

By the Late  
Richard Doyle

JACK

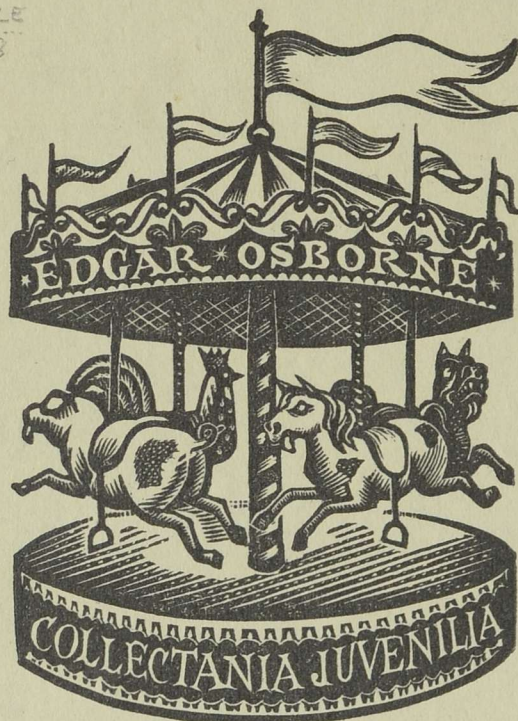
The

GIANT KILLER





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JACK  
THE  
GIANT KILLER.

By  
RICHARD DOYLE



LONDON

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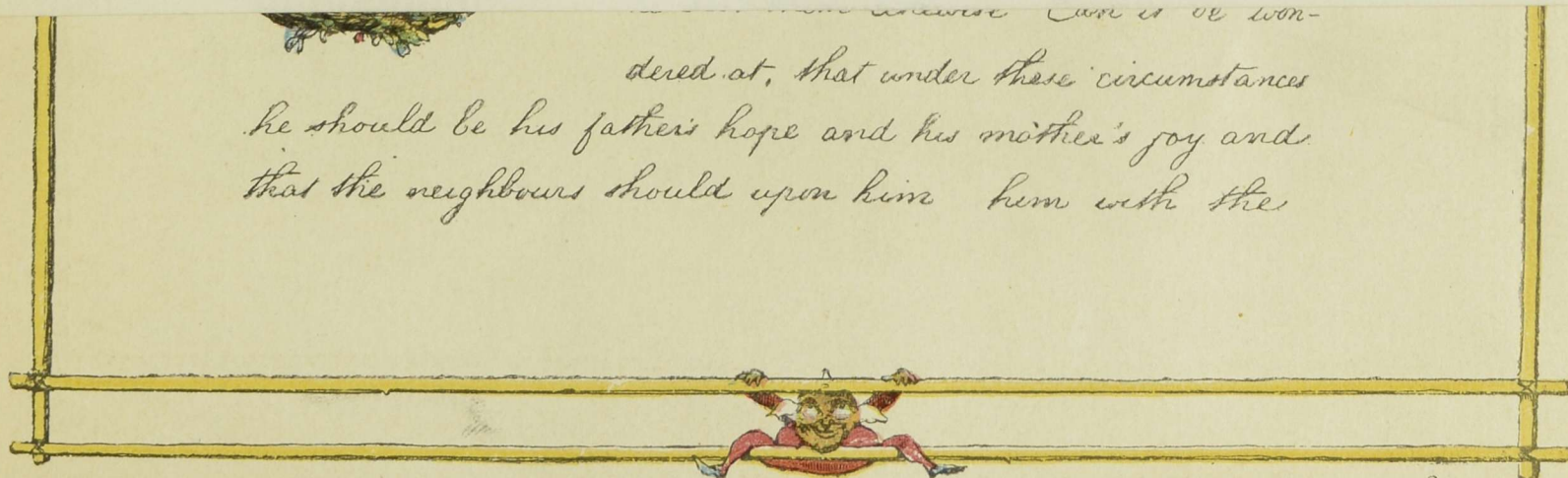
## PUBLISHERS' INTRODUCTION.

No apology is needed for the publication of Dick Doyle's splendidly illustrated and wonderfully amusing manuscript account of "JACK THE GIANT KILLER"; but it may be of interest to the public to know that the original of this remarkable achievement of his boyish days, written, drawn, and coloured by hand in 1842—that is, when the artist was quite a boy—was recently competed for at Messrs. Christie, Manson, & Wood's sale-rooms, when, being amongst the most beautiful and highly-finished of his pictorial creations, it naturally realised a long price. The purchaser kindly lent it to the Publishers for reproduction.

Every page is fully illustrated and surrounded with a border of different design brimful of humour, and neither trouble nor expense have been spared to reproduce the original in exact fac-simile. The text is written in a boyish but perfectly legible hand—in which, by the way, the mistakes have been purposely left uncorrected—and the many splendidly drawn illustrations, alive with humour and glowing with colour, reappear with undiminished glory.

The lovers of Dick Doyle's work are countless (who has not admired, and laughed at the cover of "Punch"?) and "JACK THE GIANT KILLER" being amongst the best though earliest specimens of the versatile Artist's work, will undoubtedly be welcomed with delight.

dered at, that under these circumstances  
he should be his father's hope and his mother's joy and  
that the neighbours should upon him him with the









THE MARVELLOUS HISTORY OF

JACK

THE

GIANT KILLER.

By

RICHARD DOYLE

1842.



ONCE upon a time there lived a little boy named Jack. Now Jack though only the son of a poor farmer, living in Cornwall, was "very clever" for he not only fought and wrestled with all the youths within twenty miles round but he beat them likewise. Can it be wondered at, that under these circumstances he should be his father's hope and his mother's joy and that the neighbours should upon him turn with the



greatest respect. It happened that at that time there lived in Cornwall an immense giant at least eighteen feet high, who was so ferocious and terrible the population for miles around were kept in a continual state of consternation. It was his custom to come down from the mountains every evening





and the about his waist as many  
 sheep over on pigs, as he could find  
 so that they hung about him like  
 a bunch of candle's and then go  
 back again to supper. Jack who  
 had deeply considered the subject  
 determined to kill him and so  
 he set out one morning very early  
 when the monster was asleep  
 and dug an immense pit close to where he lay, which he  
 covered over with sticks and rubbish to make it look like  
 solid ground. He had no sooner completed it than the giant  
 who had awoken with the noise got up and where he saw Jack





he began to walk towards him roaring like thunder. "You saucy villain you shall pay dearly for breaking my rest;" I will broil you for my breakfast" He had scarcely uttered these dreadful words and advanced one step farther; then down he tumbled headlong into the pit and his fall shook the very mountain "O ho, Mr Giant!" said Jack looking into the pit. "is it possible that you have found your way to the bottom since"? May I enquire as to the state of your appetite?" The giant now tried to rise but Jack struck him a blow on the crown of the head with his peck-axe, which killed him at once. Jack then made haste back to rejoice his friends with the news of his exploit. When the Justices of Cornwall heard of this valiant action, they sent for Jack, and declared that he should henceforth be called "Jack the Giant Killer"; and they also gave him a sword and a belt, upon which was written in letters of gold —

"This is the valiant Cornishman  
Who slew the giant Cormoran"





**T**he the news of Jack's exploit soon spread over the western part of England, and another giant, called Blunderbore vowed to have revenge on Jack, if it should ever be his fortune to get him into his power. This giant kept an enchanted castle in the midst of a



lonely wood. About four months after the death of Cormoran as Jack was taking a journey into Wales he passed through a wood and as he was weary he sat down to rest beside a pleasant fountain, and there he fell into a deep sleep. The giant came to the fountain for water just at this time, and found Jack there, and as the lines on Jack's belt showed who he was the giant lifted him





up and laid him gently upon his shoulder, to carry him to his castle, but as he passed through the thicket, the rustling of the leaves waked Jack; and he was sadly afraid when he found himself in the clutches of Blunderbore. Yet this was nothing to his fright soon after, for when they reached the castle he beheld the floor covered all over with the skulls and bones of



men and woman. The giant took him into a large room where lay the remains of persons who had been lately killed; and he told Jack, with a horrid grin, that mens hearts, eaten with pepper and vinegar, were his nicest food; and also he gratified him with the intelligence, that he intended making a most savory meal on his heart. When he refreshed Jack in this delightful (though novel) manner, he locked him into the room, while he went to fetch another giant, who lived in the same wood, to enjoy a dinner off Jack's flesh with him. While he was away Jack heard dreadful screams, groans and cries, from many parts of the castle and soon after he heard a mournful



voice repeat the following lines, —

Haste, valiant stranger, haste away,  
Lest you become the giants prey  
On his return he'll bring another  
Still more savage than his brother:

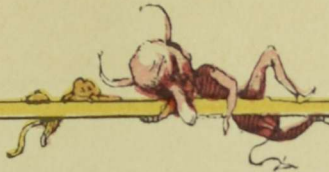


A horrid, cruel monster, who,  
Before he kills, will torture you  
Oh valiant stranger haste away  
Or you'll become these giants prey."

This warning gave poor Jack such a shock that he was ready  
to go mad. He ran to the window and, terrible to relate, there  
were the two giants coming along arm in arm. This window



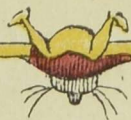
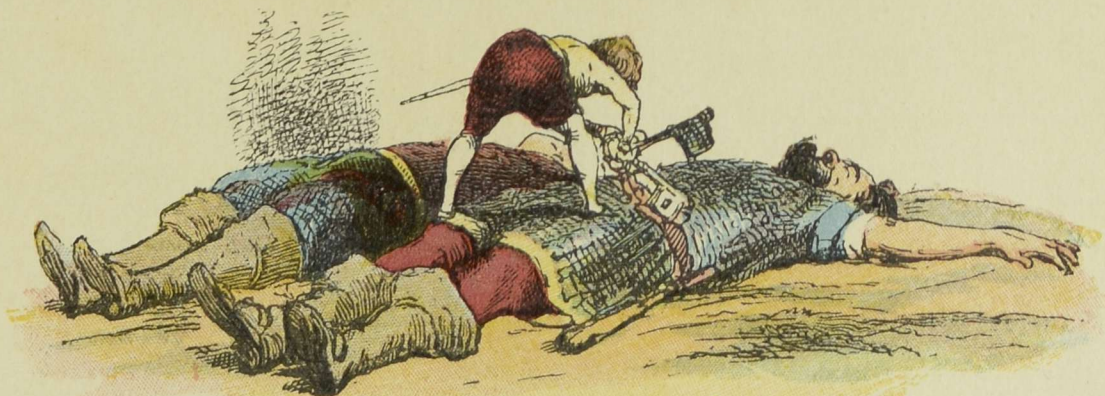




was right over the gates of the castle. Now" thought Jack  
"either my freedom or death is at hand." There just happened  
to be two strong cords in the room. Jack made a large noose



with a slip knot at the ends of both these, and as the  
Giants were coming through the gates, he threw the ropes over  
their heads. He then made the other ends fast to a beam in  
the ceiling and pulled with all his might till he had almost  
strangled them. When he saw that they were both quite  
black in the face he drew his sword and slid down the  
ropes, he then killed the giants and thus saved himself.





from the cruel death they meant to put him to. Jack next took a great bunch of keys from the pocket of Blunderbore and went into the castle again. He made a strict search through all the rooms, and in one of them found three ladies tied up by the hair of their heads and almost starved to death. They told him that their husbands had been killed by the giant who had then condemned them to be starved because they would not eat the flesh of their dead husbands. "Ladies" said Jack I have put an end to the monster and his wicked brother and I give you this castle and all the riches it contains, to make you amends for the dreadful pains you have felt.



He then very politely gave them the keys of the castle, and went further on his journey to Wales. As Jack had not taken any of the giant's riches for himself, and so had very little money of his own, he thought it best to travel as fast as he could. At length he lost his way, and



when night came on, he was in a lonely valley between two lofty mountains, where he walked about for some hours without seeing any dwelling-place so he thought himself very lucky at last in finding a large and handsome house. He went boldly up to it, and knocked loudly at the gate: when to his great surprise and terror there came forth a monstrous







giant with two heads. He spoke to Jack very civilly, for he was a Welch giant and all the mischief he did was by private and secret malice, under a show of friendship and kindness. Jack told him that he was a traveller upon which the huge monster made him welcome, and led him into a room, where there was a good bed to pass the night in. Jack got into the bed quickly, but although he was so weary he could not go to sleep. Soon after this, he heard the



giant walking backwards and forwards in the next room and muttering to himself

"Though here you lodge with me this night,

You shall not see the morning light;

My club shall dash your brains out quite."

"Say you so?" thought Jack; "are these the tricks you play upon travellers? But I hope to prove as cunning as



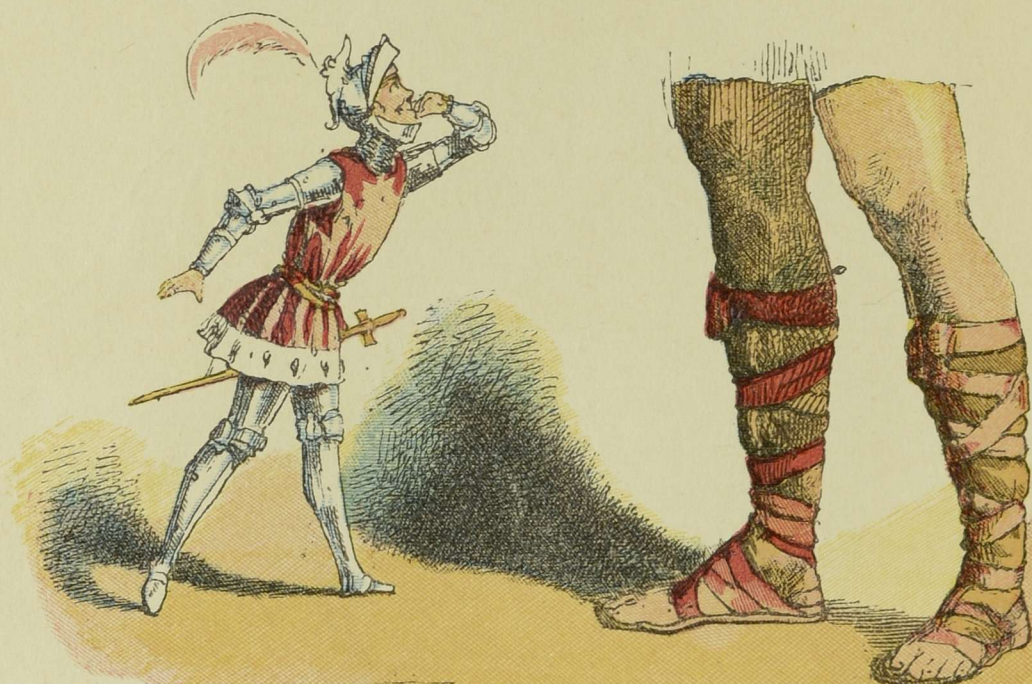
you " Then getting out of bed he groped his way about the room and after much searching, at last found at last found a thick billet of wood ; He laid it in his place in the bed, and hid himself in a dark corner of the



room In the dead of night the giant came with his great club, and struck many heavy blows on the bed, in the very place where Jack had laid the billet, and then he went back again to his own room, thinking that he had



broken all the bones in Jack's body. Early in the morning Jack put a bold face on the matter and walked into the giant room to thank him for his lodging. The giant started when he saw him, and began to stammer out "Oh dear me! is it you? Pray how did you sleep last night?" Did you hear or see anything in the middle of the night?" "Nothing worth speaking of," said Jack carelessly: "a rat, I believe, gave me three or four slaps with



his tail and disturbed me a little, but I soon went asleep again." The giant wondered more and more at this; yet he did not answer a word but went to bring two great bowls of hasty pudding for their breakfast. Jack wished to make the giant believe that he could eat as much as himself; so he contrived to button a leathern bag to himself and slipped the pudding into the bag, while he seemed to be putting it into his mouth





When breakfast was over he said to the giant "Now I will shew you a fine trick, I can cure all wounds with a touch; I could cut off my head one minute, and the next put it sound again on my shoulders: you shall see an example. He then took hold of a knife, ripped up the leathern bag, and all the hasty pudding tumbled out on the floor." Ods splutter her nails "cried the Welch giant who was







ashamed to be outdone by such a little fellow as Jack "hur can do that herself" so he snatched up the knife, and plunged it into his stomach, and in a moment dropped down dead. As soon as Jack had thus tricked the Welch monster he went further on his journey; and a few days after, he met with King Arthur's only son, who had got his father's leave to travel into Wales to deliver a beautiful lady from the power of a wicked magician, who held her in his enchantments. When Jack found that the young prince had no servants with

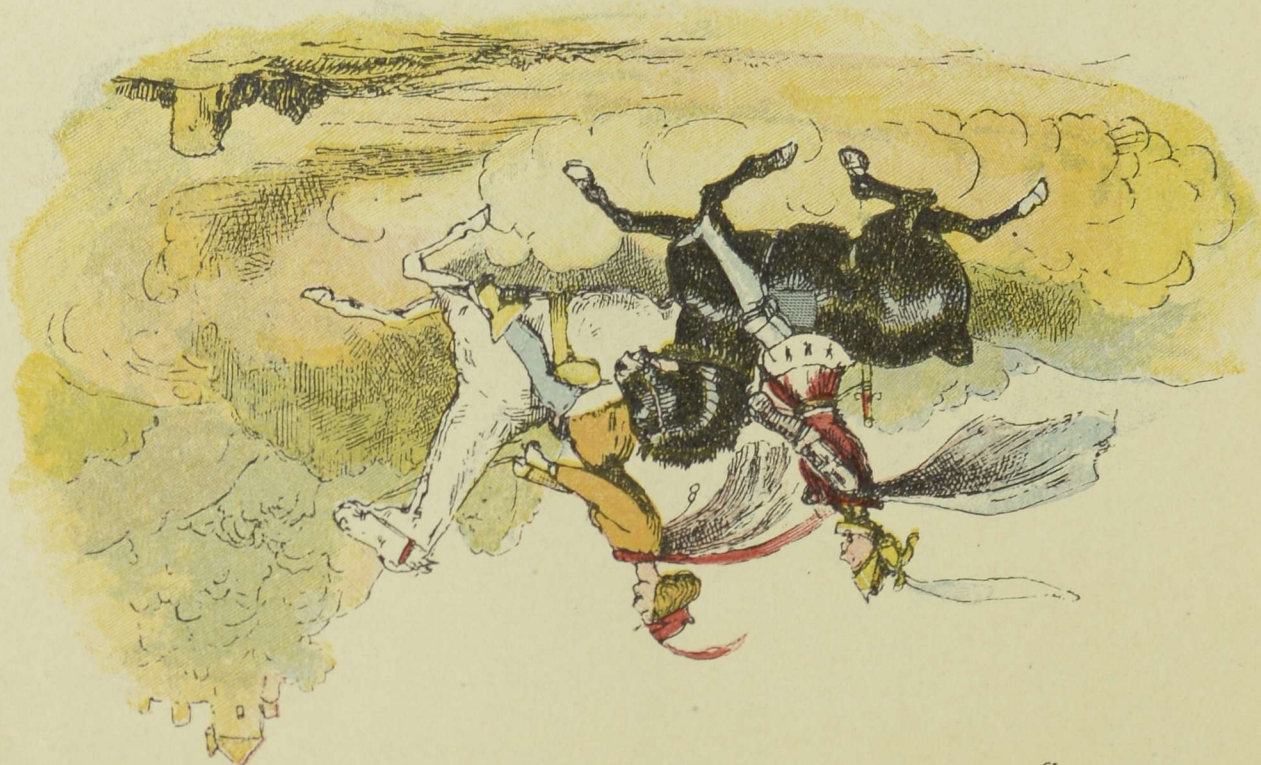


him he begged leave to attend him; and  
 the prince at once agreed to this and gave  
 Jack many thanks for his kindness. The  
 prince was a handsome, brave, polite young  
 man and so good natured that he gave money  
 to every body he met. At last he gave his



last penny to an old woman and then turning to Jack, said  
 "Now shall we be able to get food for ourselves the rest of our  
 journey?" — "Leave that to me sir," said Jack "I will provide  
 for my prince. Night now came on and the prince began to  
 grow uneasy at thinking where they should lodge. "Sir," said  
 Jack "be of good cheer; two miles further on there lies a large  
 grant, where I know well; he has three heads, and can fight  
 five hundred men, and make them

fly before him" — "Alas!" replied  
 the king's son "we had better never

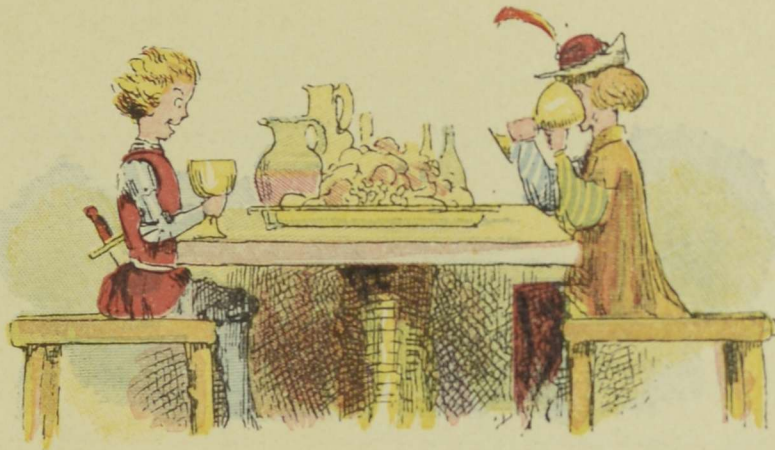




have been born than meet with such a monster " My lord  
leave me to manage him, and wait here in quiet till I  
return. The Prince now staid  
behind while Jack rode on at  
full speed, and when he came  
to the castle gate he gave a loud  
knock. The giant with a voice  
like thunder, roared out "Who  
is there"? And Jack made  
answer, and said "No one  
but your poor cousin Jack"  
—"Well" said the giant "what  
news, cousin Jack?" Dear uncle  
said Jack, "I have heavy  
news"—"Pooh!" said the  
giant, "what heavy news can  
come to me? I am a giant  
with three heads, and can







fight five hundred men and make them fly before me"—  
 "Alas" said Jack "here is the king's son with two thousand men  
 coming to kill you, and to destroy the castle and all that you have"  
 "Oh, cousin Jack" said the giant "this is heavy news indeed! But  
 I have a large cellar under ground, where I will hide myself  
 and you shall lock, bolt and bar me in, and keep the keys  
 till the king's son is gone.". Now when Jack had made the giant





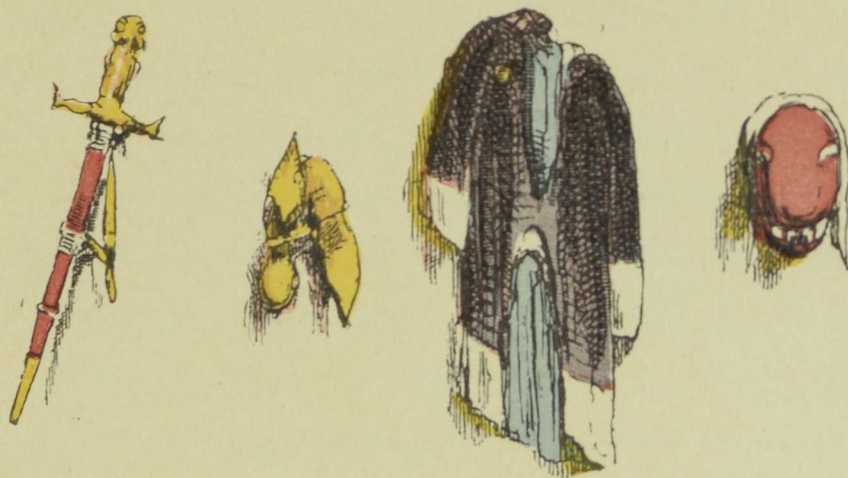


fast in the vault, he went back and fetched the prince to the castle, and they both made themselves merry with the wine and other dainties that were in the house. So that night they rested very pleasantly, while the poor giant lay trembling and shaking with fear in the cellar under ground. Early in the morning Jack gave the king some gold and silver out of the giant's treasure and sent him three miles forward on his





journey. The Prince then sent Jack back, to let his father out of the hole, who asked him what he should give him as a reward for saving his castle. "Why good uncle" said Jack "I desire nothing but the old coat and cap, with the rusty old sword and slippers, which are hanging at your bed's head."



"Then" said the giant "you shall have them; and pray keep them for my sake, for they are things of great use. the coat will keep you invisible, the cap will give you knowledge, the sword will cut through anything, and the shoes are of vast swiftness; these may be useful to you in all times of danger, so take them with all my heart." Jack gave the giant many thanks and then set off to the prince.

When he had come up with the king's son, they soon arrived at the dwelling of the beautiful lady who was under the power of a wicked magician. She received the prince very politely and made a noble feast for him and when it was ended, she rose, and wiping her mouth with a fine





handkerchief. said " My lord you must submit to the custom of my palace, to-morrow morning I command you to tell me on whom to bestow this handkerchief, or lose your head " she then went out of the room. The young prince went to bed very mournful but Jack put on his cap of knowledge, which told him, that the lady was forced by power of enchantment, to meet the wicked magician, every night in the middle of the forest. Jack now put on his coat of darkness and his shoes of swiftness and was there before her. When the lady came she gave the handkerchief to the magician Jack with his sword of sharpness at one blow cut off his head ; the enchantment was then ended and the lady was restored to her former virtue and goodness





She was married to the prince on the next day, and soon after went back with her royal husband, and a great company



to the court of King Arthur, where they were received with loud and joyful welcome; and the valiant hero Jack, for the many great exploits he had done for the good of his country, was made one of the knights of the round table. As Jack had been so fortunate in all his adventures, he resolved not to be idle for the future, but still to do what services he could for the honor of the king and nation. He therefore humbly begged his Majesty





to furnish him with a horse and money, that he might travel in search of new and strange exploits "For" said he to the king there are many giants still living in the remote parts of Wales, to the great terror and distress of your Majesty's subjects therefore if it please you sire, to favor me in my design, I will soon rid your kingdom of these giants and monsters in human shape"— Now when the king heard this offer and began to think of the cruel deeds of these most blood-thirsty and savage monsters, he gave Jack every thing proper for such a journey. After this Jack took leave of the King the Queen and all the knights, and set off, taking with him his cap of knowledge, his sword of sharpness, his shoes of swiftness and his invisible





coat, the better to perform the great exploits that might fall  
in his way. He went along over hills and wild mountains, and on  
the third day he came to a large forest, when on a sudden he  
heard very dreadful ones. He forced his way through the trees, and  
saw a monstrous giant, dragging along by the hair of their heads



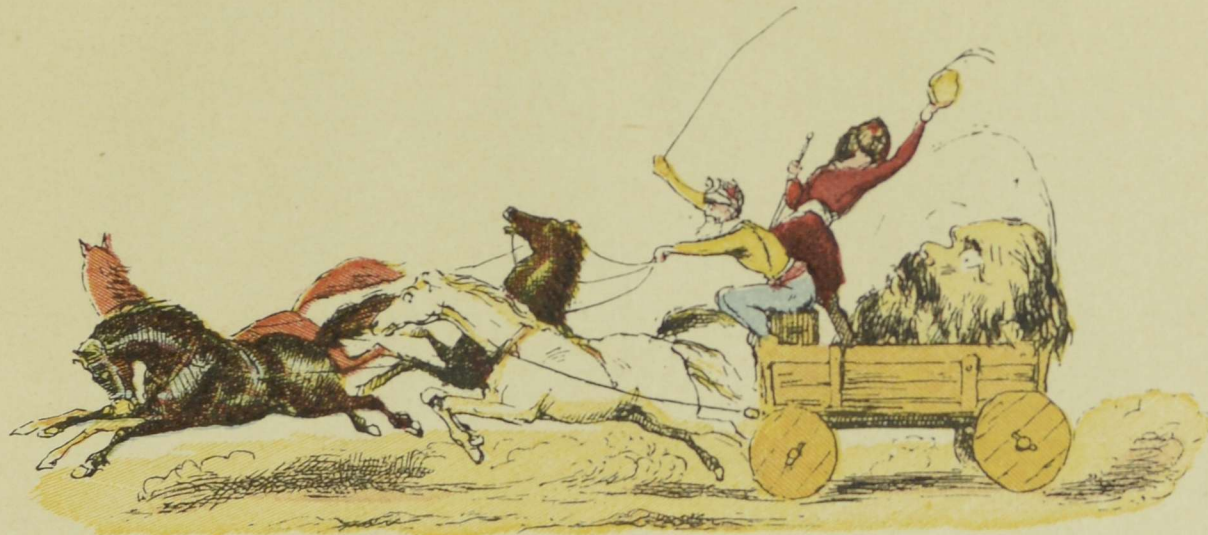


a handsome knight and his beautiful lady. Their tears and cries melted the heart of honest Jack; he alighted from his horse, and tying him to a tree put on his coat of darkness under which he carried his sword of sharpness. When he came up to the giant, he made several strokes at him with it but could not reach his body on account of the enormous height of the terrible creature: but he wounded his legs in several places; and at last putting both hands to his sword, and aiming with all his might, he cut off both his legs, a little below the knee, and the trunk of his body tumbling to the ground, made not only the trees shake, but the earth itself tremble with its weight. The knight and





his lady thanked Jack most cordially for saving them from the fate that was in store for them and concluded by inviting him to return with them to their castle. But Jack who remembered his promise to the king and thirsted most ardently for fresh adventure was forced to decline. Therefore after first cutting off the giants head



and sending it to court, he mounted his horse and pursued his journey. Jack had not rode above a mile and a quarter when he came in sight of a cavern; near the entrance of which he beheld a giant sitting on a huge block of timber, with a knotted club in his hand. His eyes appeared like terrible flames of fire, his countenance was grim and ugly; and his cheeks resembled two flitches of bacon; the bristles of his beard appeared like thick rods of iron wire, and his locks of hair were like curling snakes and hissing adders. Jack alighted from his horse and putting on his coat of darkness approached somewhat nearer and said. Oh you wicked old monster? It will not be long before I hold you fast by







the beard. The giant all the while could not see his foe by reason of his invisible coat; so coming up close to him Jack struck a blow at his head with his sword of sharpness but missing something of his aim he only cut off the giant's nose. who instantly roared out like a clap of thunder. Though he rolled his glaring eyes on every side, he could not see



from whence the blow came, that had done him that mischief  
get taking up his iron club, he began to lay about him, like  
one that was mad with pain and fury. "Hallo!" said Jack  
"If this is your way, perhaps I had better despatch you at once."





So slipping dexterously behind him, he stabbed him in the back when after a few howls, he fell down dead. Jack having thus dispatched the monster and sent his head to king Arthur resolved to enter the cave in search of their treasure. He passed through a great many turnings and windings, which led him



him at last to great room paved with stone, at the upper end of which was a boiling caldron, and on the right hand stood a large table whereupon he supposed the giants used to dine. He then came to an iron gate, where a window was secured with bars of iron through which he beheld a number of prisoners; who seeing Jack; cried out, Alas! alas young man art thou come to be one among us



in this horrible dismal den?" I hope," said Jack "you will not have to wait long for I have killed the giant with this sword and have sent his monstrous head to court in a waggon, as a trophy of my most glorious victory. And to prove the truth of what he said, he instantly unlocked the gate and set them all at liberty to their great surprise and delight. Then leading



them to the great room, he placed them round the table, and set before them beef and wine; upon which they feasted plentifully. Supper being over they searched the giants coffers, the store of which Jack divided equally among the captives, who gratefully thanked him for their happy deliverance, and then departed.

It was at the hour of sunrise that Jack mounted his horse to proceed on his journey. He had not rode far when he arrived at the castle of the knight, whom he had delivered from the power of the giant, and recollecting his invitation, he went in, and was received with every demonstration of joy imaginable, by both the





knights and his lady, who gave a splendid entertainment,  
in honor of Jack's victory, which lasted many days and to which



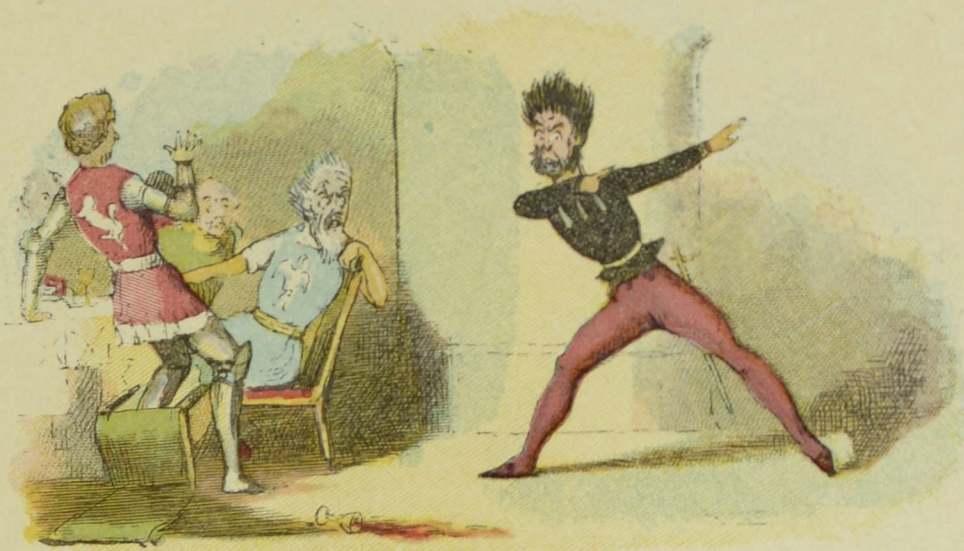
all the nobility and gentry of that part of the country were invited. When the company were assembled, the knight related the noble exploit of Jack and presented him, as a token of gratitude, with a beautiful ring, on which was engraved a picture of the Giant dragging along the knight and his lady, by the hair.

Among the guests present, were five aged gentlemen, who were fathers to some of the miserable captives, who had been liberated by Jack from the dungeon of the giant. As soon as they discovered that he was the person who had performed such wonders the venerable men, with tears of gratitude, pressed round him





to return thanks for the happiness he had procured for them and their families. After this the bowl went round and every one drank to the health and long life of the gallant conqueror. Mirth increased and the hall resounded with peals of laughter and joyful acclamations. But suddenly a herald breathless with haste and terror, rushed into the midst of the company and cried out, "that Thundol a ferocious giant



having heard of the death of his kinsman, was come from the north to be revenged on Jack, and that he was within a few miles of the house. The country people all flying before him in the greatest terror like chaff before the wind.

At these tidings the very boldest of the guests trembled with confusion and dismay; while the undaunted Jack brandished his sword, and cried "Let him come: for I have a rod to chastise him." The good knight's house was surrounded by a moat, fifteen feet deep, over which was a drawbridge. Jack employed two men to cut the bridge almost to the middle and then putting on his invisible



coat he went out against the giant with his sword of sharpness  
As he came close up to him, though he could not see him  
on account of this invisible coat, yet he was quite sensible of  
some impending danger  
and roared out in a voice  
that was quite terrible -





Ya, fe, fi, fo, fum  
 I smell the blood of an Englishman  
 If he's alive, or if he be dead  
 I'll grind his bones to make my bread.

"Say you so, my friend?" said Jack "you are certainly a very big miller" "Art thou" said the giant "the villain who killed my kinsman? Then I will tear you into little pieces with my teeth, and grind your bones to powder"



"You must catch me first," said Jack; and throwing off his coat of darkness, and putting on his shoes of swiftness he began to run. The furious Giant stalked after him like a moving castle making the earth shake at every step he took. Jack led him round and round the walls of the castle that the company might see this monster of nature, and to finish the work, after dodging and baffling him in every possible way, he at length determined to put an end to him, and so he ran.



over the drawbridge, the Giant still pursuing him with his club; till coming to the middle, where the bridge had been cut by Jack's order, with the very great weight of his immense body, and the tremendous steps that he took, it broke and he tumbled into the water, and rolled about like a large whale. Jack standing by the moat, laughed and jeered at him for





some time ; and at last ordering a coat ropes to be brought  
to him, he cast it over the giants head, and by the help of  
a great number of horses, he  
dragged him to the edge, and  
there in the presence of the





knight and his guests, he off the monster's head, and before he eat or drank, sent them to the court of King Arthur. He then returned to the company, and the remainder of the day was spent in mirth, good cheer, and the congratulations of all the company. After staying with the knight for some time





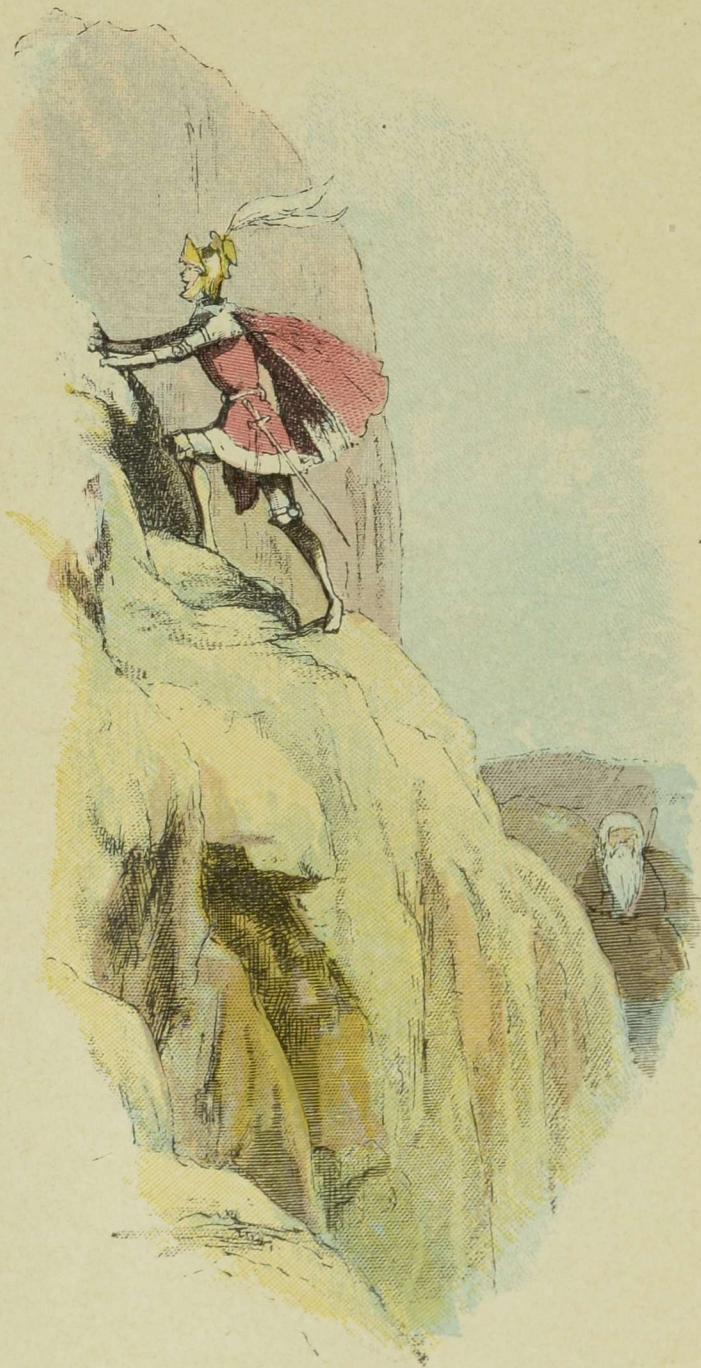
Jack began to grow weary of such an idle life, and so he set out again in search of new adventures. He travelled over hills and dales till he came to the foot of a very high mountain, where lived a venerable old man with a head as white as snow. My son said the hermit "I know you are the famous conqueror of giants. Now on the top of this mountain is an enchanted castle, kept by a rich giant named Golligantus, who with a vile magician gets many knights and fair ladies into his castle. Above all I lament the cruel fate of a Duke's daughter, whom they seized as she was walking in her father's garden, and brought hither in the air, in a chariot drawn by two fiery





dragons and turned her into the shape of a deer. Many knights have tried to destroy the enchantment, and deliver her; but none have been able to affect it, by reason of two fierce dragons who guard the gates of the castle and destroy every one who comes near it. But as you, my son, have an invisible coat you may pass by them without being seen; and on the gates of the castle you will find engravenly what means the enchantment may be broken.

Jack promised, that, in the morning at the risk of his life, he would destroy the enchantment; and soon after retired to rest. Jack arose early the next morning, put on his invisible coat and departed his his perilous enterprise; but perfectly confident in his own mind that he would succeed in breaking the spell. When he arrived at the castle gate, he found it guarded by a porter of gigantic size; however aided by





his invisible coat, he got behind him, and with one blow of his infallible sword, severed his head from his body. Jack then proceeded on through several passages till at length he came to a spacious hall, at one end of which was the grand chamber in which the magician and the Giant owner of the castle, usually held their consultation. By the side of this door Jack saw suspended a golden trumpet, and beneath it, written upon a tablet were these lines —

Whoever can this trumpet blow,  
Shall cause the Giant's overthrow.





**JACK** was hastening towards the trumpet when all of a sudden he beheld two fierce dragons crouching at each side of the door; and whose furious looks made even Jack's stout heart tremble within him. "Now," thought he, "I must e'en abandon my task" but mustering fresh courage, he slid silently towards them, and aimed such a blow at the foremost one that he killed him dead on the spot: and as instantly turning and aiming a similar blow at the other, he fortunately laid him also dead. Jack

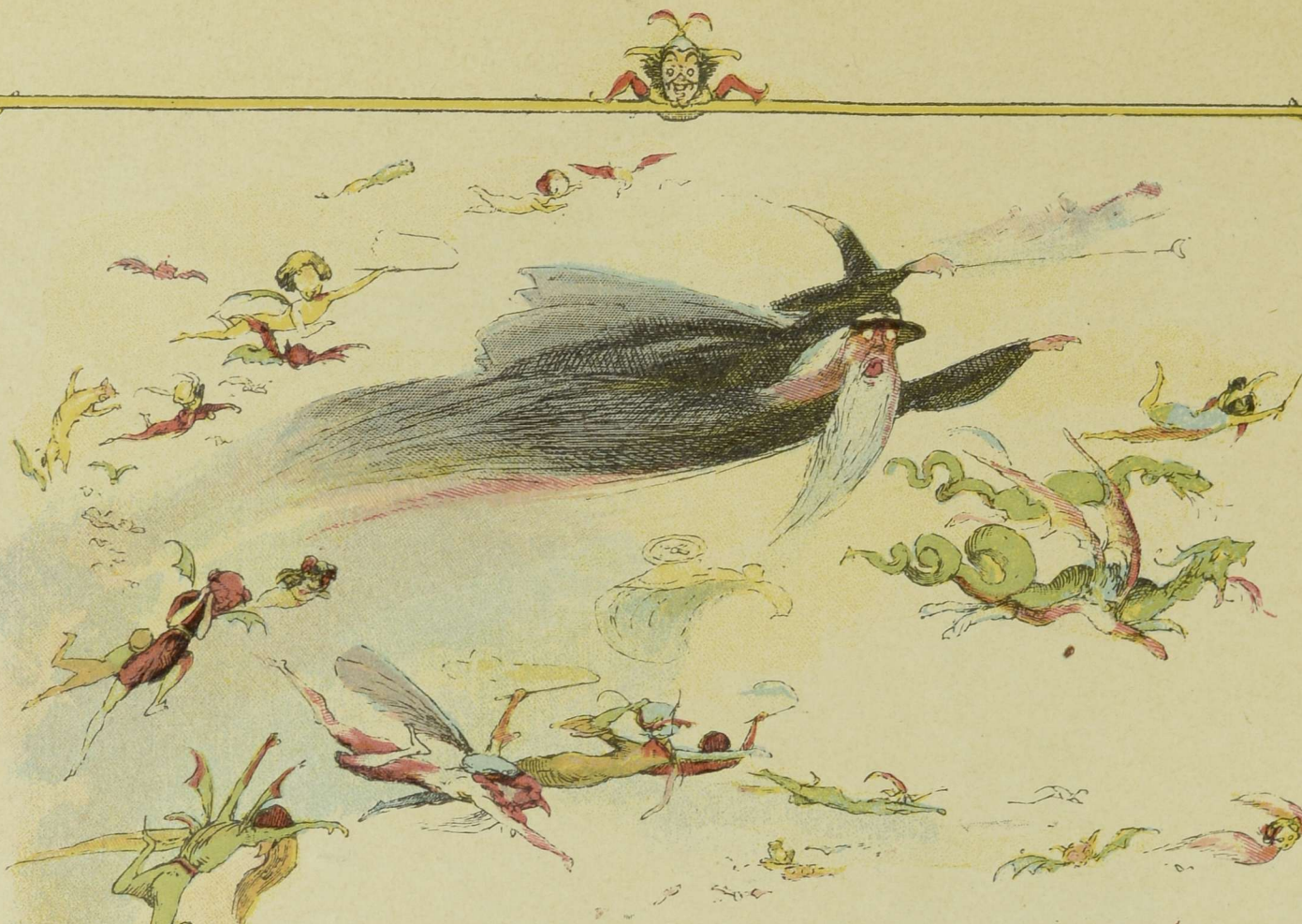




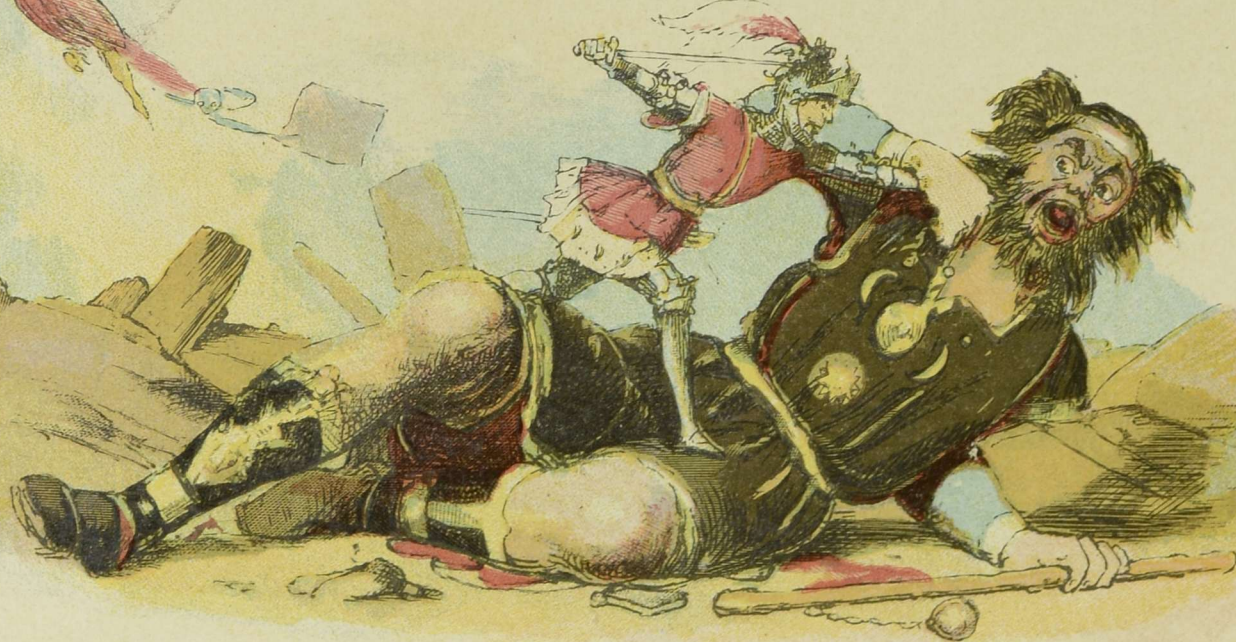
then seized the trumpet and blew a loud blast, which made the gates fly open, and the very castle itself, tremble and as instantly fly away like smoke. The Giant and the conjuror knowing that their wicked course was at an end, stood biting their thumbs, and shaking with fear and anger. Jack with his sword of sharpness soon killed the Giant, and the vile magician was then carried







away in a whirlwind. Every knight and lady who had been changed into beasts or birds, instantly recovered their proper forms and flocked round their gallant deliverer and thanked him in the most grateful manner for their happy escape. After this Jack cut off the head of Golligantus, and sent it, together with an account of his







proceedings to King Arthur. The knights and ladies rested that night at the old man's hermitage and the next day set out for their respective homes. Jack and the duke's daughter then departed to the court of King Arthur, where they both arrived safe, and were joyfully received by both the king, and the good old Duke. Jack's fame now spread through the whole country, and at the king's desire







the Duke gave him his lovely daughter in marriage, to the great joy of the whole kingdom. After this Majesty gave him a large estate, as a reward for his past services, upon which he and his lady lived the rest of their days, in peace and content, beloved and respected by all.

THUS ENDS THE HISTORY  
of  
JACK THE GIANT  
Killer.

















