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ONE SHILLING

EACH

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VESETSCENES ENINE TRICK CHANGES:

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#### THE BALLAD: OF

# BEAUTY AND THE BEAST.

A NEW MEDLEY BY THE ORIGINATOR OF THE "PANTOMIME TOY BOOKS."

A MERCHANT, who lived long ago in the East,
Was blessed with three daughters,—we're told so, at least,—
But the two which were elder, I cannot refrain
From frankly describing as certainly 'plain';
And as they were wanting in charms of the face,
They made up for bad looks with much ribbon and lace;
For, as nature was wanting, the troublesome pair
Must always have something becoming to wear.
Then, of course, they were jealous, their manners were sour;
They were never good-tempered for more than an hour,—
And, in fact, they could never remember their duty
To a sister so fair that the folks called her Beauty.

Now a great Enchanter thereabouts

Could work a potent charm,
To do to everybody else
All sorts of grievous harm.

His only pleasure was to hurt,
And that he thought delightful;

In fact, the Enchanter only lived For sake of being spiteful. And so he changed a handsome Prince

(And none so fine before or since),

A wicked thing to do!

Into the likeness of a bear,

Such as they see who like to

spare

A sixpence for the 'Zoo'!

He caused a most unlucky star

To shine on Beauty's poor Papa,

(The Merchant with three daughters);

With heavy Equinoctial gales
He tore his brigs' and schooners'
sails,

And scared the tars with spouting whales,

That at the vessel frisked their tails,

And thumped about her quarters;

Then all around the tossing ships, He hid the sun with an eclipse, And raised the angry waters.

And thus the Merchant came to be Reduced to genteel poverty,
Himself, and single daughters three:

So he left Town,
And settled down
In countrified obscurity.

One day came a message, happy but short,
Saying, "Two of your ships have just come into port;
You are wanted at once!" That was good news indeed,
Ay, no doubt about that, the three sisters agreed—
And the elders at once thought it high time to frown
At the life in a cottage, and get back to Town—
But the Merchant was really half-dazed with surprise,
The two ships that were reckoned as lost by the wise,
Had come home, and in safety! "Now, darlings," said he,
"I am off—but I'll buy what you choose for all three."

#### 4 THE BALLAD OF BEAUTY AND THE BEAST.

Then the elders replied, "Now you've money to spare, Bring us back all the fashions: we've nothing to wear!" But the youngest, Miss Beauty, most modestly chose For her gift nothing more than a simple white Rose! Her sisters at this laughed loudly, but let Papa go To buy what they wished for and look after his cargo.

Off went the old man,
Off went he,
Mounted on his camel,
Joyfully!
Trotting over hill and dale,
As it was his duty,
Singing, "I must have a rose;
Yes! the fairest one that grows,
There is no such word as fail!
I must get a pure white rose,
I shall find one, I suppose,
And pop it underneath the nose
Of my daughter Beauty!"

But th' Enchanter, full of spite,
Made the camel kick and bite;
Raised a storm, as well he could;
Planted an enchanted wood,
Where there grew, in place of trees,
Goblin trunks, with gouty knees;

So the Merchant, in his woes,
Almost had forgot the rose.
Though this could th' Enchanter
do,

There was a good Fairy too;
She, a friend both true and tried,
Always at the Merchant's side.
There is dark, and there is light:
All things have their opposite.
Some are dirty, some are clean;
Roast beef has its fat and lean;
Oceans have their ebb and flow;
Seasons have their spring and snow.

Some are joyful, some are sad;
There is always good and bad:
In this world of fuss and bother,
There is one thing or another.
So, when things were at their worst,
On the Merchant's vision burst,

Shining in the summer air,
Such a Fairy Castle there!
Marble steps, and open'd doors,
Silken curtains, polished floors,
Pipes and coffee, cushioned seat,
Slippers for his weary feet;
Supper ready, to invite
His increasing appetite;
Fruits and flowers, and every dish
That an Alderman could wish;
But, what was the strangest case,
Not a soul was in the place!
After supper, Merchant's head
Found a comfortable bed,—

Had his breakfast laid at eight,

Though there was no one to wait;

After that he sat awhile;
Then he thought to walk a mile.
There were none to beg their pardon,

So he strolled about the garden.
Oh! such terraces and bowers!
Oh! such fountains! Oh, such flowers!

And oh, there! before his nose, Such, oh! such a charming rose!

To see was to pick: and to pick was to hear

Such a roar, that the Merchant collapsed with the fear;

For the Beast stood before him with terrible cry,—

"You have plucked a white rose; so, old man, you must die!"

"But, oh please, Mister Beast,"—and the Merchant bowed low,—

"I was asked by my daughter——" "Your daughter? Oho!

Let her come in your stead,—I'm in want of a wife,—

And if the girl suits me, I'll grant her your life.—

You agree to the bargain? Then go for your daughter;

For your life's not worth twopence until you have brought her."

Home came the old man, Home came he, Back to his daughters, Mournfully!

Saying, "I am very sad;
Come along and kiss your Dad,
If you know your duty.
One of you, my daughters three,
Soon a wretched bride must be,
Or it is all up with me.—
Will you save me, Beauty?"

"Yes! my love has not decreased,

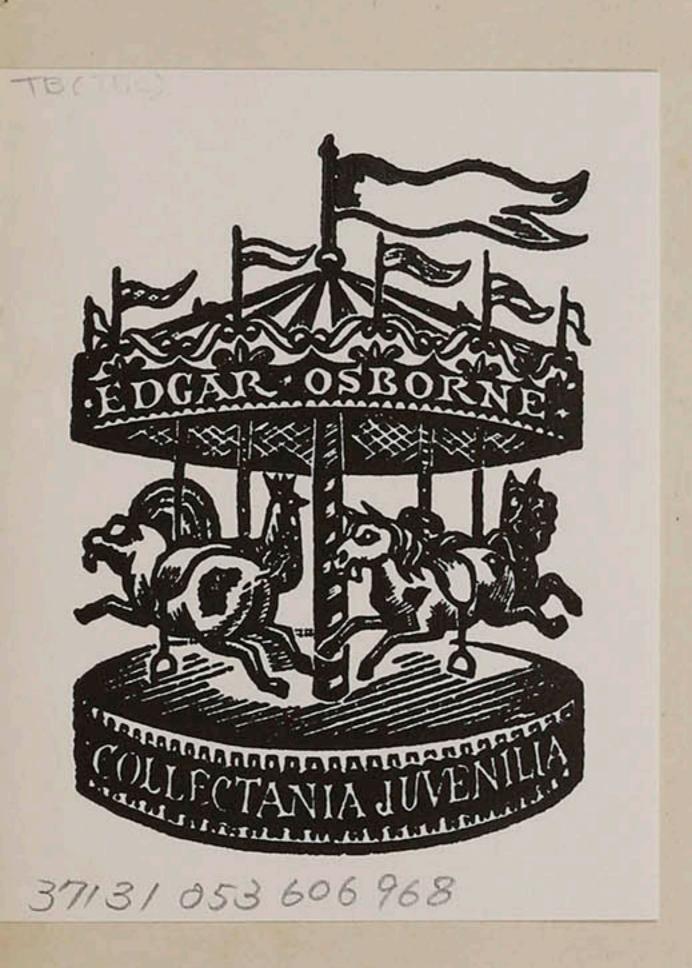
I will do my duty!"

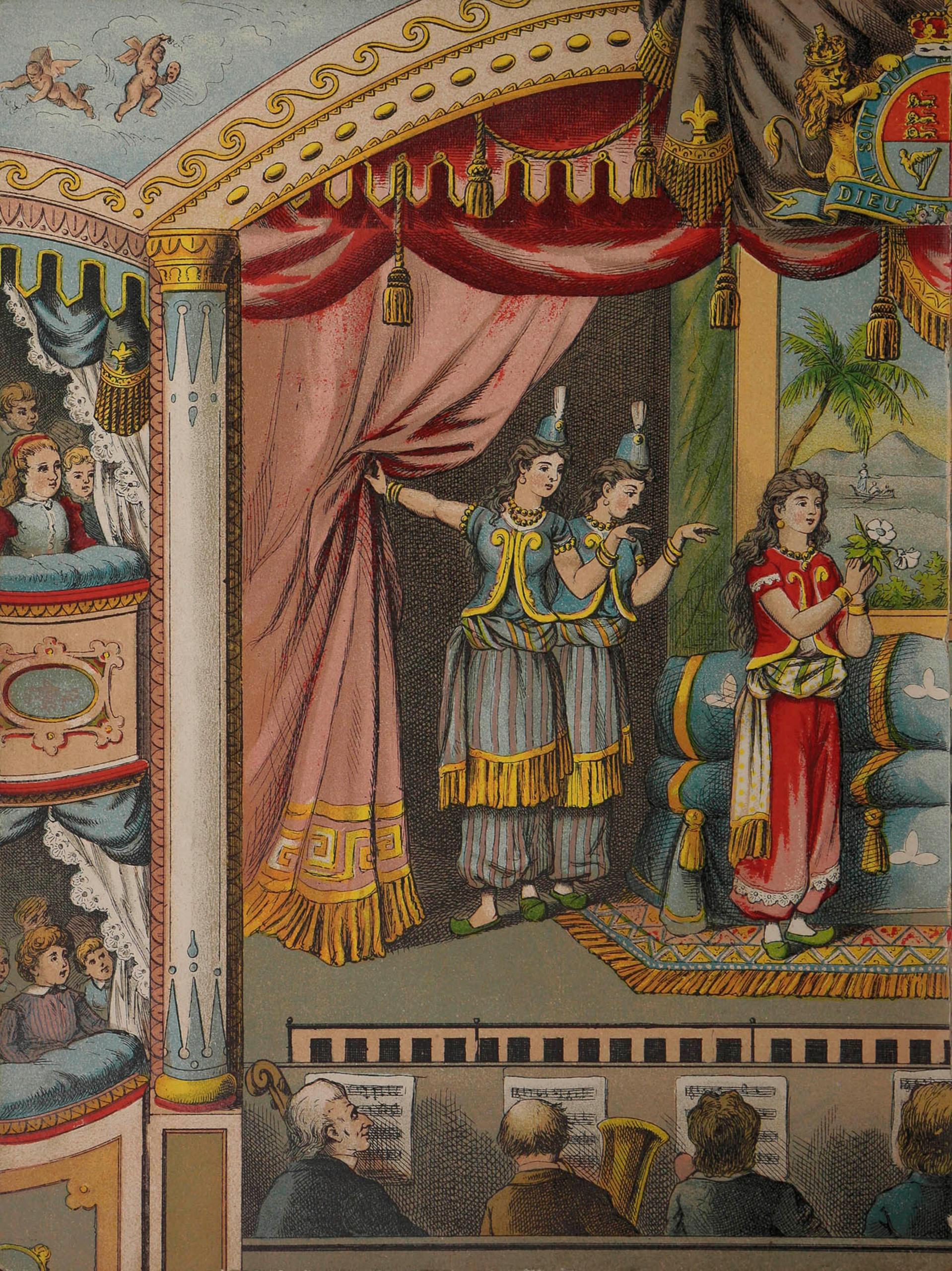
"But, my dear, when he's a Beast!"

"That don't matter in the least!"
Promptly answered Beauty.

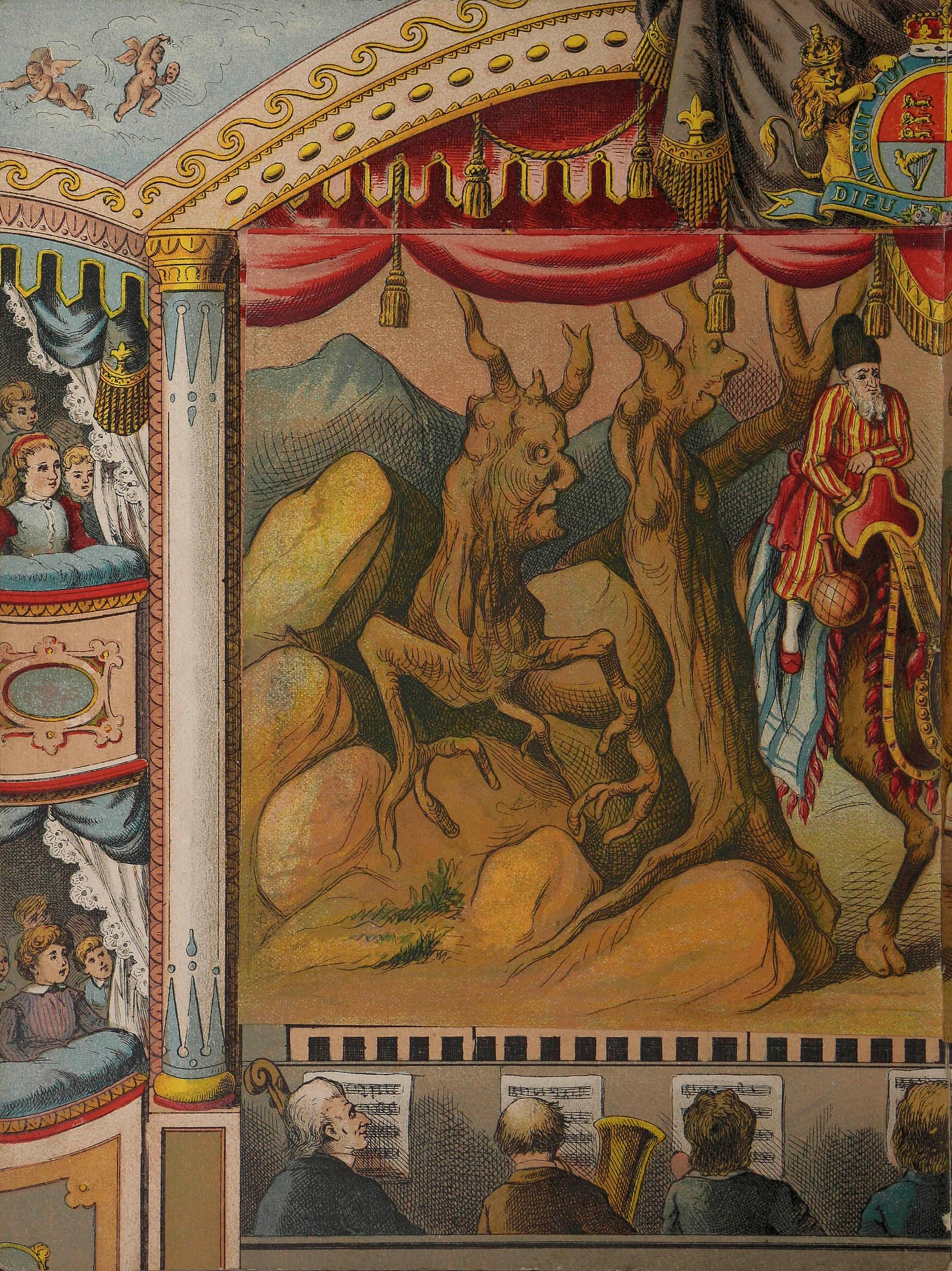
13

To the Beast's Palace now we'll change the scene, With Beauty there as pampered as a queen. By unseen hands she sees the covers laid; By unseen power her every wish obeyed; For her, fine silks by unseen hands are sewn; The fairest fruits by unseen gard'ners grown. At certain hours, and only by request, Walks in the Beast, the long-expected guest. They sit at table; and before they part, The Beast kneels down and offers her his heart. "Say, do you love me? I am rather rough In my exterior, Miss; but sterling stuff Within my shaggy hide a wife would find." "Oh, Beast!" said Beauty, "love is not so blind,-You're very gentle for a Beast, 'tis true,-But say 'Good-night,' for I'm no match for you!" With one heart-rending sigh the Beast has flown, And Beauty, as before, is all alone. Again, at intervals, again, again, The Beast pleads urgently how great his pain;





















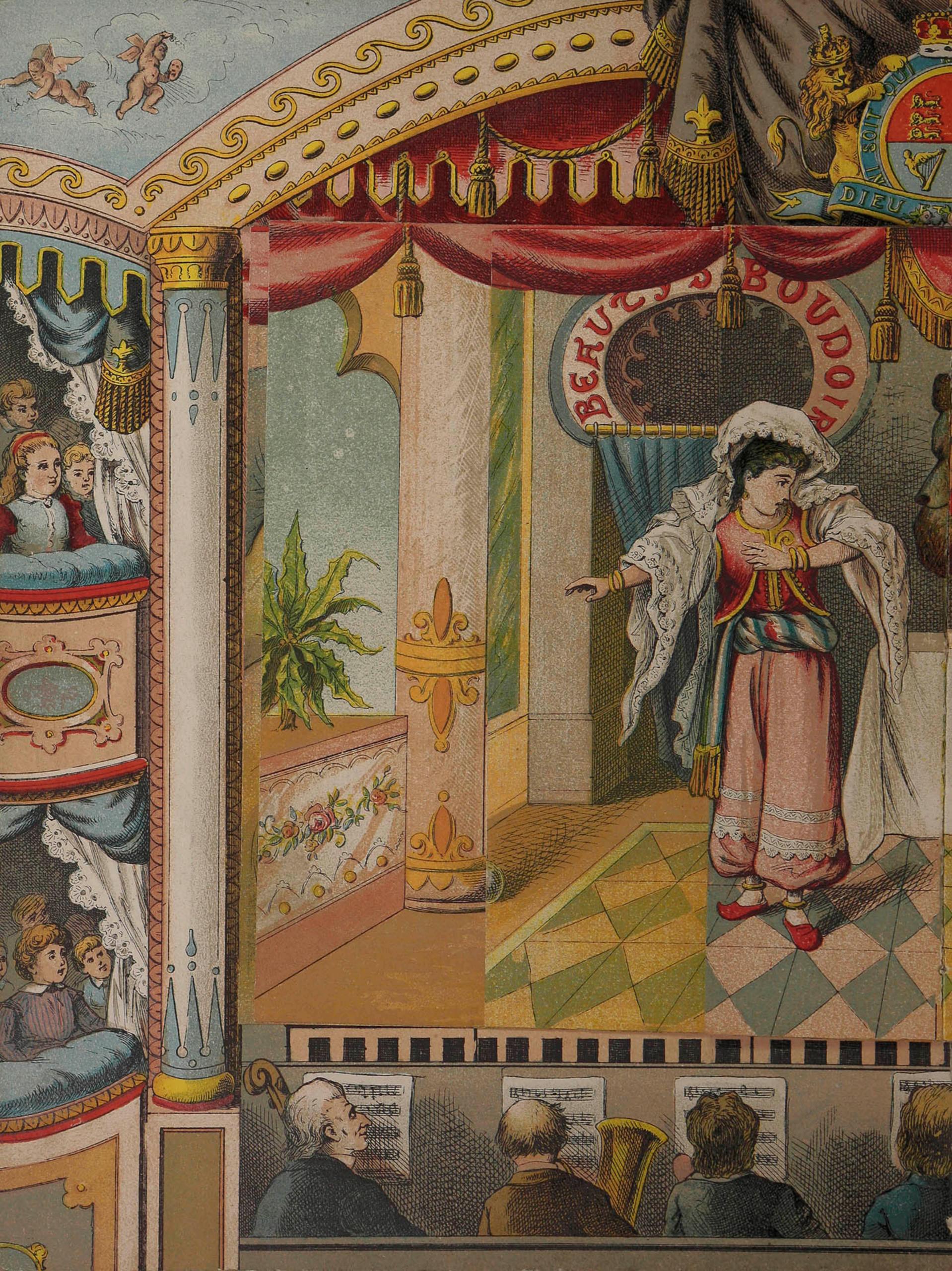


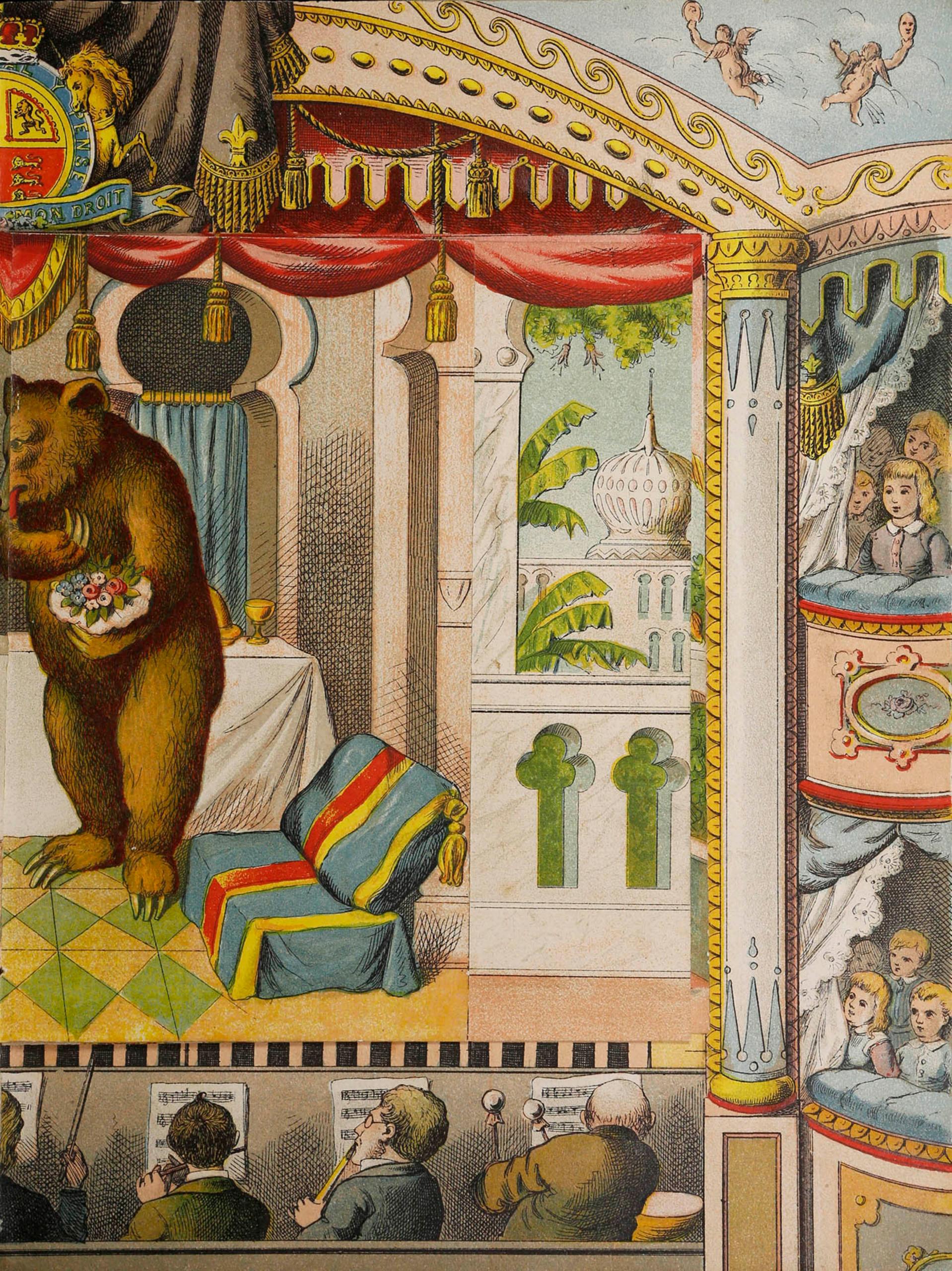


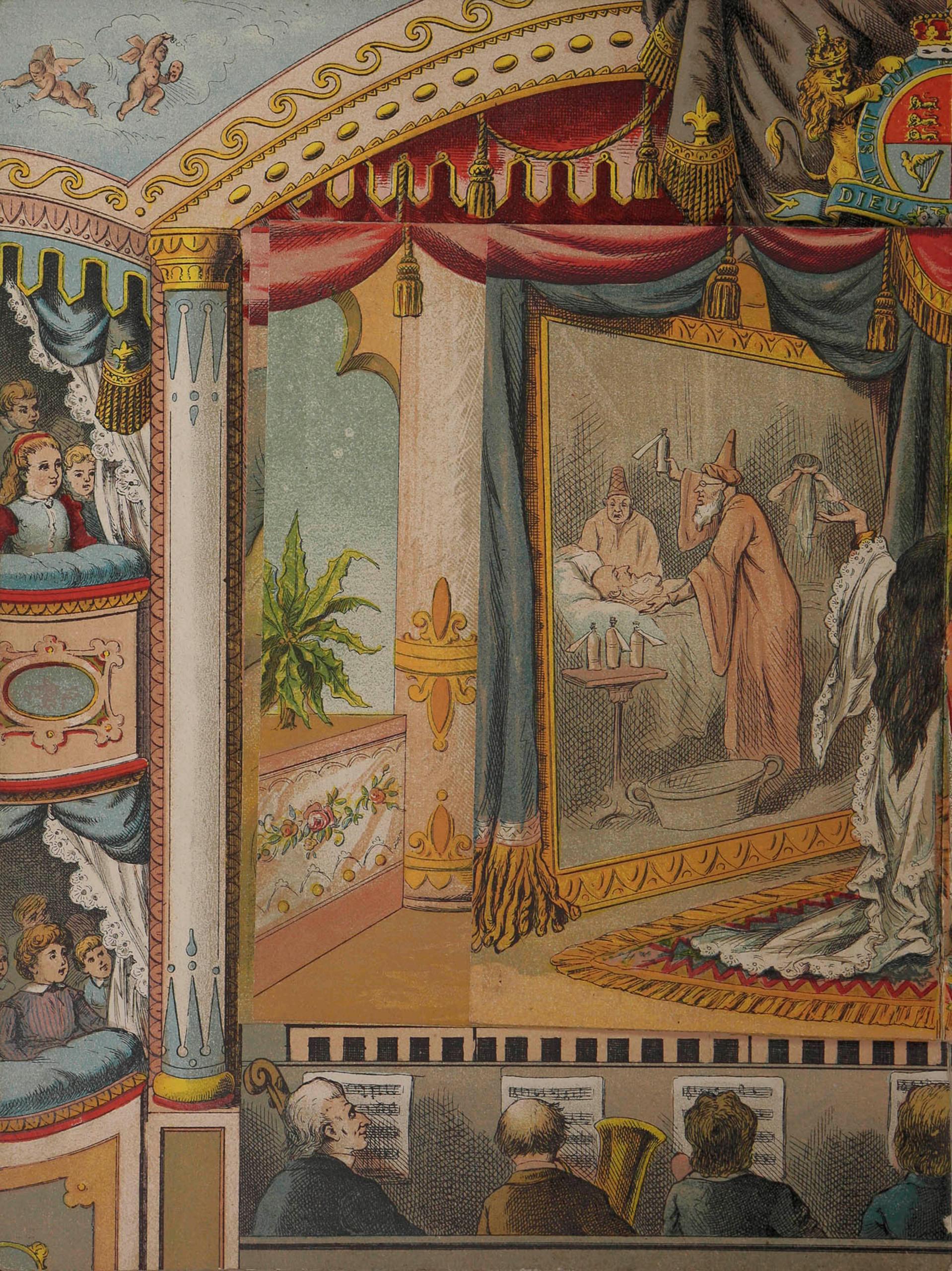




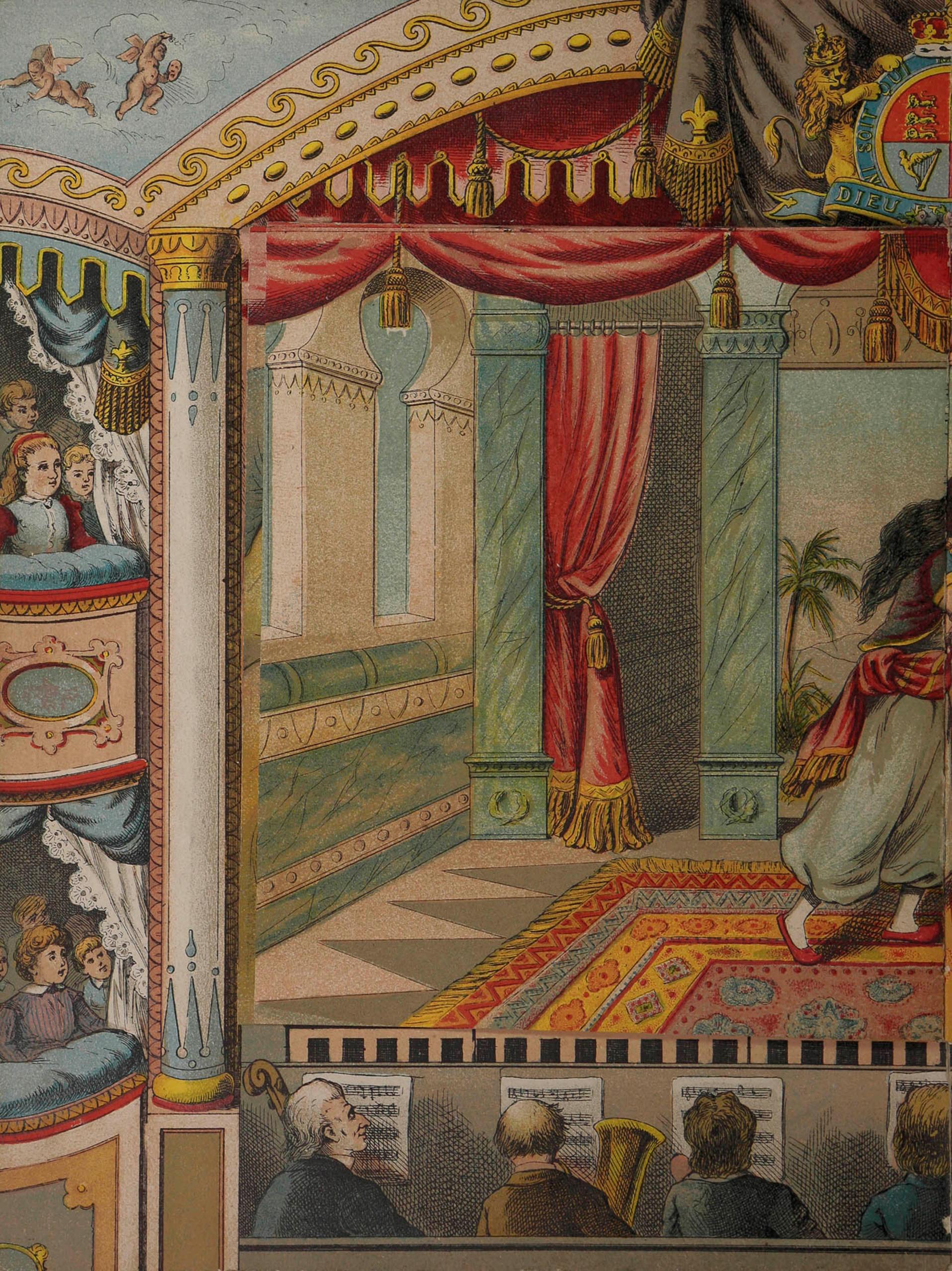




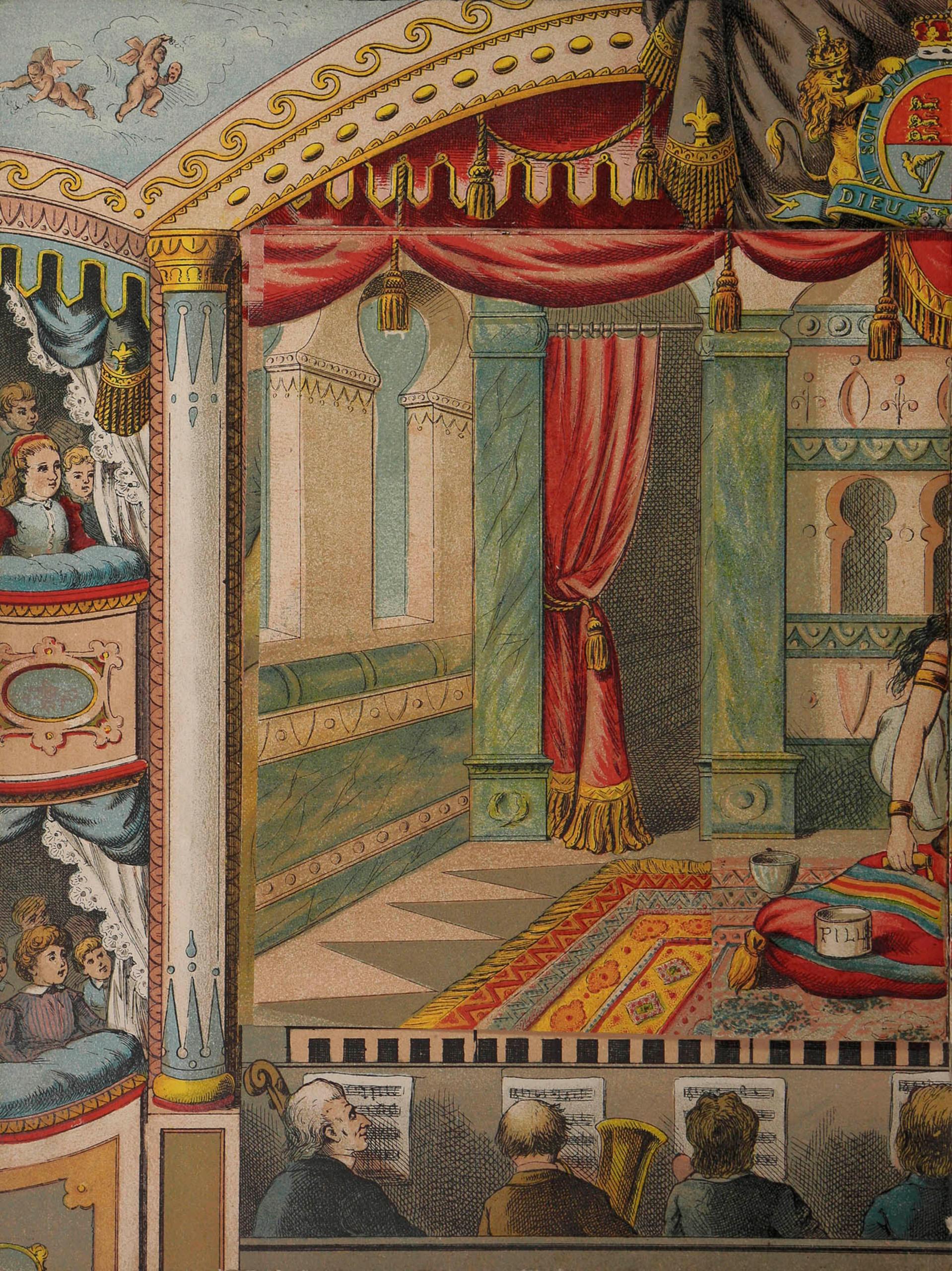




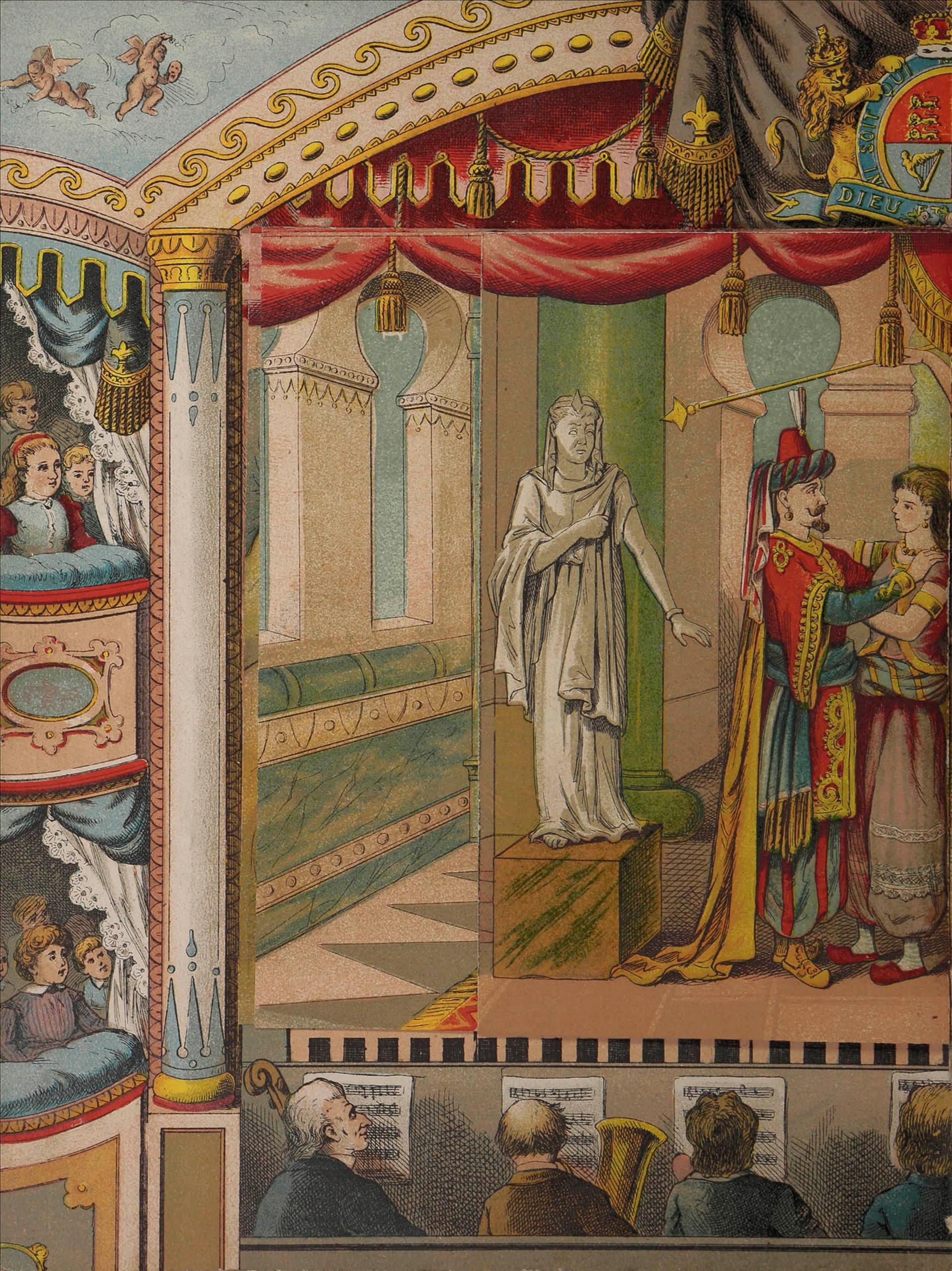








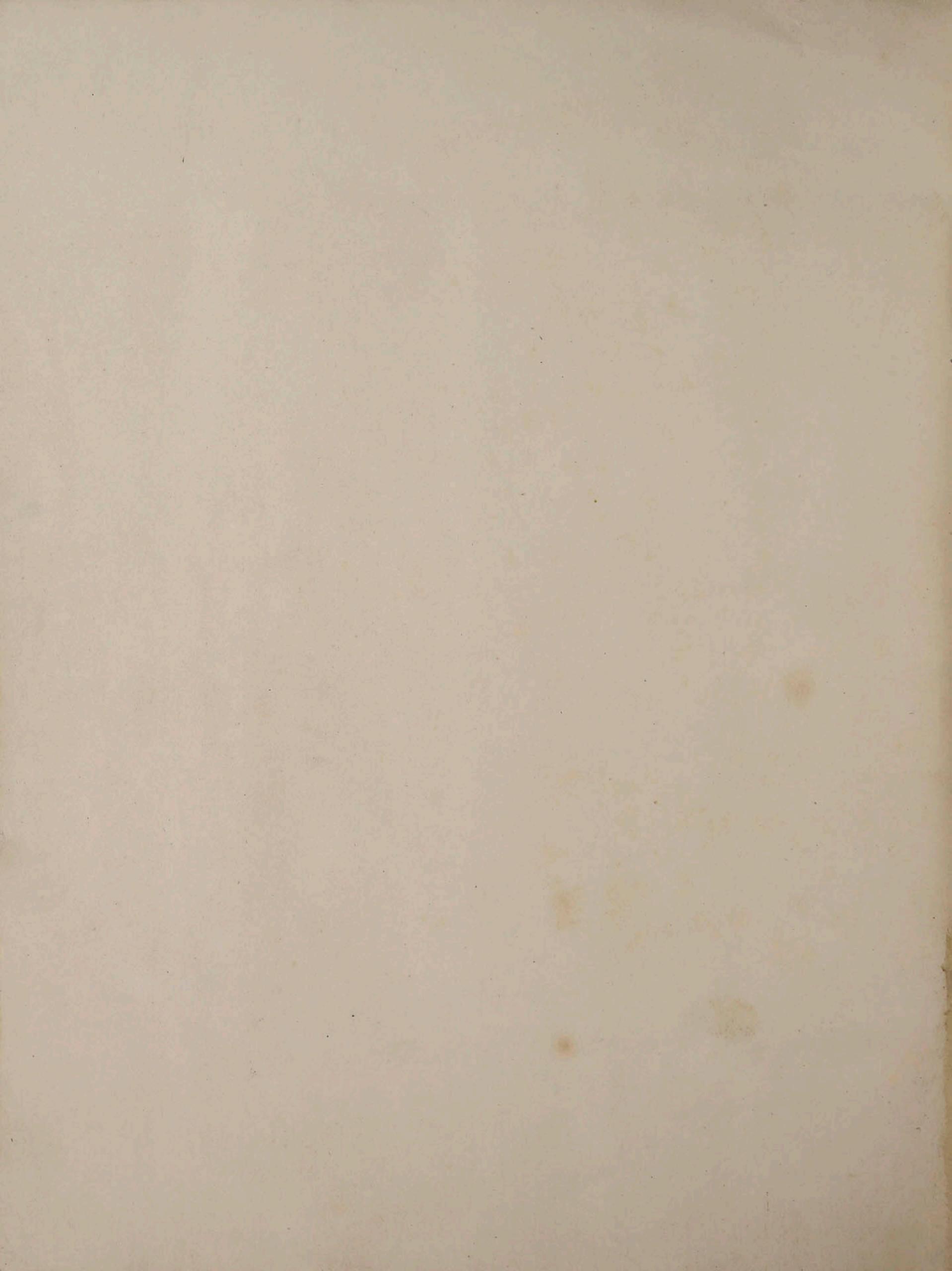












But Beauty, moved by kindness more and more, Refuses, with decision, as before,—
Although, the Beast sighs deeply at the blow,
When Beauty utters her emphatic "No!"

15

Now in her room a magic mirror stood
(The Beast was ever thoughtful for her good),
And looking in it, Beauty, at her will,
Could see home, as if she lived there still.
One day she looked, and saw her father ill,
His mouth extended to receive a pill;
Her daughter's heart with love was all aglow;
"Oh, Beast!" she cried, "DEAR Beast! pray let me go!"
With tears he answered, "I've no cause to doubt you;
But come back soon: I cannot live without you!"

Home came Beauty,

Home came she;

Saw her father well again,

Well as he could be.

"Now you'll stay with us," he cried,

"Since you are not yet a bride?"
"But I've promised," she replied,
"And I know my duty!"

"Oh, pooh! you silly chit,

Since you've had the chance to flit,"

Said her sisters, "wait a bit!"

"But I can't!" said Beauty.

"For, indeed, I've had a dream,
One that nearly made me scream,
Telling me my duty.—

For I saw that loving Bear
Lying flat, as if he were
Dead or fainting.—So, mon pere,
I'm off again!" said Beauty.

#### 8 THE BALLAD OF BEAUTY AND THE BEAST.

As soon as she came to the Palace she found
(For her dream was a true one) poor Beast on the ground;
He was dying, poor Bear! "Oh! I love you!" she cried,
As she flung her white arms round his shaggy old hide.
"You do love me?" he whispered; "It wanted but this!
As a Bear, let me hug you!" She gave him a kiss.
In a second or less, decked in jewels and gold,
A fair Prince at her feet his love ardently told;
And there was the Fairy, who came with a smile,
To undo all the work of th' Enchanter so vile;
And her father was there, as if dropped from the skies;
And her sisters were with him, in jealous surprise,
And who envied her luck, till the Fairy, so clever,
Turned them both into statues to frown on for ever.



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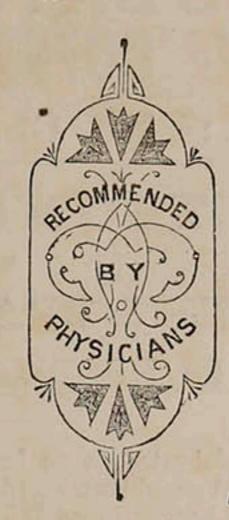
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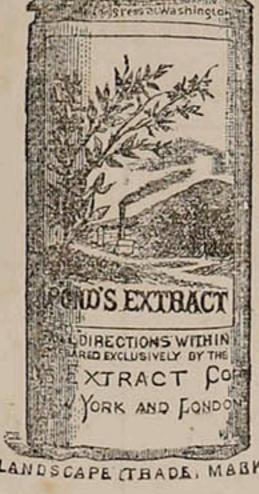
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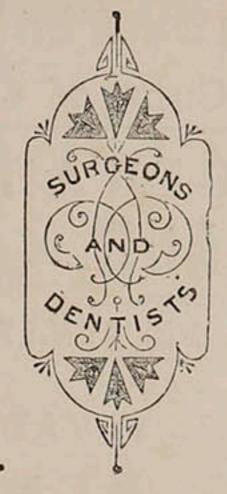
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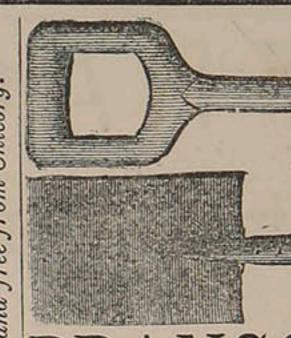
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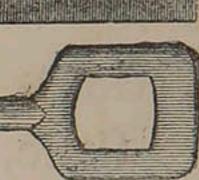
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