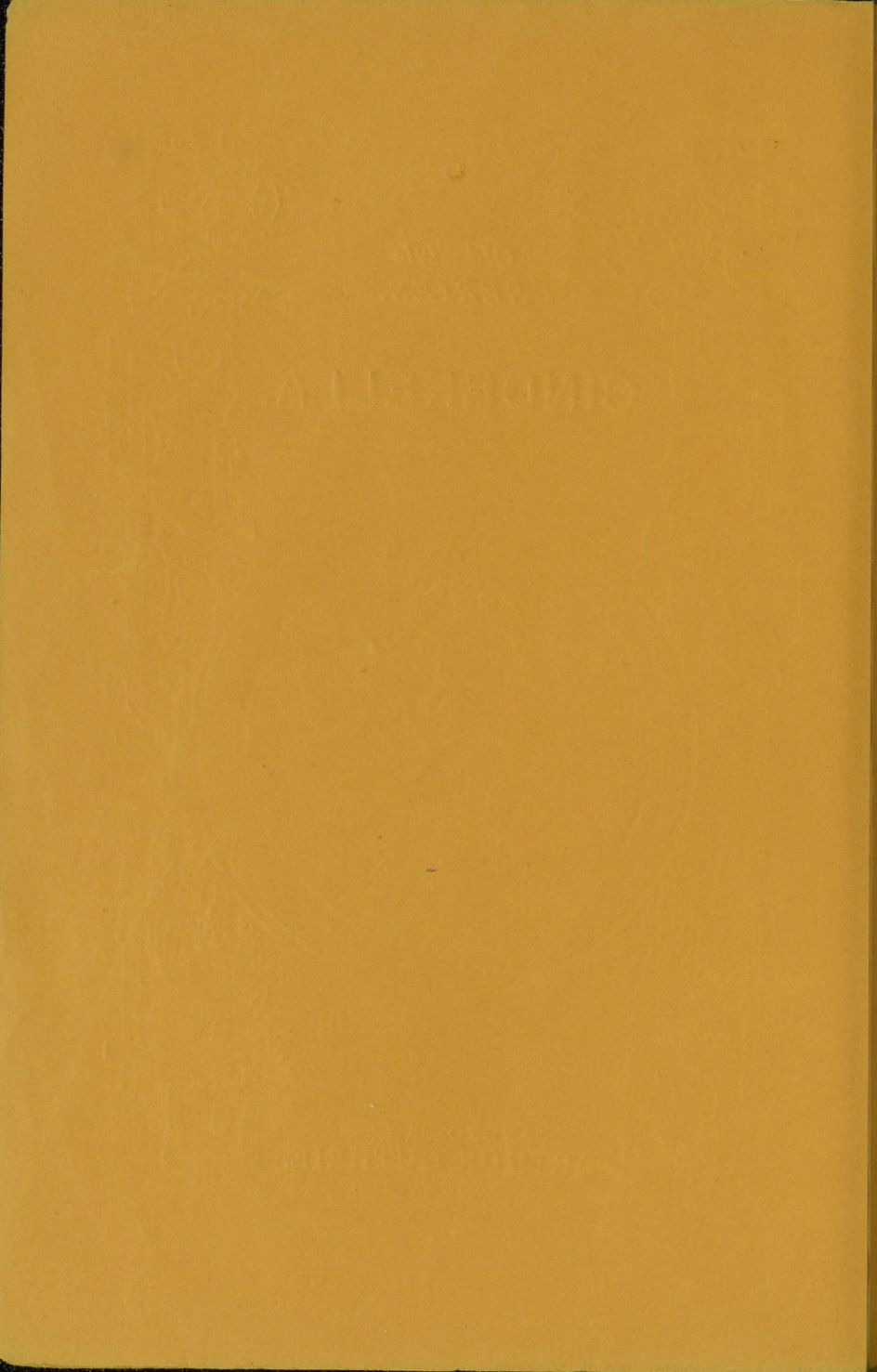


Old Style
SERIES.

CINDERELLA.



ARDROSSAN :—
ARTHUR GUTHRIE.





CINDERELLA:

OR, THE

LITTLE GLASS SLIPPER.



The Little Husband.



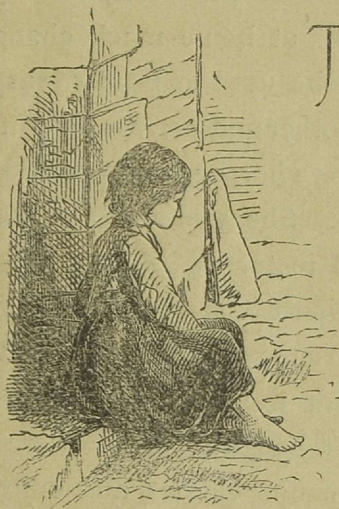


Observing she was very handsome, he made her sit down.—P. 14.

CINDERELLA;

OR, THE

LITTLE GLASS SLIPPER.



THERE was, many years ago, a very rich gentleman, who had a charming wife, and they lived very happily together. They had only one daughter, who was very dutiful to her parents, and who, in sweetness of temper and carriage, was the exact likeness of her mother. After a time the lady died, to the great grief of her husband. Finding himself quite unhappy for her loss, he resolved to marry

a second time, thinking by this means he should be as happy as before. Unfortunately, however, the lady he chanced to fix upon was the proudest and most haughty woman ever known ; she had two daughters by a former husband, whom she brought up to be as proud and idle as herself.

The new wife could not bear the pretty little girl, who soon found everything at home much changed. She was not cared for as she used to be, but was left to the mercy of her stepmother and her two daughters. They all treated the girl very harshly, and ordered her to work with the servants. She was made to wash, and dust, and scour ; and instead of sleeping in her own pretty room, and having her meals nicely served, she was obliged to sleep in a mean garret, upon a straw mattress, and put up with the poorest food in the house. All this time her haughty sisters were living in comfort, dressing in fine clothes, and enjoying every sort of gaiety.

The poor child bore all this with the greatest patience, not daring to complain to her father, who, she feared, would only reprove her, for she saw that his wife ruled him entirely. When she had done all her work she used to sit in the chimney corner

among the cinders ; so that in the house she went by the name of Cinderwench : the younger of the two sisters, however, being rather more civil than the others, called her Cinderella. And Cinderella, dirty and ragged as she was, was a thousand times prettier than her sisters, dressed out in all their splendour.

It happened that the king's son gave a ball, to which he invited all the persons of fashion in the country : the two sisters were of the number.

The two girls began immediately to be very busy in preparing for the happy day ; nothing could exceed their joy ; every moment of their time was spent in fancying such gowns, shoes, and head-dresses, as would set them off to the greatest advantage. All this was new vexation to poor Cinderella, for it was she who ironed and plaited her sisters' muslins. They talked of nothing but how they should be dressed, and actually called up Cinderella to consult with her about their dress, for they knew she had a great deal of taste.

While Cinderella was busily engaged in dressing her proud sisters, they said to her, "Should you not like, Cinderella, to go to the ball !" "Ah !" replied Cinderella, "you are only laughing at me ; it is not for such as

I am to think of going to balls." "You are in the right," said they; "folks might laugh indeed to see a Cinderwench dancing in a ball-room."

While they tried to vex her, and taunted her with not being invited to the ball, they were thus mean enough to get from her all they wanted to know about the best way of decking themselves. Her sweet temper made her return good for evil. She tried her best to please her provoking sisters, and did wonders by her good taste, making them look almost handsome. They were highly pleased with her success, but had not the grace to give her a word of thanks, and were so pleased with their own appearance that they were every spare minute admiring themselves in the looking-glass.

The sisters could scarcely eat anything for a day or two before the ball, so greatly were they taken up with their preparations.

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

Her godmother, who had just come in, asked what ailed her. "I wish—I w-i-s-h—," sobbed poor Cinderella, without being able to say another word,"

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

She then led Cinderella to her bed-chamber, and said to her, "Run into the garden and bring me a pumpkin." Cinderella flew like lightning, and brought the finest she could lay hold of. Her godmother scooped out the inside, leaving nothing but the rind; she then struck it gently with her wand, and the pumpkin instantly became a fine coach, gilded all over with gold. She next looked into her mouse-trap, where she found six mice all alive and brisk; she told Cinderella to lift up the door of the trap very gently; and as the mice passed out, she touched them one by one with her wand, and each immediately became a beautiful horse of a fine dapple grey mouse colour. "Here, my child," said the godmother, "is a coach, and horses too, as handsome as your sisters'; but what shall we do for a postilion?"

"I will run," replied Cinderella, "and see if there be not a rat in the rat-trap; if I find one he will do very well for a postilion." "Well thought of, my child!" said her godmother; "make what haste you can."

Cinderella brought the rat-trap, which, to her great joy, contained two of the largest rats ever seen. The fairy chose the one which had the longest beard, and touching him with her wand, he was instantly turned into a handsome coachman, with the finest pair of whiskers ever seen, while the other was turned into a smart-looking postilion.

She next said to Cinderella, "Go again into the garden, and you will find six lizards behind the watering-pot; bring them hither." This was no sooner done than, with a stroke from the fairy's wand, they were changed into six footmen, who all immediately jumped up behind the coach in their laced liveries, and stood side by side as cleverly as if they had been used to nothing else the whole of their lives.

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

Her godmother soon restored her cheerfulness, for, touching her with the wand, her rags instantly became the most magnificent clothes, ornamented with the most costly jewels in the whole world. To these she added a beautiful pair of glass slippers, and bade her set out for the palace.

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

Cinderella did not fail to promise all her godmother desired of her, and almost wild with joy, drove away to the palace.

As soon as she arrived, the king's son, who had been told that a great princess, whom nobody knew, was come to the ball, came out himself to the door of the carriage, helped her out, and led her to the ball-room.

Cinderella no sooner appeared than every one was silent; both the dancing and the music stopped, and everybody was employed in gazing at the uncommon beauty of this unknown stranger: nothing was heard

but whispers of "How handsome she is!" The king himself, old as he was, could not keep his eyes from her, and continually repeated to the queen that it was a long time since he had seen so lovely a creature. The ladies tried hard to find out how her clothes were made, that they might get some of the same pattern for themselves the next day, should they be lucky enough to meet with such handsome materials, and such good work-people to make them.

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

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

Cinderella seated herself near her sisters, paid them a thousand attentions, and offered them a part of the oranges and sweetmeats which the prince had given to her; while they, on their part, were astonished at this kindness from a lady whom they did not know.

As they were speaking together, Cinderella heard the

clock strike eleven and three-quarters. She rose from her seat, curtsied to the company, and hastened away as fast as she could.

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

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

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

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

Cinderella could scarcely contain herself for joy. She asked her sisters the name of this princess, to which

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

The next day the two sisters again appeared at the ball, and so did Cinderella, but dressed much more magnificently than the night before. The king's son was continually by her side, and said the most obliging things to her imaginable.

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

To her great alarm, she heard the clock beginning to strike twelve before she thought of leaving. She instantly got up, and flew out of the ball-room as nimbly as a deer.

The Prince tried to overtake her ; but poor Cinderella's fright made her run the faster. However, in her great hurry, as she rushed through a conservatory, she dropped one of the glass slippers from her foot, which the Prince picked up and took the greatest care of.

Cinderella got home tired and out of breath, in her

dirty old clothes, without either coach or footmen, and when the two sisters returned from the ball, Cinderella asked them if they had been as much amused as the night before, and if the beautiful princess had been there? They told her that she had, and how she hurried away from the ball-room, dropping her little glass slipper in her haste, and how the prince picked it up, and fondly gazed upon it for the rest of the night ; indeed, everybody believed the prince was very much in love with the handsome lady.

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

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

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

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

Her sisters laughed and jeered in the rudest manner possible. "Very likely, truly," said one of them, "that such a clumsy foot as yours should fit the slipper of a beautiful princess."

The gentleman, however, who brought the slipper, turned round, looked at Cinderella, and observing that she was very handsome, made her sit down ; and putting the slipper to her foot, it instantly slipped in, and he saw that it fitted her like wax.

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

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

The two sisters immediately saw that she was the beautiful princess they had met at the ball. They threw themselves at her feet, and asked her forgiveness. Cinderella raised them up and embraced them, saying that she freely forgave them, hoping they would love her dearly now.

Cinderella was then conducted, dressed as she was,

to the young prince, who, finding her more beautiful than ever, instantly desired her to become his wife.

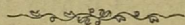
The marriage ceremony took place in a few days ; and Cinderella, who was as amiable as she was handsome, gave her sisters magnificent apartments in the palace, and in a short time they were married to two great lords of the court. A pretty flower sprang up on the very spot where the prince picked up the little shoe, and it has been called ever since by the name of

“THE LADY’S SLIPPER.”





I HAD A LITTLE HUSBAND.



I HAD a little husband
No bigger than my thumb,
I put him in a pint pot,
And there I made him drum.

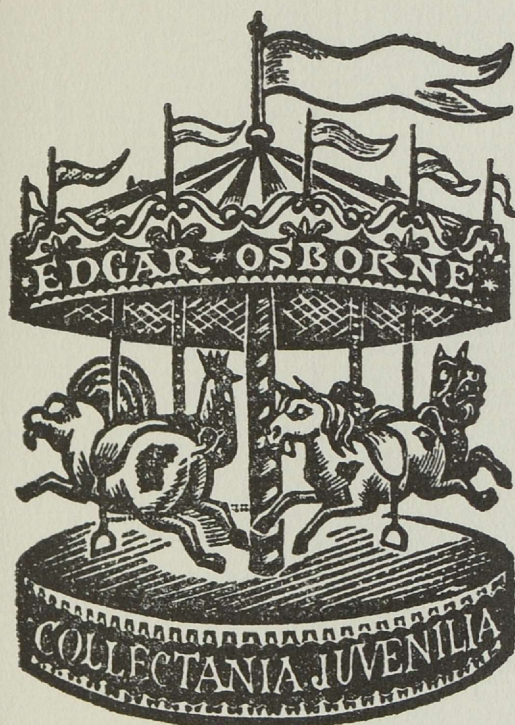
I bought a little horse,
That gallop'd up and down,
I bridled him and saddled him,
And sent him out of town.

I gave him some garters,
To garter up his hose,
And a little handkerchief,
To wipe his pretty nose.



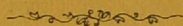
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