her request, he asked her what she had with her so carefully tied up in a linen cloth. Aladdin's mother unfolded the cloths, and humbly laid the sparkling jewels before him. It is impossible to express the surprise and astonishment which this monarch felt when he saw collected together in that

dish such a quantity of the most precious, perfect, and brilliant jewels, the size of which was greater than any he had before seen. For some moments he gazed at them speechless. When, however, he began to recollect himself, he took the present from the hand of Aladdin's mother, and exclaimed in a transport of joy, "Ah! how very beautiful, how extremely rich!"



"BUSINESS AT THE DIVAN WAS VERY GREAT."

Then turning to his Grand Vizier, he showed him the gems and talked privately to him for some minutes. Then to Aladdin's mother he said: "My good woman, I will, indeed, make your son happy by marrying him to the Princess, my daughter, as soon as he shall send me forty large basins of massive gold, quite full of the same sort of things which you

have already presented me with from him, brought by an equal number of black slaves, each of whom shall be led by a white slave, young, well-made, handsome, and richly dressed. These are the conditions upon which I am ready to bestow upon him the Princess my daughter. Go, my good woman, and I will wait till you bring me his answer."

Full of disappointment, Aladdin's mother made her way home, and told her son the news of the Sultan's strange wish. But Aladdin only smiled, and when his mother had gone out he took the lamp and rubbed it, when the Genius instantly appeared, and Aladdin commanded him to lose no time in bringing the present which the Sultan had wished for. The Genius only said that his commands should be at once obeyed, and then disappeared.

In a very short time the Genius returned with forty black slaves, each carrying upon his head a large golden basin of great weight, full of pearls, diamonds, rubies, and emeralds, quite as fine as the others. Each basin was covered with a cloth of silver, embroidered with flowers of gold. All these slaves with their golden basins, together with the white ones, entirely filled the house, which was but small, as well as the court in front and a garden behind it.



"HE SHOWED HIM THE GEMS."

Aladdin's mother now came back, and had almost fainted when she saw this great crowd and all its magnificence, but Aladdin desired her at once to follow the procession of slaves to the palace and present to the Sultan the dowry of the Princess.

No sooner had the first slave turned into the street than all the passers-by ran to look, and by the time the whole procession was on its way the crowds were so great that every one must needs stop in the place where he happened to be.

When the first of the eighty slaves arrived at the gate of the first court of the palace the porters were in the greatest haste, as soon as they perceived this astonishing procession approaching, to open it, as they took the first for a king, so richly and magnificently was he dressed.

As the Sultan had been informed of the march and arrival of these

slaves, he had given orders to have them admitted. As soon, therefore, as they presented themselves before it they found the door of the divan open. They entered in regular order, one part going to the right and the other to the left. After they were all within the hall, and had formed a large semicircle before the throne of the Sultan, each of the black slaves placed the basin which he carried upon the carpet. They then all prostrated themselves so low that their foreheads touched the ground. The white slaves also, at the same time, performed the same ceremony. They then all got up, and in doing so the black slaves skilfully uncovered the basins which were before them, and then remained standing with their hands crossed upon their breasts.



"THE MOST GORGEOUS PALACE."

The astonishment of the Sultan at the sight of all these riches and splendor is hardly to be imagined. After gazing upon the slaves with their shining heaps of jewels, he said to Aladdin's mother, "Go, my good woman, and tell your son that I am waiting with open arms to receive and embrace him!"

Aladdin was so delighted with this news that he could hardly answer his mother, and hastening to his chamber, he shut the door, and having summoned the Genius, commanded him to take him instantly to a bath. When he had been bathed and perfumed by invisible hands he was dressed in garments that shone like the sun, and the Genius brought him moreover a splendid charger and twenty slaves to march on either side of him on the way to the Sultan's palace, all holding purses of gold to scatter among the people.

If there had been a crowd before there was ten times as great a one now to watch Aladdin as he rode to the Sultan's palace, and to pick up the gold pieces which were showered by his slaves as he went. The Sultan came down from his throne to greet him, and all was feasting

and joy in the palace. After supper the judge was ordered to draw up a contract of marriage between Aladdin and the Princess Badroulbadour. When this was done, the Sultan asked Aladdin if he wished to remain in the palace, and conclude all the ceremonies that day. "Sire," he replied, "however impatient I may be to have entire possession of all your majesty's bounties, I beg you to permit me to wait until I shall have built a palace to receive the Princess in, that shall be even worthy of her; and for this purpose, I request that you will have the goodness to point out a suitable place for it near your own, that I may always be ready to pay my court to your majesty. I will then neglect nothing to get it finished with all possible diligence." "My son," answered the Sultan, "take whatever spot you think proper. There is a large open space before my palace, and I have thought for some time about filling it up; but remember that, to have my happiness complete, I cannot see you too soon united to my daughter." Having said this, he again embraced Aladdin, who now took leave of the Sultan in as polished a manner as if he had been brought up and spent all his life at court.



"HE FOUND IT BEAUTIFUL."



"WHO WILL CHANGE OLD LAMPS."

As soon as Aladdin was got home, he lost no time in again summoning the Genius; he commanded him to build instantly the most gorgeous palace ever seen, on the spot

of ground given by the Sultan. Early the next morning the Genius appeared: "Sir," said he, "your palace is finished, come and see if it is as you wish." Then in a moment Aladdin found himself transported thither; he found it far more beautiful than even he had hoped for, and perfect in every part. "Genius," said Aladdin, "there is one thing left to be wished for; and that is to have a carpet of the finest velvet laid from the Sultan's gate up to this door for the Princess to walk upon." And in a moment it was done.



"ONE OF THE SLAVES WITH THE LAMP."

Words cannot paint the astonishment of the Sultan and all his household at seeing this gorgeous palace shining in the place which they had been used to see empty and bare. The Princess was rejoiced at the sight, and her marriage with Aladdin was held the same day, and their happiness was the greatest possible.

For some months they lived thus, Aladdin showing great kindness to the poor of the city, and pleasing all by his generosity. But there was soon to be an end of it.

Aladdin had become very fond of hunting, and there was not a week that he did not go out to follow the chase, sometimes a long distance from the city.

About this time his old enemy, the African magician, found out by some of his magic arts that Aladdin was enormously rich and much beloved and respected, instead of being, as he had supposed, dead in the enchanted cave. He was filled with rage, and vowing to destroy Aladdin, he immediately set out for China. On arriving there he went

to one of the principal khans and there began talking about Aladdin and the wonders of his palace. In this way he learned that Aladdin had gone a-hunting, and was not expected home for three or four days.

The magician took his measures accordingly, and having bought a dozen of shining new lamps he put them in a basket, and then set out for Aladdin's palace. On getting near it he bawled out, "Who will change old lamps for new ones?" This brought a great crowd of people and children hooting and laughing round him, for they all thought he was mad to give his bright new lamps for old ones.



"ALADDIN LEFT THE PALACE."

we will put a new one in its place, if the old fellow is really in earnest." The Princess having given leave, away ran one of the slaves with the lamp to the magician, who willingly gave her the



"THE PRINCESS GAVE LEAVE."

However, he still went on with his cry, till he came under the Princess's windows, when all the slaves attending on her ran laughing to look into the street. "Oh!" said one of the slaves, "come, let us try if the old fool means what he says; there is an ugly old lamp lying on the cornice of the hall with twenty-four windows;

best he had among his new ones, and retired to enjoy the triumph of his revenge.

As soon as night arrived, he summoned the Genius of the lamp and commanded him to transport him, the palace and the Princess, to the remotest corner of Africa. The order was instantly obeyed.



"THE PRINCESS WAS WEeping FOR HIS LOSS."

The confusion and grief of the Sultan were terrible when he found the palace vanished and his daughter lost. The people ran in fear through the streets, and the soldiers were sent in search of Aladdin, who was not yet returned from hunting.

Aladdin was soon met with and dragged before the Sultan like a criminal; he would have been beheaded, had not the Sultan been afraid to enrage the people, by whom he was much loved. "Go, wretch!" cried the Sultan, "I grant thee thy life; but if ever thou appearest before me again death shall overtake thee, unless in forty days thou bringest me tidings of my daughter."

Aladdin, wretched and downfallen, left the palace, not knowing whither to turn his steps. At length he stopped at a brook to bathe his eyes, that smarted with the tears he had shed; as he stooped, his foot slipped, and catching hold of a piece of rock to save himself from falling, he pressed the magician's ring which he still wore on his finger, and the Genius of the ring appeared before him, saying, "What wouldst thou have?" "Oh,

powerful Genius," cried Aladdin, "bring my palace back to the place where yesterday it stood!"

"What you command," replied the Genius, "is not in my power; you must address yourself to the Genius of the lamp for that service."

"Then I command thee," said Aladdin, "to transport me to the place where now it stands." Instantly Aladdin found himself beside his own palace, which stood in a meadow not far from a strange city; and the Princess Badroulbador was then walking in her own chamber, weeping for his loss. Happening to come near to the window, she saw Aladdin under it, and making a sign to him to keep



"SHE SAW ALADDIN."

silence, she sent a slave to bring him in by a private door. The Princess and her husband having kissed each other and shed many tears, Aladdin said, "Tell me, my Princess, what has become of an old lamp which I left on the cornice of the hall of four and twenty windows?"

The Princess then told how her slave had exchanged it for a new one, and said that the tyrant in whose power she was always carried that very lamp in his bosom. Aladdin was then sure that this person was no other than his old enemy, the African magician, who, having brought about his downfall, was now striving to induce the Princess to forget Aladdin and marry him.



"THEY KISSED EACH OTHER."

the Princess to forget Aladdin and marry him.

After talking a long while they hit upon a plan for getting back the lamp. Aladdin went into the city in the disguise of a slave, where he bought a powder that, on being swallowed, should instantly cause death; then the Princess invited the magician to sup with her.



"HE DRANK IT AT A DRAUGHT."

As she had never been so polite to him before, he was quite delighted with her kindness; and while they were at table she ordered a slave to bring two cups of wine which she had herself prepared by mixing in the powder, and after pretending to taste the one she held in her hand she asked the magician to change cups, as was the custom, she said, between lovers in China. He joy-

fully seized the goblet, and drinking it all at a draught, fell senseless on the floor.

Aladdin was at hand to snatch the lamp from his bosom and hastily rubbing it, he summoned the Genius, who instantly transported the palace and all it contained back to the place whence they had come.

Some hours after the Sultan, who had risen at break of day to give way to his grief, went to the window to look at the spot which he expected to see empty and vacant, and then, to his unspeakable joy, he saw Aladdin's palace shining in its place. He summoned his guards and hastened to embrace his daughter; and during the whole week nothing was to be heard but the sound of drums, trumpets, cymbals, and all kinds of music and feasting in honor of Aladdin's return with the Princess.



"FELL SENSELESS ON THE FLOOR."

Some time after this the Sultan died, and Aladdin and the Princess Badroulbador ascended the throne. They reigned together many years, and left many noble sons and daughters at their death.



Goldilocks; or, The Three Bears

LITTLE Goldilocks was a pretty girl who lived once upon a time in a far-off country.

One day she was sitting on the hearthrug playing with her two kittens, and you would have thought she was as happy as a queen, and quite contented to stay where she was instead of wanting to run about the world meddling with other people's property. But it happened that she was rather a mischievous little maid, and could not resist teasing her pets, so one of them scratched her, and then she would play with them no longer.

She got up and trotted away into the wood behind her mother's house, and it was such a warm, pleasant day that she wandered on and on until she came into a part of the wood where she had never been before.

Now in this wood there lived a family of three Bears. The first was a GREAT BIG BEAR, the second was a MIDDLING-SIZED BEAR, and the third was a *Little Teeny Tiny Bear*, and they all lived together in a funny little house, and very happy they were.

Goldilocks stopped when she came to the Bears' house, and began to wonder who lived there.

"I'll just look in and see," she said, and so she did; but there was no one there, for the Bears had all gone out for a morning walk, whilst the soup they were going to have for dinner cooled upon the table.

Goldilocks was rather hungry after her walk, and the soup smelled so good that she began to wish the people of the house would come home and invite her to have some. But although she looked everywhere, under the table and into the cupboards, she could find no one,



"HAD ALL GONE OUT FOR A MORNING WALK."

and at last she could resist no longer but made up her mind to take just a little sip to see how the soup tasted. The soup had been put into three bowls—a Great Big Bowl for the Great Big Bear, a Middling-sized Bowl for the Middling-sized Bear, and a Teeny Tiny Bowl for the Teeny Tiny Bear; beside each bowl lay a spoon, and Goldilocks took one and helped herself to a spoonful of soup from the Great Big Bowl.

Ugh! how it burned her mouth; it was so hot with pepper that she did not like it at all; still, she was very hungry, so she thought she would try again.

This time she took a sip of the Middling-sized Bear's Soup, but she liked that no better, for it was too salt. But when she tasted Teeny Tiny Bear's soup it was just as she liked it; so she ate it up every drop, without thinking twice about it.

When she had finished her dinner she noticed three chairs standing by the wall. One was a Great Big Chair, and she climbed upon



"SHE ATE IT UP EVERY DROP."

that and sat down! Oh, dear! how hard it was! She was sure she could not sit there for long, so she climbed up on the next, which was only a Middling-sized Chair, but that was too soft for her taste; so she went on to the last, which was a Teeny Tiny Chair which suited her exactly.

It was so comfortable that she sat on and on until, if you'll

believe it, she actually sat the bottom out. Then, of course, she was comfortable no longer, so she got up and began to wonder what she should do next.

There was a staircase in the Bears' house, and Goldilocks thought she would go up it and see where it led to. So up she went, and when she reached the top she laughed outright, for the Bears' bedroom was

the funniest she had ever seen. In the middle of the room stood a Great Big Bed, on one side of it there was a Middling-sized Bed, and on the other side there was a Teeny Tiny Bed.

Goldilocks was sleepy, so she thought she would lie down and have a little nap. First she got upon the Great Big Bed, but it was just as hard as the Great Big Chair had been; so she jumped off and tried the Middling-sized Bed, but it was so soft that she sank right down into the feather cushions and was nearly smothered.



"WHO HAS BEEN SITTING IN MY CHAIR AND SAT THE BOTTOM OUT?"

"I will try the Teeny Tiny Bed," she said, and so she did, and it was so comfortable that she soon fell fast asleep.

Whilst she lay there, dreaming of all sorts of pleasant things, the three Bears came home from their walk very hungry and quite ready for their dinners.

But, oh, dear me! how cross the Great Big Bear looked when he saw his spoon had been used and thrown under the table.

"WHO HAS BEEN TASTING MY SOUP?" he cried, in a Great Big Voice.

"AND WHO HAS BEEN TASTING MINE?" cried the Middling-sized Bear, in a Middling-sized Voice.

"But who has been tasting mine and tasted it all up?" cried the poor little Teeny Tiny Bear, in a Teeny Tiny Voice, with the tears running down his Teeny Tiny Face.

When the Great Big Bear went to sit down in his Great Big Chair, he cried out in his Great Big Voice:

"WHO HAS BEEN SITTING ON MY CHAIR?"

And the Middling-sized Bear cried, in a Middling-sized Voice:

"WHO HAS BEEN SITTING ON MY CHAIR?"

But the Teeny Tiny Bear cried out in a Teeny Tiny Voice of anger:

"Who has been sitting on my chair, and sat the bottom out?"

By this time the Bears were sure that someone had been in their house quite lately; so they looked about to see if someone were not there still.

There was certainly no one downstairs, so they went up the staircase to their bedroom.

As soon as the Great Big Bear looked at his bed, he cried out, in his Great Big Voice:

"WHO HAS BEEN LYING ON MY BED?"

And the Middling-sized Bear, seeing that the coverlet was all rumpled, cried out, in a Middling-sized Voice:

"WHO HAS BEEN LYING ON MY BED?"

But the Teeny Tiny Bear cried out, in a Teeny Tiny Voice of astonishment:

"Who has been lying on my bed, and lies there still?"

Now, when the Great Big Bear began to speak, Goldilocks dreamed that there was a bee buzzing in the room, and when the Middling-sized Bear began to speak, she dreamed that it was flying out of the window; but when the Teeny Tiny Bear began to speak, she dreamed that the bee had come back and stung her on the ear, and up she jumped. Oh! how frightened she was when she saw the three Bears standing beside her.

She hopped out of bed and in a second was out through the open window. Never stopping to wonder if the fall had hurt her, she got up

and ran and ran and ran until she could go no farther, always thinking that the Bears were close behind her. And when, at length, she fell down in a heap on the ground, because she was too tired to run any more, it was her own mother who picked her up, because, in her fright, she had run straight home without knowing it.



THE WONDERFUL HORN

There once was a nice little boy
 Who was given a big horn for a toy,
 But he blew such a blast
 That the folks as they passed
 Were whirled up in the air by that toy.



THE GOOD GIANT.

GIANT lives in the forest old,
When leaves have turned to red and gold;
He waves his broad arms in the sun,
He shakes his head with hearty fun,
And a merry song he seems to sing,
While the summer birds are taking wing.
"Oh! it's winds blow east, or winds blow west,
Four little brown eggs in one nest."

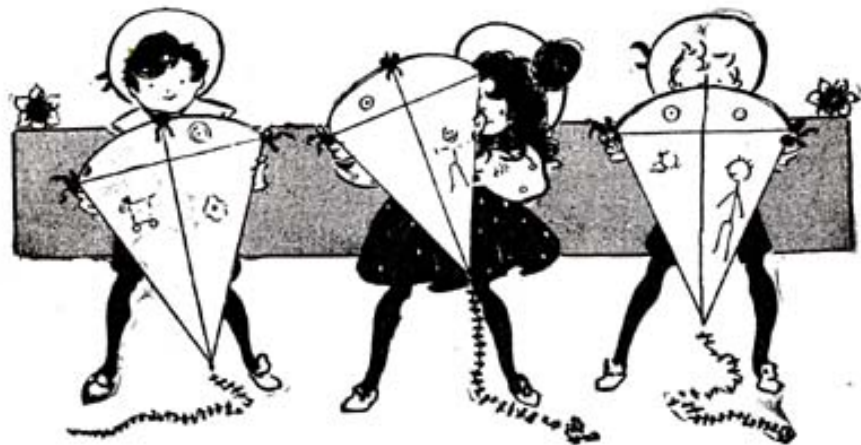


"I give to all!" he seems to say;
"So gather, gather, all who may.
Though rough outside, yet peep within,
The treasure of my gift to win!"
Then patters, patters to the ground
His bounty, while the squirrels bound.
"Oh! it's winds blow east, or winds blow west,
Four little brown eggs in one nest!"

Before the wintry winds blow keen,
His rugged hands are empty seen;
His head is bare; he is bent and old,
And his jolly days are past and told;
But the ruddy children shout with glee,
And thank the kind old chestnut-tree,
With it's winds blow east, or winds blow west,
Four little brown eggs in one nest!



Three little people, you understand,
Were flying their kites on private land:
"Ho, ho!" said the farmer, "this must not be!"
And three little people ran off, you see!



The End.

