



Marcus Bard's Royal Muminated Legends.

## LADY OUNCÈBELLE AND LORD LOVEL.

TOLD ANEW IN VERSE BY FRANCIS DAVIS.

Remark

T

LORD LOVEL, a gay and comely knight,
Of Roxburgshire was he;
Oh, the feet were light of his steed so white,
As, singing, he crossed the lea:

II.

"Fair, fair are the dames of London town,
Full many a knight doth tell;
But a fairer, far, is my own true love—
She's the Ladye Ouncèbelle!"

III

Then out bespoke his little black dwarf,
Who followed through thick and thin,
"If none be so fair in London town,
They'd, maybe, be worse to win!"

IV.

"Now, hold thy tongue, thou little black dwarf,

For when I have crossed the lea, And bidden farewell to my Ouncebelle, These London dames we'll see."

V.

So he rode, and rode, and ever he rode, Till the Pentland hills, so high, Then the castle of Ladye Ouncebelle He clearly did espy.

VI.

The Ladye Ouncebelle looked forth,
From her gay, green bower looked she;
"Oh, yonder's my own true love," she said,
"And he's coming to marry me!"

VII

Lord Lovel said unto his little black dwarf, "Comb thou my white steed's mane, And give him breath, with a loosened graith, Until I come back again."

VIII.

Lord Lovel has kissed his own true love,

Till the tear stood in her eye;

For, with every kiss, he lightly said,

"Ladye Ouncèbelle, good-bye!"

IX.

"Oh, where art thou going"—she sighed and said—
"My dearest one, tell to me?"

"Oh, a far, far journey I must go, Some countries strange to see!

X.

"So fare-thee-well, Ladye Ouncèbelle, For I must needs be gone; This time two years, we'll meet again, When our partings shall be done.

XI.

"Oh, that's along time, Lord Lovel," she said,
"To leave a poor Ladye alone!"
"So it is—so it is—Lady Ouncèbelle;
But, then, I must needs be gone!"

XII.

Then, a jewel she loosed from her snowwhite neck, 'Twas of gold and diamond shine—

"Take this little heart, Lord Lovel," she said, "And, seeing it, think on mine!"

XIII.

Then called he unto his little black dwarf,
To saddle his milk-white steed—
Hey down, hey down, hey derry, hey down—
I wish my Lord Lovel good speed!

XIV.

So he rode, and rode, and ever he rode, The Fells o' Westmoreland through; Nor ever he staid till in London town His white steed's rein he drew.

XV.

Oh, he had not been in fair London town
For more than half a year,
Till his cards and wine and the London
dames

Were his only pleasant cheer.

XVI

And his cheek grew thin, and his gold took wings,

And his midnight mates the gain, Till the ace of hearts, like an hundred darts, One night went through his brain.

XVII.

For he thought of the diamond heart she gave

To keep her own in his mind—

"Oh, that diamond heart I have lost," he sighed,

"But a better hath she behind!"

XVIII.

And the little black dwarf began to muse On his master's altered air;

And the queerest thoughts came into his A-back o' Lord Lovel's chair. [mind,

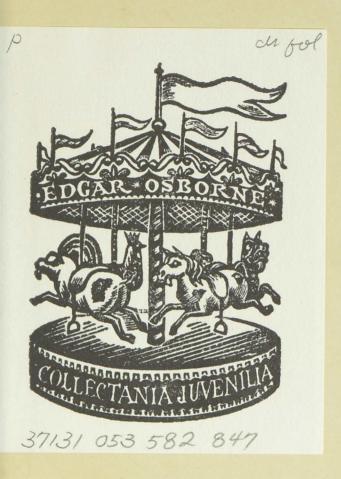
XIX

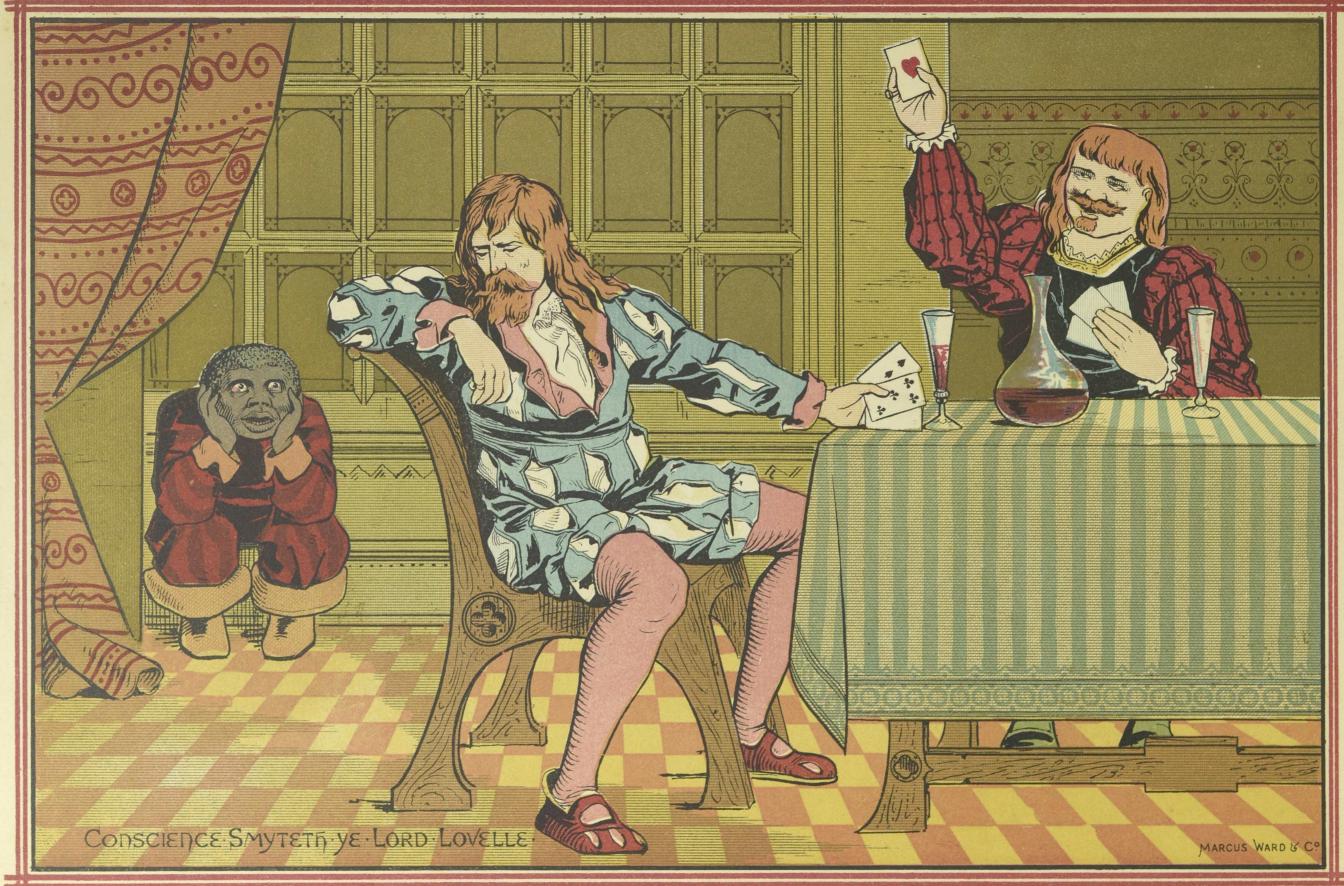
And "I wonder," he said, as he hugged his
"If this jolliment every night, [head,
With the cards and wine, since it pales him so,
Wouldn't turn a poor darkie white?"

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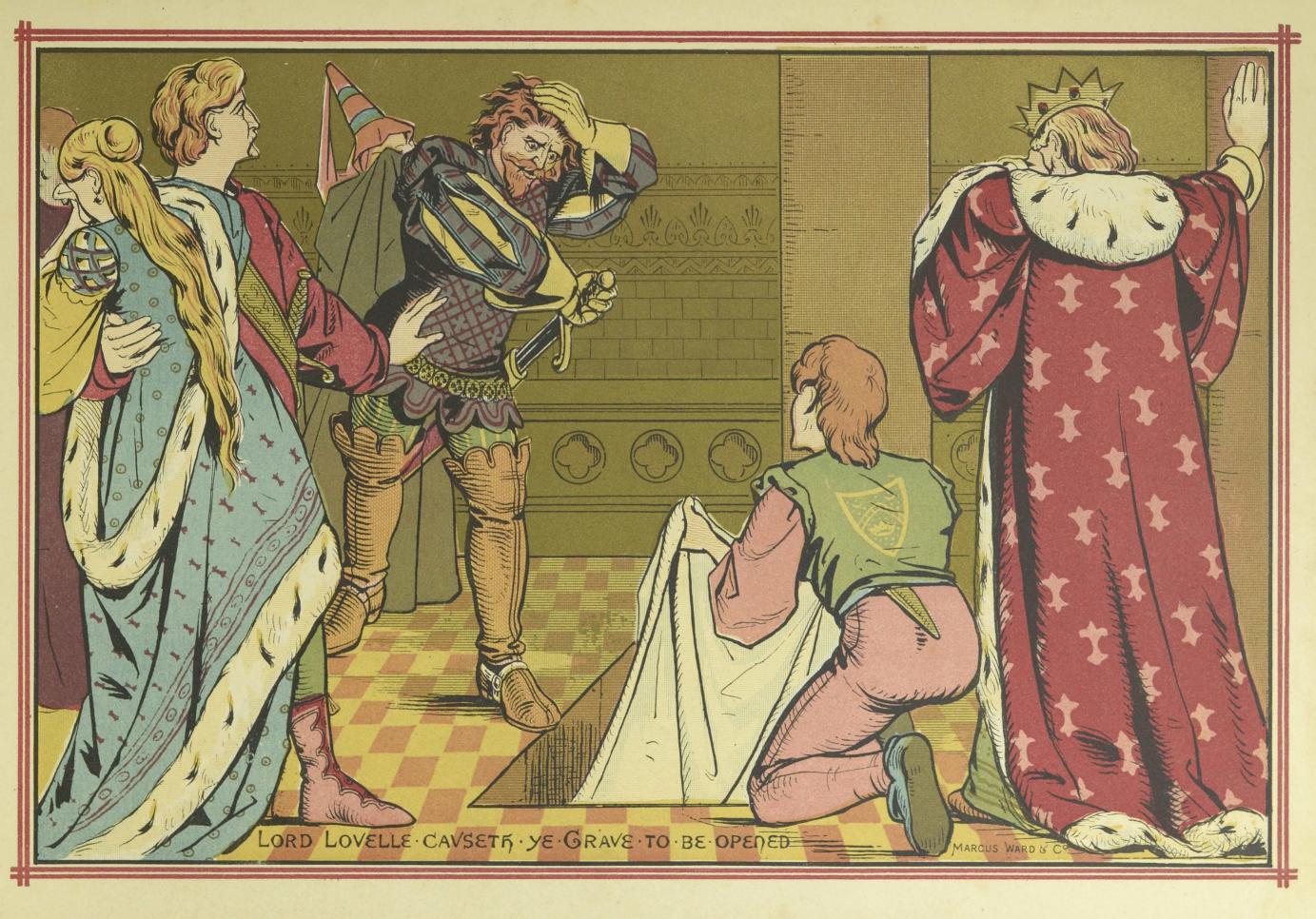


















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### LADY OUNCEBELLE AND LORD LOVEL.-Continued.

TOLD ANEW IN VERSE BY FRANCIS DAVIS.

XX.

But that little black dwarf grew blacker, I ween,

And with more of a wondering air, When Lord Lovel arose, at that long night's And whispered a drunken pray'r; [close,

For he saw, in his mind, old Roxburghshire, With each beautiful dale and dell; And his thoughts flew over the Selkirk braes To the Ladye Ouncèbelle!

XXII.

So he had not been in London town Much more than half a year, When a longing wish he felt to see The Ladye without a peer.

XXIII.

Then he called unto his little black dwarf, To saddle his milk-white steed— Hey down, hey down, hey derry, hey down — I wish my Lord Lovel good speed!

XXIV.

So he rode, and rode, and ever he rode, Till Carlisle he was fairly through; Nor ever he staid till among the hills Where the heather of Scotland grew.

XXV.

Oh, in Scotland fair he had not been For more than half a day, Till he heard the bells of the High Church And they rung with a great affray.

XXVI.

Then he turned to a grave, old gentleman Who sat there all alone— "Why sittest thou there, thou grave old When the bells have such a tone?"

XXVII.

"Why, marrie," quoth he, "I sit because I'm attached to my 'Easy Chair,' Where cattle and cabbage I've ever at hand That there's many a knight should share!"

#### XXVIII.

" Now, woe be to thee, thou vile old man, For this thy reckless tone; But why do the High Church bells ring so, And the ladies make such a moan?"

#### XXIX.

"The King's fayre daughter is dead," said · he—

"Her name, Ladye Ouncèbelle: She died for love of a false, false Knight, His name it was Lord Lovelle."

#### XXX.

Lord Lovel he groaned, and he smote his brow. And with death-pale cheek sped he,

Till he knelt by the Ladye's bier, 'mong all That sorrowful companie!

#### XXXI.

The lid of the coffin he opened up, And the linens that wrapt her roun'; And ever he kissed her pale, pale lips, While the tears came tumbling down.

#### XXXII.

"Oh, well may I kiss those pale, pale lips, For they'll never kiss mine, or me; But I'll make a vow, and I'll keep it true, That I'll never kiss one but thee!

XXXIII.

"We've met—we've met, Ladye Ouncèbelle, And our parting shall be done!" Lord Lovel then drew his rapier bright, And his true heart through did run!

#### XXXIV.

Ladye Ouncèbelle died on the yesterday, Lord Lovel died on the morrow; Ladye Ouncèbelle died of pure, true love, Lord Lovel of true heart-sorrow.

#### XXXV.

Ladye Ouncèbelle she in the High Church Lord Lovel he lies in the choir; [lies, Ladye Ouncèbelle's tomb, from it sprang a white rose,

From Lord Lovel's a branch of sweetbrier.

#### XXXVI.

They grew, they grew to the top of the church.

And when they no higher could grow, There twined they into a true lover's knot, And, joined together, grew so!

#### XXXVII.

And when long, long years were past and And the little black dwarf was grey,

There ever a weeping waif he sat When the old King came that way.

#### XXXVIII.

And ever he hummed in a rueful tone, With his knee drawn near his chin-"Woe, woe to the day when of London I said they'd be hard to win!"

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