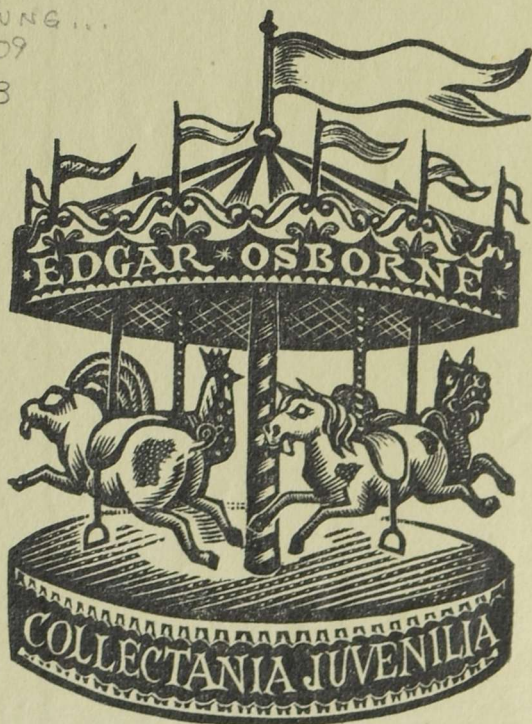




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ALADIN or the WONDERFUL LAMP



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ALADDIN ;

OR,

THE WONDERFUL LAMP.

ALADDIN was the son of Mustapha, a very 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 having been brought up in a very careless manner, loved play more than work, and neglecting his business, frequented the company of all sorts of idle boys and vagabonds. His father dying while he was yet very young, he spent his whole time in the streets, and his poor mother was obliged to spin cotton night and day to procure sufficient of the coarsest fare for their support. She did this the more willingly, as she loved him dearly, and always promised herself that as her son grew older, he would be ashamed of his idleness, and become a worthy and industrious man.

One day as Aladdin was playing as usual

amidst a whole troop of vagabond boys, a stranger passing by stood still to observe him. This stranger was a famous African magician, who having need of the assistance of some ignorant person, no sooner beheld Aladdin than he knew, by his whole air, manners, and appearance, that he was an idle and good for nothing boy, 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 their answers confirmed the opinion he had already formed of his bad habits.

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

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

"Alas !" cried the stranger, "what afflicting tidings ! I am thy father's brother, child, and have been many years travelling into foreign countries ; and now that I expected to be happy with my brother at home, I find him dead."

Aladdin, who had never heard of any brother of his father, stood like one stupified, till his pretended uncle pulled him out two pieces of gold, and gave them to him, bidding him run home and desire his mother to get a supper ready, as he intended to spend a few hours with his beloved sister-in-law that very evening. Aladdin, having pointed out the house, hastened home with the gold and the tidings to his mother, who was no less amazed than himself; she had never heard her husband mention more than one brother, and that one was also a tailor, and had died before Aladdin was born. She could not, however, she thought, doubt the word of a gentleman that had sent her two pieces of gold, and she went joyfully to market, where she bought excellent provisions, and was cooking in her best manner, when the magician knocked at the door. He entered, followed by a porter bringing all kinds of delicious fruits and sweetmeats for the desert, and plenty of good wine. Having saluted his dear sister-in-law, as he called her, and having said a great many affec-

tionate things of his deceased brother Mustapha, they sat down to supper, after which the magician looking round the house, said, " My dear sister, it grieves me much to see such an appearance of poverty about you ; I hope my nephew Aladdin does his duty by you, it is time that he should be able to supply you with many comforts."

At these words Aladdin hung down his head in the greatest confusion imaginable. He could not utter a syllable in his justification ; on the contrary, he felt quite ashamed of himself. His mother was also silent a few moments, and then replied, " Indeed, my honoured brother, it almost breaks my heart to be obliged to tell you, that Aladdin, tho' now fifteen years of age, minds nothing but play, and all that I can earn is scarcely sufficient to get us bread. I almost despair of his amendment, and should I die, what would become of him ?"

The poor old woman burst into tears, and the magician turning to Aladdin, said, " This is a sad account, nephew, but it is never too

late to mend. You must think of getting your own living, and I will assist you to the very utmost of my power. What think you of keeping a shop?" Aladdin was overjoyed at this proposition, for he thought there was very little labour in keeping a shop, and he told his uncle he had a greater inclination to that business than any other. "Well," said the stranger, "I will keep my promise, and you shall have a shop well stocked with all sorts of merchandize. To-morrow morning I will take you with me, and clothe you handsomely, and then we will look about for a proper situation."

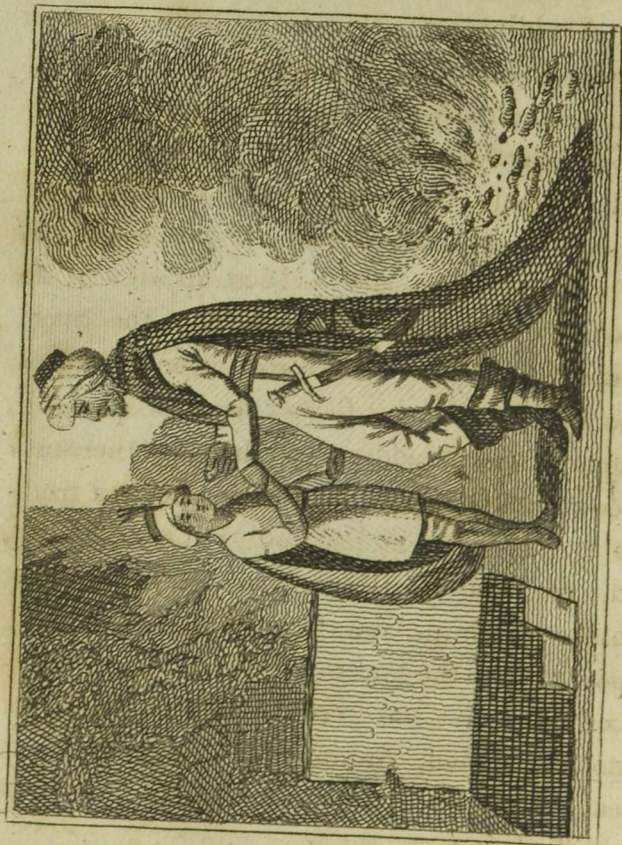
Aladdin's mother fell on her knees to thank the magician for his kindness to her son; and after he had taken his leave, the mother and son sat up the greater part of the night, talking of the shop, the uncle, and Aladdin's new clothes.

The next morning early the magician came for Aladdin, and carried him to a great warehouse, where all sorts of clothes were sold ready made. Aladdin was presently equipped in a neat suit, for which his uncle paid liberal-

ly. He then led the boy through the principal streets of the city, pointing out to him the finest shops, and many rarities, till they came to the extremity of the town. As it was a fine day, the magician proposed that they should continue their walk, and they passed through the public gardens, Aladdin becoming more and more delighted every instant with the fine things he saw, and the conversation of his uncle, who at length invited him to sit down beside a beautiful fountain, and regale himself with some cakes and fruit he had purposely brought with him.

Aladdin having feasted heartily on these dainties, they rose up, and pursued their walk, crossing innumerable gardens and fine meadows, the magician all the while telling a number of diverting stories, till they arrived at the entrance of a narrow valley bounded on each side by lofty and barren mountains. "Dear uncle," cried Aladdin, "where are we going now? See we have left all the pretty gardens a long way behind us, pray let us go

ALADIN *or the* WONDERFUL LAMP



Aladin forced by the Enchanter

back, pray let us make haste from this frightful place."

"No, no," said the magician, seizing hold of Aladdin's arm, "no going back again at present. I will show you more extraordinary things than any you have seen yet, and what no person ever saw before." Aladdin followed his uncle still farther into the valley, till they seemed to be surrounded with high and black mountains, and had lost all view of the country behind them. Suddenly the magician stood still, and in a rough tone of voice, perfectly unlike his former mode of speaking, commanded Aladdin to gather together some loose sticks for a fire. Aladdin obeyed trembling, and when he had collected a large heap, the magician set them on fire. Presently the blaze rose high, and the magician threw some powder into the midst of the fire, and pronounced some mystical words, which Aladdin did not understand. Instantly they were surrounded by a thick smoke; the earth shook beneath their feet, the mountain burst asunder,

and discovered a broad flat stone with a large brass ring fixed in the middle of it.

Aladdin was now so exceedingly terrified, that he was going to run away, but the magician perceiving his design, gave him such a box on the ear, that he knocked him down. Poor Aladdin got up again, and with tears running down his cheeks, said, "What have I done, uncle, that you should use me so cruelly?"

"Child," said the magician in a kinder tone of voice, "I did not mean to strike thee so severely. But thou shouldst not think of running away from me, when I only brought thee hither to do thee service. Know, Aladdin, that under this stone lies hid a treasure, that will make you richer than the greatest monarch on the earth, and of which I alone know how to make you master." Aladdin forgot his box on the ear when he heard of the treasure, and he eagerly promised to do whatever he was desired to perform.

"Come, then," said the magician, "take hold of that brass ring, and lift up that stone."

When the stone was pulled up, there appeared a deep hollow cave in the earth, and a narrow flight of steps. "Go, child," said the magician, "go down into that cavern. At the bottom of these steps you will find a door open, which will lead you into a large vaulted place, divided into three great halls, full of silver and gold coin. Pass through them quickly, for if you touch any thing they contain, you will meet with instant death. At the end of the third hall, you will see a fine garden, cross the garden by a path, that will bring you upon a terrace, where you will see a lighted lamp standing in a niche. Take the lamp down, and put out the light, and when you have thrown away the wick, and poured out the oil, put the lamp in your bosom, and bring it to me. If you wish for any of the fruit of the garden, you may gather as much as you please." Having said this, the magician drew a ring off his finger, and putting it on Aladdin's, told him it was a preservative against all evil, if he faithfully obeyed his directions. "Go down boldly, m *y*

son," he added, " and we shall both be rich and happy all the rest of our lives."

Aladdin jumped into the cave, went down the steps, and found the three halls just as the magician had described them. He went through them without touching any thing; crossed the garden without stopping; took down the lamp from the niche, threw out the wick and the liquor, and, as the magician had desired him, put the lamp into his bosom. As he came down from the terrace, he was greatly surprised to observe that the branches of the trees were loaded, as he thought, with beautiful pieces of glass of all colours, that dazzled his eyes with their lustre; and though he would rather have found peaches, figs, and grapes, yet these pieces of coloured glass were so very pretty, that he could not help filling his pockets and two purses his uncle had given him with them. He likewise wrapped as many as he could in the skirts of his coat, and, thus encumbered, made haste to return to his uncle. The magician was expecting him at the mouth of the cave, with extreme impa-

tience. "Pray, uncle," said Aladdin, when he came to the top of the stairs, "give me your hand to assist me in getting out."

"Yes, yes, but give me the lamp first," said the magician. "I cannot, dear uncle, till I am out of this place," replied Aladdin.

"Wretch," roared the magician in a fury, "deliver it this instant."

"No, I will not," said Aladdin, "till you have helped me out of the cave."

The magician's eyes flashed fire: "Villain, thou shalt repent thy obstinacy," he exclaimed, stretching out his arm to strike Aladdin, when some powder he still held in his hand, dropped into the fire; the rock shook with thunder, the great stone moved into its place, and Aladdin remained buried alive in this cavern of treasure; in vain he cried and wrung his hands; his cries could not be heard; the doors of the halls were closed by the same enchantment that had closed the rock, and he was left to perish in total darkness.

Aladdin remained in this state two days

without tasting food, and on the third day he looked upon death as inevitable. Clasp- ing his hands with agony, to think of his own destruction and his mother's sorrow, he chanced to press the ring the magician had put on his finger, and immediately an enormous genie rose out of the earth, and said, "What wouldest thou have with me ? I am ready to obey thy commands—I and the other slaves of that ring."

Aladdin, trembling with affright, said, "Deliver me, I beseech thee, from this place if thou art able." He had no sooner spoke than the earth opened, and he found himself on the very spot where he had been brought by the magician. He remembered the way he had come, and made all the haste he could to get back to the city ; but when he reached his mother's threshold, joy to find himself at home again, and the fatigue he had undergone, overcame his strength, and he fainted at the door.

When Aladdin had recovered from his fit, and had been embraced a thousand times by his mother, he hastened to relate to her all

that had befallen him. "Ah, my son," she cried, "I see clearly now that that man was no brother of thy father's. He was a wicked enchanter, that meant to make thee useful to him in some bad purpose or other. Let it be a warning to thee, Aladdin, to work for thy own subsistence, and then thou wilt not want the assistance of deceitful strangers or pretended uncles."

Aladdin having promised his mother to attend to her good advice, entreated her to bring him some food, as he was almost starved. Alas! the poor old woman had neither food nor money in the house, for while her son had been absent, she had neglected her spinning to run up and down the streets in search of him.

"Well, mother," said Aladdin, "do not mind it. Pray dry your tears, and reach me the lamp I put on the shelf just now, and I will go and sell it. The old woman took down the lamp, and thinking it would sell better if it were cleaner, she began to rub it with sand. Instantly a hideous genie stood before her, and said in a voice like thun-

der, "What wouldst thou have? I am ready to obey thy commands—I and all the other slaves of that lamp."

Aladdin, having seen the former genie, was less frightened than his mother, who fainted away, while he said boldly, "I am hungry, bring me something to eat." The genie disappeared, and presently returned with twelve large plates of silver, full of the most savoury meats, six white loaves, two bottles of wine, and two silver drinking-cups. Having placed them all in order on a table, he vanished.

Aladdin, sprinkling some water on his mother, entreated her, as she recovered from her swoon, to arise and eat of the goodly banquet.

"What," cried the old woman, looking round in amazement, "has the sultan been informed of our poverty, and sent us all these fine things from his own table?"

"Come, mother," replied Aladdin, "let us eat now, and talk after we have done dinner." Accordingly they wasted no time, and having dined plentifully, set aside enough to serve them for two days more.

On hearing that the genie had provided their repast, Aladdin's mother besought him to sell the lamp, and to have nothing to do with genies ; but Aladdin was resolved not to part with the lamp, which he perceived to be of infinite value, both from the service he had just received, and from the eagerness of the magician to get possession of it.

He assured his mother, however, that he would never use it but in a case of great necessity, but would endeavour to get some employment, or learn some trade. At night they were greatly surprised to see the bright light that issued from the heap of pieces of coloured glass that Aladdin had laid in a corner of the beaufet, but though they were astonished at it, they were not in the least aware, that, instead of pieces of glass, they were in reality jewels of immense value, and the mother and son went as quietly to sleep as if no such treasure had been in their possession.

On the following morning Aladdin sold one of his silver plates to a Jew, to purchase

a few necessaries that were wanting in their dwelling ; he would have sold another to buy his mother new clothes, but she would wear none that she had not earned with her own labour. Aladdin next went about among the merchants and shopkeepers seeking employment. At first they were afraid to trust him, but seeing his sober deportment, they at length employed him on trifling errands, and by degrees he gained a very comfortable livelihood, and was respected for his industry and good conduct.

One day while Aladdin was walking through the city, he heard a proclamation, commanding all the people to retire into their houses, as the beautiful Princess Balroudour, whom no one must look upon, was coming to the public baths. Aladdin was a long way from home ; people were running this way and that, and he was quite at a loss where to go ; and hearing the drums and trumpets that preceded the princess approaching, he ran into a large hall, and hid himself behind a folding-door. Now, it happened that this very hall

was the entrance to the baths ; and as soon as the princess passed the gate, she pulled off her veil, thinking she was only surrounded by her own slaves. There was a crevice in the door, which permitted Aladdin to see the princess as well as those beside her ; and her uncommon beauty made so deep an impression on him, that he could think of nothing else for many days afterwards, and neglected his employment and his meals. At length he could not conceal his love any longer. “ Mother,” said he, “ I love the Princess Balroudour to distraction, and you must demand her for me in marriage of the sultan.”

The old woman left off spinning to gaze upon herson, whom she concluded to be mad ; but upon his repeating that he was resolved to be the husband of the lovely princess, she could not forbear bursting into a loud laugh, and bid him remember he was the son of Mustapha the tailor, and no prince or governor, who alone could pretend to be the son-in-law of a sultan.

“ Mother,” said Aladdin, “ I am not so

poor as you imagine. Since I have frequented jeweller's shops, I have learned to know the value of those things I used to call pieces of glass ; it is with those things that I intend to purchase the good-will of the sultan."

Aladdin's mother laughed again, and refused to hear any thing more of such foolish projects.

Poor Aladdin meanwhile pined almost to death, and when his mother saw him nearly at the last gasp, she promised she would go to the sultan if that would restore him to health. Aladdin, overjoyed at her consent, sent her to borrow a large china dish, which he filled with the finest jewels from his heap, and having tied it up carefully in two napkins, the poor old woman set out for the sultan's palace with a heavy heart, fearing she should be punished for her presumption. Being come to the divan, where the sultan was administering justice, she placed herself opposite the throne, and waited in silence till her turn should come to be called forward.

When the court was nearly empty, the vizier bade her approach. She instantly fell on her knees, and besought the sultan's pardon, who commanded her to speak on and fear nothing. She then related the story of her son's falling in love with the princess, and the advice she had given him, stopping at every three words to entreat the sultan's forgiveness, who only smiled, and asked what was tied up in her napkin. She presented the dish to the vizier, who handed it to the sultan.

When the dish was uncovered, the sultan actually started with surprise, for he had never before seen jewels of such a size or lustre. "Your son," said he, "can be no ordinary person, if he affords to make such presents as these." The vizier now approached, and whispered something to the sultan, who nodded, and then turning to Aladdin's mother, said, "Go, tell your son that he shall have the Princess Balroudour in marriage, as soon as he sends me forty basons of massy gold, filled with such jewels as these, carried by forty black slaves, who shall be

led by forty white slaves, all magnificently clothed. Go, hasten home, and declare my will to your son."

Aladdin's mother retired in the greatest grief and consternation. She was surprised to see that her son only smiled at the sultan's demand ; she concluded, therefore, he had already got the better of his foolish passion, and went joyfully to market to buy provisions for their dinner. As soon as she was gone, Aladdin rubbed the lamp, and the genie stood before him, whom he commanded to bring the basons of gold, the jewels, and the black slaves and white, as the sultan had required ; and presently the house was filled with this splendid train of slaves most magnificently dressed, bearing basons of massy gold, filled with the rarest jewels.

When Aladdin's mother returned from market, she trembled to see these wonderful things ; but as her son entreated her to make haste back to the divan, she stayed to ask no questions, but put herself at the head of the procession, which drew after it all the idle and

curious people of the city. When she entered the divan, she prostrated herself at the foot of the throne, and said, "Sire, my son Aladdin is sensible that this present he sends your majesty, is much below the worth of the Princess Balroudour; but he hopes your majesty will accept it as a token of his submission to your royal commands."

The sultan was not able immediately to reply, he was so taken up with the beauty of the slaves, who looked like so many kings, and whose habits were even richer than his own; at length he said, "Go, bring your son hither, that I may bestow on him the hand of my daughter."

Aladdin now again summoned the genie of the lamp, who transported him invisibly to a fine bath of rose-water. Afterwards he was dressed by the hands of the genie in the most sumptuous apparel. A horse, that surpassed the best in the sultan's stables, was provided for him, whose saddle and housings were of pure gold. He had a train of slaves ready, finely mounted, and bearing magnificent pre-

sents for the princess. Another set of slaves were ready to attend on Aladdin's mother, for whom they had brought suitable dresses and an equipage.

Aladdin mounted his horse, and so great a change had the care of the genie made in his appearance, that no one knew him to be poor Aladdin the tailor's son, but took him for some mighty prince, who had been accustomed to the same grandeur and magnificence from the hour of his birth. When the sultan beheld him, he was no less surprised at his good mien, fine shape, and dignity of demeanour, than at the elegance and costliness of his apparel. Aladdin would have thrown himself at the feet of the sultan, but was prevented by the sultan's embracing him, and seating him on his right hand.

They conversed together during some hours, and the sultan was so entirely charmed with his good sense and modesty, that he proposed to marry the young lovers that very evening. To this, however, Aladdin objected, saying that it was necessary he should first build a

palace to receive his princess ; and he entreated the sultan would grant him a piece of ground opposite the gates of the royal palace for this purpose. The sultan readily agreed to this proposal, and they separated—Aladdin returning home to employ the genie of the lamp to build a palace, and the sultan retiring to his daughter's apartment, to congratulate her on the happiness that awaited her.

When the sultan arose the next morning, how great was his amazement to behold, opposite to his own, a palace of the purest architecture, and half the inhabitants of the city already gathered in crowds to gaze on this wonder ! He was presently informed that Aladdin waited to conduct his majesty to the new palace.

The sultan was more and more amazed at every step ; for the walls were built of wedges of gold and silver, and the ornaments were of jasper, agate, and porphyry, intermixed with diamonds, rubies, emeralds, amethysts, and every thing that most was rare and beautiful.

The treasury was full of gold coin, and the offices filled with domestics, the stables with the finest horses and carriages, with grooms and equerries in splendid liveries. In short, the sultan acknowledged that the wealth of all his dominions was not equal to the purchase of such costly rarities, as the hall with twenty-four windows of Aladdin's palace could produce.

Aladdin and the princess were speedily married, and lived very happily but the fame of his magnificence spread to all the corners of the world, and at length reached Africa, and the ears of the magician, who was at no loss to know the source of Aladdin's riches. Resolved to possess himself of the wonderful lamp, he disguised his person, and travelled to China. Being come to the city where Aladdin lived, he bought a number of beautiful lamps; and when he knew that Aladdin was gone out to hunt with the sultan, he went under the windows of the apartments belonging to the princess, crying, "Who will exchange old lamps for new?"

The slaves attending on the princess all ran to the windows, laughing at the odd cry. "Oh," said one of the slaves, "do let us try if the fool means what he says; there is an ugly old lamp lying on the cornice of the hall of twenty-four windows; we will put a new one in its place, if the old fellow will really give us one." The princess agreed to this proposal, and away ran one of the slaves with the lamp to the magician, who willingly gave her the best he had among his new ones, and retired to enjoy the triumph of his malicious revenge.

As soon as night arrived, he summoned the genie 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.

It is impossible to describe the confusion, grief, and dismay of the sultan, when he arose the next morning, to find the beautiful palace vanished, and his daughter lost. All the people of the city ran in terror through the streets, and a number of soldiers were

sent in search of Aladdin, who was not returned from hunting.

Aladdin, on hearing that his palace and his wife were gone, fainted away, and was soon after dragged before the sultan like a criminal, and would have been beheaded, had not the sultan been afraid to enrage the people, who were all fond of Aladdin. "Go, wretch," cried the angry sultan, "I grant thee thy life ; but if ever thou appearest before me again, thy death shall be the consequence, unless in forty days thou bringest me tidings of my daughter."

Aladdin left the palace, not knowing whether to turn his steps. At length he stopped at a brook to wash his eyes, that smarted with the tears he had shed : as he stooped to the water 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 genie of the ring appeared before him, saying, "What wouldst thou have ?"—"Oh, powerful genie !" cried

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

"What you command," answered the genie, "is not in my power, I am only the genie of the ring; you must address yourself to the genie of the lamp for that service."

"Then I command thee," said Aladdin, "to transport me to the place where it stands now." Instantly Aladdin found himself beside his own palace, which stood in a meadow not far from a great city; the princess Balrondour was then walking backward and forward in her own chamber, weeping for the loss of her beloved Aladdin. Happening to approach the window, she beheld him under it, and making a sign to him not to betray his joy, she sent a slave to bring him in by a private door. The princess and her husband having mingled their tears and embraces, Aladdin said, "Tell me, my princess, instantly, what is become of an old lamp I left on the cornice of the hall of four and twenty windows?" The princess related the manner in which her slaves had exchanged it

for a new one, and added, that she feared all her misfortunes were owing to that lamp, since she observed that the tyrant, in whose power she was, always carried that very lamp in his bosom. Aladdin, convinced that it was his old enemy the magician, who had got possession of the lamp, contrived with the princess means of getting it from him.

Aladdin went into the city, disguised as a slave, and procured a powder, that on being swallowed, would instantly cause a death-like sleep, and the princess invited the magician to sup with her. As she had never been so condescending 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, 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 joyfully seized the goblet, and drinking it all at a draft, fell senseless on the floor.

Aladdin was at hand to snatch the lamp

from his bosom, and having thrown the traitor out upon the grass of the meadow, the genie was summoned, and in an instant the princess, the palace, and all that it contained, were transported to their original station. The very morning of the return of Aladdin's palace, the sultan had risen by break of day to indulge his sorrows, when, to his unspeakable joy, he beheld the vacancy filled up. He summoned his guards, and hastened to embrace his daughter ; and during a whole week nothing was to be seen but illuminations, fireworks, balls, and entertainments, throughout the city, in honour of Aladdin's safe return.

Aladdin did not forget now to carry the lamp always about him, and things went on very well for some time. But the magician having slept off his potion, and found the lamp and the palace gone, once more set out for China. Being come to the end of his journey, he went to the cell of a holy woman, named Fatima, who was renowned through the city for her sanctity, and her cure of the head-ache. The cruel magician having killed

the poor old woman and buried her, dressed himself in her garments, and having stained his face and eye-brows exactly to resemble the colour of her's, he walked out into the city, and counterfeited so well, that every body believed him to be the holy woman, and followed him in crowds, begging his blessing. At length he approached the palace, and the princess hearing that Fatima was in the street, sent her slaves to invite the holy woman into the palace.

The pretended Fatima was kindly entertained by the princess, who led her through the apartments of the palace, and shewed her the magnificent hall of twenty-four windows. "Princess," said the false Fatima, "forgive my offering my opinion, but I think if a roc's egg was hung up in the middle of the dome, this hall would have no parallel in the four quarters of the world, and your palace would be the wonder of the universe."

"My good Fatima," said the princess, "what sort of a bird is a roc, and where may one get an egg?"

"Princess," replied Fatima, "it is a bird

of prodigious size, which inhabits the top of Mount Caucasus; the architect that built your palace can get you one."

The pretended Fatima would now have withdrawn, but the princess insisted on her continuing in the palace some days. That very evening Aladdin, who had been absent on a journey, returned home sooner than was expected, and found the princess somewhat melancholy; he begged to know the cause, and she confessed she was wishing she could have the dome of the grand hall ornamented with a roc's egg. "Beautiful princess," said Aladdin, "your wish shall be gratified." He instantly withdrew to the hall of four and twenty window, and calling for the genie of the lamp, he said, "Good genie, I command thee in the name of the lamp, to hang up a roc's egg in the centre of this dome."

The genie, on hearing these words, uttered so loud and terrible a cry, that the palace shook with the noise, and Aladdin had nearly fallen to the ground. "What!" said he, "after every thing I and my fellow-slaves have done to serve

thee, dost thou command me to bring my master, and hang him up in the midst of this dome ? This attempt deserves my utmost vengeance, and I would reduce your palace into a heap of ashes, but that I know you are not the contriver of this wish. The African magician is now under your roof disguised as the holy woman Fatima, whom he has murdered. Go punish his crimes, or your own destruction is inevitable." The genie vanished, and left Aladdin in the utmost agitation. He was, however, not long in deliberating on the means of destroying his enemy. He went to his wife's apartment, and throwing himself upon a sofa, complained of a violent head-ache. The princess, delighted with the idea of being able immediately to relieve her husband's pain, exclaimed, that the good Fatima was in the palace, and then ran to bring her.

The pretended Fatima came with one hand lifted up, as if to bless Aladdin, while the other grasped a dagger concealed in the folds of her garment. Aladdin kept a watchful eye on her, and soon as she came near him,

ALADIN or the WONDERFUL LAMP



The prince of Persia came with the band
 and up to the window, while the
 prince of Persia was in the folds
 of his garment. Aladdin kept a watchful
 eye on him, and soon as the prince near him

the little boy I met
and the hand I held in my
clashed the rest of the
I do not know how to
that with you I think
the boy's father, till
the hood of the
in the night
then I thought
which was
without a son
rebellion and the
their many years
virtuous and illustrious

FINIS

J. P. K. & Co. Printers, Boston

seized the hand that held the dagger, and stabbed the traitor to the heart.

The princess began to scream and tear her hair with grief to think her husband had killed the holy Fatima, till Aladdin, snatching off the hood of the cloak, shewed her the wicked magician concealed beneath. Her grief was then changed to joy, that they had escaped his wicked snares, and shortly after the sultan dying without a son, Aladdin and the princess Balrondour ascended the throne, and reigned together many years, and left behind them a numerous, virtuous, and illustrious progeny.

FINIS.

land the first of the century and
applied the same to the
The prince of the German and was
him with great interest but he had not
in the holy Trinity, and Aladdin, a member of
the head of the clock, showed him the riches
treasures concealed beneath. He found
them of such joy that they were
inhabited and built after the
without a son. Aladdin and the
countess and the prince, and
that many years, and left behind
treasures, riches, and illustrious

THE

NEW JUVENILE LIBRARY.

THE
HISTORY
OF
WHITTINGTON
AND
HIS CAT.

EMBELLISHED WITH
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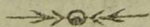
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1809

WHITTINGTON

AND

HIS CAT.



IN the reign of the famous king Edward the Third, there was a little boy called Dick Whittington, whose father and mother died when he was very young, so that he remembered nothing at all about them, and was left a ragged little fellow running about a country village. As poor Dick was not old enough to work, he was very badly off; he got but little for his dinner, and sometimes nothing at all for his breakfast: for the people who lived in the village were very poor themselves, and could not spare him much more than the parings of potatoes, and now and then a hard crust.

For all this, Dick Whittington was a very sharp boy, and was always listening to what every body talked about. On Sundays he was sure to get near the farmers, as they sat talking on the tomb-stones in the church-yard before the parson was come : and once a week you might see little Dick leaning against the sign-post of the village ale-house, where people stopped to drink as they came from the next market town ; and when the barber's shop-door was open, Dick listened to all the news that his customers told one another.

In this manner Dick heard a good many very strange things about the great city called London : for the foolish country-people at that time thought that folks in London were all fine gentlemen and ladies ; and that there were singing and music all day long ; and that the streets were paved with gold.

One day a large waggon and eight horses, all with bells at their heads, drove through the village, while Dick was standing by the sign-post. He thought that this waggon must be going to the fine town of London ; so he took

courage, and asked the waggoner to let him walk with him by the side of the waggon. As soon as the waggoner heard that poor Dick had no father nor mother, and saw by his ragged clothes that he could not be worse off than he was, he told him he might go if he would: so they set off together.

I could never find out how little Dick contrived to get meat and drink on the road: nor how he could walk so far, for it was a long way; nor what he did at night for a place to lie down and sleep in. Perhaps some good-natured people in the towns that he passed through, when they saw that he was a poor little ragged boy, gave him something to eat; and perhaps the waggoner let him get into the waggon at night, and take a nap upon one of the boxes or large parcels in the waggon.

Dick however got safe to London; and was in such a hurry to see the fine streets paved all over with gold, that I am afraid he did not even stay to thank the kind waggoner; but ran off as fast as his legs could carry him, through many of the streets, thinking every

moment to come to those that were paved with gold : for Dick had seen a guinea three times in his own little village, and remembered what a deal of money it brought in change ; so he thought he had nothing to do but to take up some little bits of the pavement, and should then have as much money as he could wish for.

Poor Dick ran till he was tired, and had quite forgot his friend the waggoner ; but at last, finding it grow dark, and that every way he turned he saw nothing but dirt instead of gold, he sat down in a dark corner, and cried himself to sleep.

Little Dick was all night in the streets ; and next morning being very hungry he got up and walked about, and asked every body he met to give him a halfpenny to keep him from starving : but nobody staid to answer him, and only two or three gave him a halfpenny ; so that the poor boy was soon quite weak and faint for want of victuals.

At last a good-natured-looking gentleman saw how hungry he looked. “ Why don’t you

go to work, my lad?" said he to Dick. "That I would," answered Dick, "but I do not know how to get any." "If you are willing," said the gentleman, "come along with me;" and so saying he took him to a hay-field, where Dick worked briskly and lived merrily till the hay was all made.

After this he found himself as badly off as before; and being almost starved again, he laid himself down at the door of Mr Fitzwarren, a rich merchant. Here he was soon seen by the cook-maid; who was an ill-tempered creature, and happened just then to be very busy dressing dinner for her master and mistress: so she called out to poor Dick, "What business have you there, you lazy rogue? There is nothing else but beggars: if you do not take yourself away, we will see how you will like a sousing of some dish-water I have here, that is hot enough to make you jump."

Just at this time Mr Fitzwarren himself came home to dinner; and when he saw a dirty ragged boy lying at the door, he said to him: "Why do you lie there, my lad? You seem

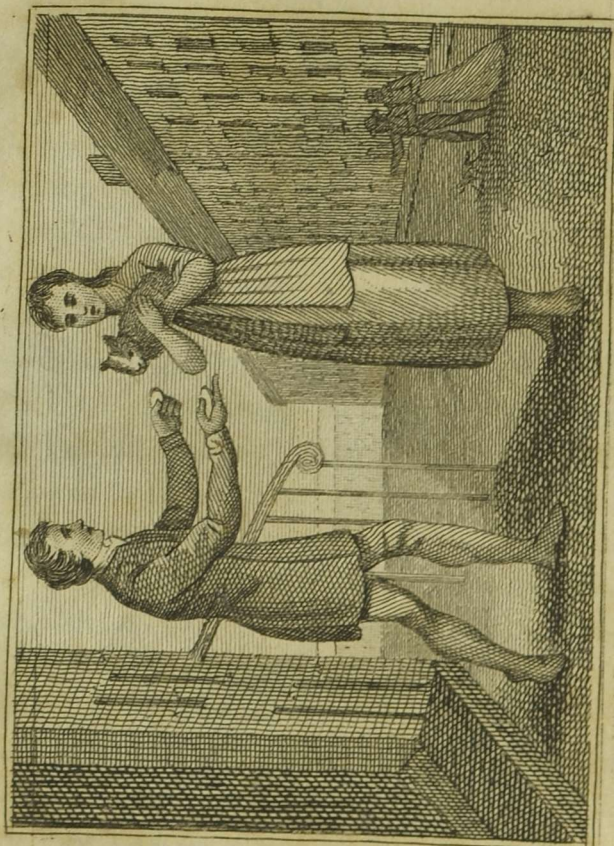
old enough to work. I am afraid you are lazy."

"No indeed, sir," said Dick to him, "that is not the case; for I would work with all my heart; but I do not know any body, and I believe I am very sick for want of food." "Poor fellow!" answered Mr Fitzwarren, "get up, and let us see what ails you."

Dick now tried to rise; but was obliged to lie down again, being too weak to stand: for he had not eaten any thing for three days, and was no longer able to run about and beg a halfpenny of people in the streets. So the kind merchant ordered him to be taken into the house, and have a good dinner given to him; and to be kept to do what dirty work he was able for the cook.

Little Dick would have lived very happy in this good family, if it had not been for the ill-natured cook, who was finding fault and scolding him from morning to night; and besides, she was so fond of basting, that when she had no roast meat to baste, she would be basting poor Dick's head and shoulders with a broom,

WHITTINGTON and HIS CAT



or any thing else that happened to fall in her way. At last her ill usage of him was told to Miss Alice, Mr Fitzwarren's daughter; who asked the ill-tempered creature if it was not a shame to use a little forlorn boy so cruel; and said she should certainly be turned away if she did not treat him kinder, for Miss Alice would not fail to tell Mr Fitzwarren all about it.

But though the cook was so ill-tempered, the footman was quite different: he had lived in the family many years, and was an elderly man, and had once a little son of his own, who died when about the age of Dick; so he could not help feeling pity for the poor boy, and sometimes gave him a halfpenny to buy gingerbread, or a top, for tops were cheaper at that time than they are now.

The footman was very fond of reading; and used often in the evening to entertain the other servants, when they had done their work, with some amusing book. Little Dick took great pleasure in hearing this good man, which made him wish very much to learn to read too; so

the next time the footman gave him a half-penny he bought a little book with it ; and with the footman's help Dick soon learnt his letters, and afterwards to read.

About this time Miss Alice was going out one morning for a walk, and the footman happened to be out of the way : so, as little Dick had a good suit of clothes that Mr Fitzwarren gave him to go to church in on Sundays, he was told to put them on, and walk behind her. As they went along, Miss Alice saw a poor woman with one child in her arms and another at her back : she pulled out her purse, and gave the woman some money ; but as she was putting it into her pocket again, she dropped it on the ground, and walked on. It was lucky that Dick was behind, and saw what she had done ; so he picked up the purse, and gave it to her again.

Another time, when Miss Alice was sitting with the window open, and amusing herself with a favourite parrot, it suddenly flew away, to a branch of a high tree, where all the servants were afraid to venture after it. As soon

as Dick heard of this, he pulled off his coat, and climbed up the tree as nimbly as a squirrel; and after a great deal of trouble, for Poll hopped about from branch to branch, he caught her, and brought her down safe to his mistress. Miss Alice thanked him, and liked him ever after for this.

The ill-humour of the cook was now a little mended; but besides this, Dick had another hardship to get over. His bed, which was of flock, stood in a garret where there were so many holes in the floor and the walls, that every night he was waked in his sleep by great numbers of rats and mice; which often ran over his face, and made such a noise that he sometimes thought the walls were tumbling down about him.

One day a gentleman who came to see Mr Fitzwarren, happened to have dirtied his shoes, and wished to have them cleaned. Dick took great pains to make them shine, and the gentleman gave him a penny. This he thought he would buy a cat with; so the next day, seeing a little girl with a cat under her arm,

he went up to her, and asked if she would let him have it for a penny. The girl said she would with all her heart, for her mother had more cats than she could keep. She told him besides, that this one was a very good mouser.

Dick hid this cat in the garret, and always took care to carry a part of his dinner to her; and in a short time he had no more trouble from the rats and mice, but slept as soundly as he could wish for.

Soon after this, his master had a ship ready to sail; and as he thought it right that all his servants should have some chance for good fortune as well as himself, he called them into the parlour, and asked them what they would send out.

They all had something that they were willing to venture, except poor Dick; who had neither money nor goods, and so could send nothing at all. For this reason he did not come into the parlour with the rest; but Miss Alice guessed what was the matter, and ordered him to be called in. She then said she

would lay down some money for him from her own purse ; but her father told her this would not do, for Dick must send something of his own.

When poor Dick heard this, he said he had nothing but a cat, which he bought for a penny that was given him.

“ Fetch your cat then, my good boy,” said Mr Fitzwarren, “ and let her go.”

Dick went up stairs and brought down poor Puss, and gave her to the captain with tears in his eyes ; for he said he should now be kept awake all night again by the rats and mice.

All the company laughed at Dick’s odd venture ; and Miss Alice, who felt pity for the poor boy, gave him some halfpence to buy another cat.

This, and many other marks of kindness shown him by Miss Alice, made the ill-tempered cook jealous of poor Dick, and she began to use him more cruelly than ever, and always made game of him for sending his cat to sea. She asked him if he thought his cat

would sell for as much money as would buy a stick to beat him.

At last poor little Dick could not bear this usage any longer, and he thought he would run away from his place ; so he packed up his few things, and set out very early in the morning on All-hallows day, which is the first of November. He walked as far as Holloway ; and there sat down on a stone which to this day is called Whittington's Stone, and began to think which road he should take further.

While he was thinking what he would do, the bells of Bow church, which at that time had only six, began to ring ; and he fancied their sounds seemed to say to him :

Turn again, Whittington,
Lord mayor of London.

“ Lord mayor of London ! ” said he to himself. “ Why, to be sure, I would put up with almost any thing now, to be lord mayor of London, and ride in a fine coach, when I grow to be a man ! Well, I will go back, and think nothing of all the cuffing and scolding

of the old cook, if I am to be lord mayor of London at last."

Dick went back ; and was lucky enough to get into the house, and set about his work, before the old cook came down stairs.

The ship, with the cat on board, was a long time at sea ; and was at last driven, by the winds, on a part of the coast of Barbary, where the only people were Moors that the English had never known before.

The people of this country came in great numbers to see the sailors, who were all of quite a different colour from themselves, and treated them very civilly ; and when they became better acquainted, were very eager to buy the fine things that the ship was loaded with.

When the captain saw this, he sent patterns of the best things he had to the king of the country ; who was so much pleased with them, that he sent for the captain and his chief mate to the palace. Here they were placed, as it is the custom of the country, on rich carpets marked with gold and silver flowers. The king and queen were seated at the upper end

of the room ; and a number of dishes, of the greatest rarities, were brought in for dinner : but before they had been set on the table a minute, a vast number of rats and mice rushed in ; and helped themselves from every dish, throwing the gravy and pieces of the meat all about the room.

The captain wondered very much at this, and asked the king's servants if these vermin were not very unpleasant.

“ Oh ! yes,” they said, “ and the king would give half his riches to get rid of them ; for they not only waste his dinner, as you see, but disturb him even in his bed-room, so that he is obliged to be watched while he is asleep for fear of them.”

The captain was ready to jump for joy when he heard this : he thought of poor Dick's cat, and told the king he had a creature on board his ship that would kill all the rats and mice.

The king was still more glad than the captain. “ Bring this creature to me,” said he ; “ and if it can do what you say, I will give you your ship full of gold for her.”

The captain, to make quite sure of his good luck, answered, that she was such a clever cat for catching rats and mice, that he could hardly bear to part with her; but that to oblige his majesty he would fetch her. "Run, run," said the queen; "for I long to see the dear creature that will do us such a service."

Away went the captain to the ship, while another dinner was got ready. He took Puss under his arm, and came back to the palace soon enough to see the table full of rats and mice again, and the second dinner likely to be lost in the same way as the first.

When the cat saw them, she did not wait for bidding; but jumped out of the captain's arm, and in a few moments laid almost all the rats and mice dead at her feet. The rest of them, in a fright scampered away to their holes.

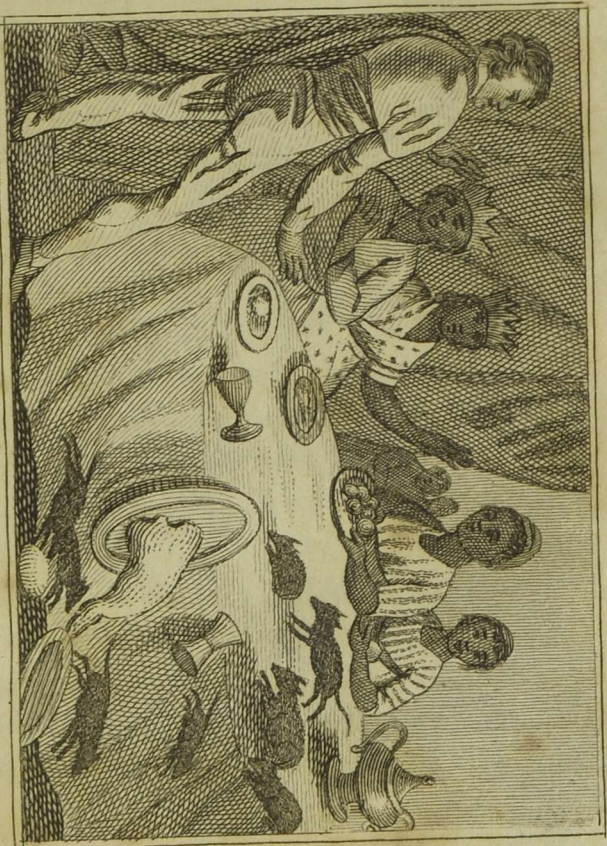
The king and queen were quite charmed to get so easily rid of such plagues; for, ever since they could remember, they had not had a comfortable meal by day, nor any quiet sleep by night. They desired that the creature who

had done them so great a kindness, might be brought for them to look at.

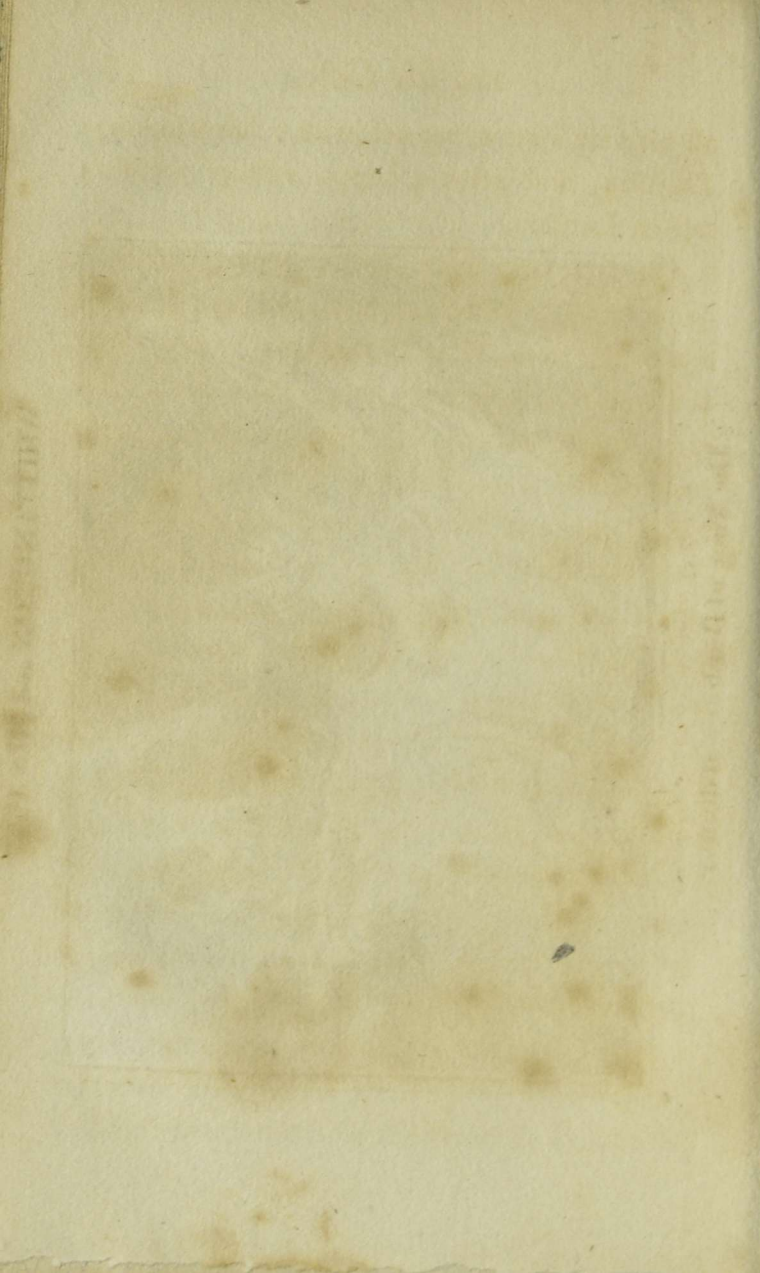
On this the captain called out "Puss, Puss," and the cat ran up to him, and jumped upon his knee. He then held her out to the queen, who started back, and was afraid to touch a creature that was able to kill so many rats and mice: but when she saw how gentle the cat seemed, and how glad she was at being stroked by the captain, she ventured to touch her too; saying all the time, "Poot, Poot," for she could not speak English. At last the queen took Puss on her lap; and by degrees became quite free with her, till Puss purred herself to sleep.

When the king had seen the actions of mistress Puss, and was told that she would soon have young ones which might in time kill all the rats and mice in his country, he bought the captain's whole ship's cargo; and afterwards gave him a great deal of gold besides, which was worth still more, for the cat. The captain then took leave of the king and queen, and the great persons of their court; and, with

WHITTINGTON and HIS CAT



The king of Barbary at dinner



all his ship's crew, set sail with a fair wind for England, and after a happy voyage arrived safe at London.

One morning, when Mr Fitzwarren had just come into his counting-house, and seated himself at the desk, somebody came tap, tap, tap, at the door. "Who is there?" said Mr Fitzwarren. "A friend," answered some one opening the door; when who should it be but the captain and mate of the ship just arrived from the coast of Barbary, and followed by several men carrying a vast many lumps of gold, that had been paid him by the king of Barbary for the ship's cargo!

They then told the story of the cat, and showed the rich present that the king had sent to Dick for her; upon which the merchant called out to his servants:

"Go fetch him, we will tell him of the same; Pray call him Mr Whittington by name."

Mr Fitzwarren now showed himself to be a really good man: for when some of his clerks

said so great a treasure was too much for such a boy as Dick, he answered : “ God forbid that I should keep the value of a single penny from him ! It is all his own, and he shall have every farthing’s worth of it to himself.”

He then sent for Dick, who at that time happened to be scouring the cook’s kettles, and quite dirty ; so that he wanted to excuse himself from going to his master, by saying that the great nails in his shoes would spoil the fine rubbed floor.

Mr Fitzwarren, however, made him come in, and ordered a chair to be set for him : so that poor Dick thought they were making game of him, as the servants often did in the kitchen ; and began to beg his master not to play tricks with a poor simple boy, but to let him go down again to his work.

“ Indeed, Mr Whittington,” said the merchant, “ we are all quite in earnest with you ; and I most heartily rejoice in the news these gentlemen have brought you : for the captain has sold your cat to the king of Barbary, and brought you in return for her more riches than

I possess in the whole world ; and I wish you may long enjoy them !”

Mr Fitzwarren then told the men to open the great treasure they had brought with them ; and said, “ Mr Whittington has now nothing to do but to put it in some place of safety.”

Poor Dick hardly knew how to behave himself for joy : he begged his master to take what part of it he pleased, since he owed it all to his kindness. “ No, no,” answered Mr Fitzwarren, “ this is all your own ; and I have no doubt you will use it well.”

Dick next asked his mistress, and then Miss Alice, to accept a part of his good fortune ; but they would not, and at the same time told him they felt great joy at his good success. But the poor fellow was too kind-hearted to keep it all to himself ; so he made a handsome present to the captain, the mate, and every one of the sailors, and afterwards to his good friend the footman, and the rest of Mr Fitzwarren’s servants ; and even to the ill-natured old cook.

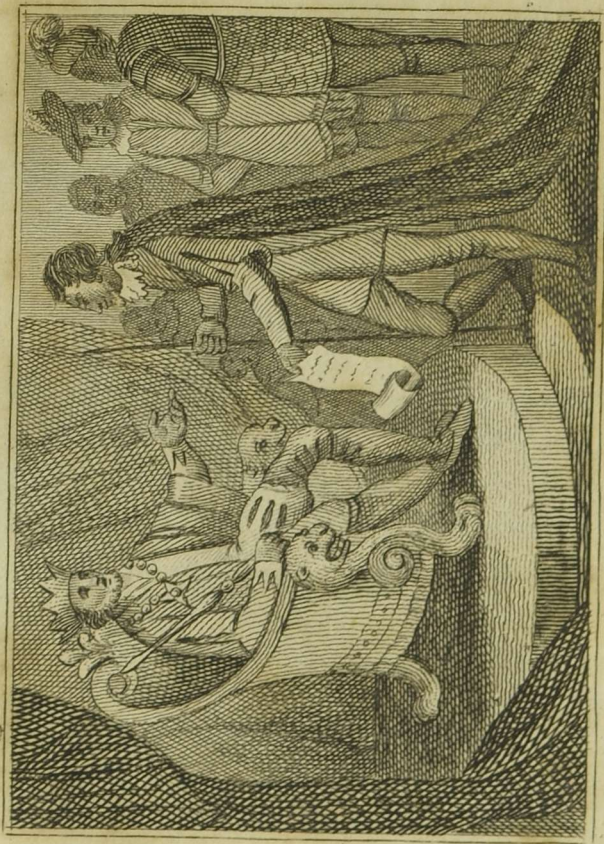
After this Mr Fitzwarren advised him to send for proper tradesmen, and get himself

dressed like a gentleman ; and told him he was welcome to live in his house till he could provide himself with a better.

When Whittington's face was washed, his hair curled, his hat cocked, and he was dressed in a nice suit of clothes, he was as handsome and genteel as any young man who visited at Mr Fitzwarren's ; so that Miss Alice, who had once been so kind to him, and thought of him with pity, now looked upon him as fit to be her sweetheart ; and the more so, no doubt, because Whittington was now always thinking what he could do to oblige her, and making her the prettiest presents that could be.

Mr Fitzwarren soon saw their love for each other, and proposed to join them in marriage ; and to this they both readily agreed. A day for the wedding was soon fixed : and they were attended to church by the lord mayor, the court of aldermen, the sheriffs, and a great number of the richest merchants in London ; whom they afterwards treated with a very fine feast.

WHITTINGTON and HIS CAT



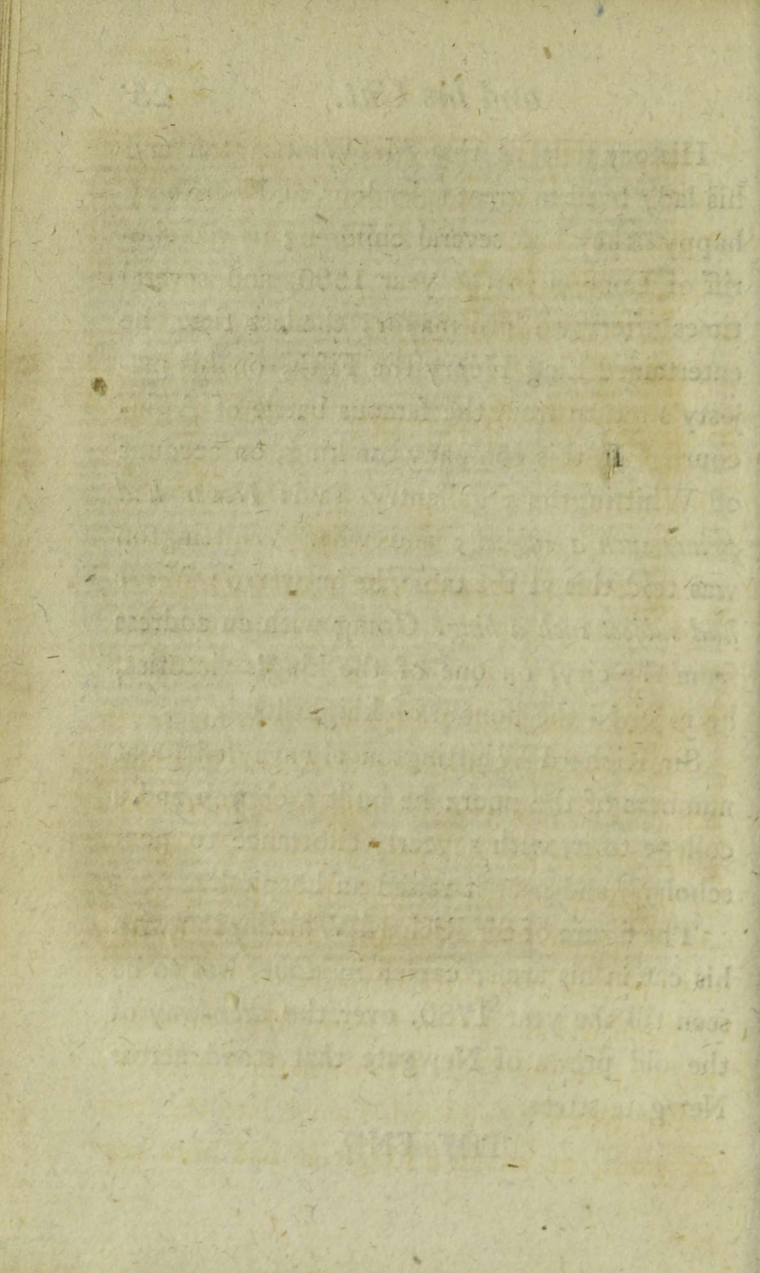
Whittington lord mayor of London presenting

History tells us that Mr Whittington and his lady lived in great splendour, and were very happy; they had several children; he was sheriff of London in the year 1360, and several times afterward lord mayor; the last time, he entertained king Henry the Fifth, on his majesty's return from the famous battle of Agincourt. In this company the king, on account of Whittington's gallantry, said: *Never had prince such a subject*; and when Whittington was told this at the table, he answered: *Never had subject such a king*. Going with an address from the city, on one of the king's victories, he received the honour of knighthood.

Sir Richard Whittington always fed great numbers of the poor: he built a church and a college to it, with a yearly allowance to poor scholars, and near it raised an hospital.

The figure of Sir Richard Whittington with his cat in his arms, carved in stone, was to be seen till the year 1780, over the arch-way of the old prison of Newgate that stood across Newgate-street.

THE END.



THE
HISTORY
OF
HACHO, KING OF LAPLAND.

HACHO, king of Lapland, was in his youth the most renowned of the Northern Warriors. His martial achievements remain engraven on a pillar of flint in the rocks of Hanga, and are to this day solemnly carolled to the harp by the Laplanders, at the fires with which they celebrate their nightly festivals.

Such was his intrepid spirit, that he ventured to pass the Lake Vether to the Isle of Wizards, where he descended alone into the dreary vault, in which a Magician had been kept

bound for six ages, and read the Gothic characters inscribed on his brazen mace. His eyes were so piercing, that, as ancient chronicles report, he could blunt his weapons only by looking at them.—At twelve years of age he carried an iron vessel, of very prodigious weight, for the length of five furlongs, in presence of all the chiefs of his father's castle.

His prudence and wisdom were equally celebrated.—Two of his proverbs are yet remembered, and repeated among the Laplanders. To express the vigilance of the Supreme Being, he was wont to say, ‘ODIN’S belt is always buckled.’ To show that the most prosperous condition of life is often hazardous, his lesson was, ‘When you slide on the smooth ice, beware of pits beneath.’ He consoled his countrymen, when they were once preparing to leave the frozen deserts of Lapland, and resolved to seek some warmer climate, by telling them, that the eastern nations, notwithstanding their boasted fertility, passed every night amidst the horrors of anxious apprehension, and were inexpressively affrighted, and almost stun-

ned, every morning, with the noise of the sun while he was rising.

His temperance and severity of manners were his chief praise. In his early years he never tasted wine, nor would he drink out of a painted cup. He constantly slept in his armour, with his spear in his hand, nor would he use a battle-axe whose handle was inlaid with brass. He did not, however, persevere in his contempt of luxury, nor did he close his days with honour.

One evening, after hunting the gulos, or wild dog, being bewildered in a solitary forest, and having passed through the fatigues of the day without any interval of refreshment, he discovered a large store of honey in the hollow of a pine.—This was a dainty which he had never tasted before, and, being at once faint and hungry, he fell greedily upon it. From this unusual and delicious repast he received so much satisfaction, that, at his return home, he commanded honey to be served up at his table every day.—His palate, by degrees, became refined and vitiated; he began to lose his relish

for simple fair, and contracted a habit of indulging himself in all delicacies. He ordered the delightful gardens of his castle to be thrown open, in which the richest fruits had been suffered to ripen and decay unobserved and untouched, for many revolving autumns, and gratified his appetite with luxurious desserts.

At length he found it expedient to introduce wine, as an agreeable improvement, or a necessary ingredient, in his new way of living; and having once tasted it, he was tempted, by little and little, to give a loose to the excesses of intoxication. His general simplicity of life was changed; he perfumed his apartments, by burning the wood of the most aromatic fir, and commanded his helmet to be ornamented with beautiful rows of the teeth of the rein-deer. Indolence and effeminacy stole upon him by pleasing and imperceptible gradations, which relaxed the sinews of his resolution, and extinguished his thirst of military glory.

While Hacho was thus immersed in pleasure and repose, it was reported to him, one morning, that the preceding night a disastrous omen

had been discovered, and that bats and hideous birds had drank up the oil which nourished the perpetual lamp of the Temple of Odin. About the same time, a messenger arrived to tell him, that the King of Norway had invaded his kingdom with a formidable army.

Hacho, terrified as he was at the omen of the night, and enervated with indolence, roused himself from his voluptuous lethargy, and recollecting some faint and few sparks of veteran valour, marched forward to meet him. Both armies joined battle in the forest where Hacho had been lost after hunting; and it so happened, that the King of Norway challenged him to single combat near the place where he had tasted the honey. The Lapland Chief, languid and long disused to the use of arms, was soon overpowered: he fell to the ground; and before his insulting adversary struck his head from his body, he uttered this exclamation, which the Laplanders still use as an early lesson to their children:—"The vicious
" man should date his destruction from the
" first temptation. How justly do I fall a

“ sacrifice to Sloth and Luxury, in the very
 “ place where I first yielded to those allure-
 “ ments which induced me to deviate from the
 “ paths of Temperance and Innocence ! The
 “ honey which I tasted in this forest, and not
 “ the hand of the King of Norway, conquers
 “ Hacho.”

FINIS.

VICTORY.

A FRAGMENT.

—It was a glorious day.

Pray, father, was it like yesterday, when you said to me, “this is a glorious day! look how beautifully the sun shines on the yellow corn fields, and ripens the ears into food for man,” was it such a day, Sir?

No my boy,—We have killed a great many men.

Do you call that glorious, Sir?—then I was going to be glorious the other day but you beat me for it.

How?

Why, Sir, I was going to kill a fly, but you beat me for it, and bade me quit your presence.

But, Harry, the fly did not mean to hurt you.

But the wasp did, father ; and when I was going *gloriously* to kill that, you told me not to be cruel ; you said that I had no right wantonly to take away that life I could not give, and that God, who made the wasp, made me, and had given it the same right to live as I had.

But these men are our enemies, Harry.

Did not you say, Sir, that God was good, and that *He* bade us love our enemies ?

Yes,—but in some cases we may kill them.

O, father, then if you may kill men, I may kill flies ; but you told me once it was cruel ; and I do not think it right that we should be so.——

How wise was that spirit who rebuked his disciples, and said unto the people,—“ Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not ; for of such is the kingdom of heaven.”

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BEAUTY

AND

THE BEAST:

A TALE.

EMBELLISHED WITH

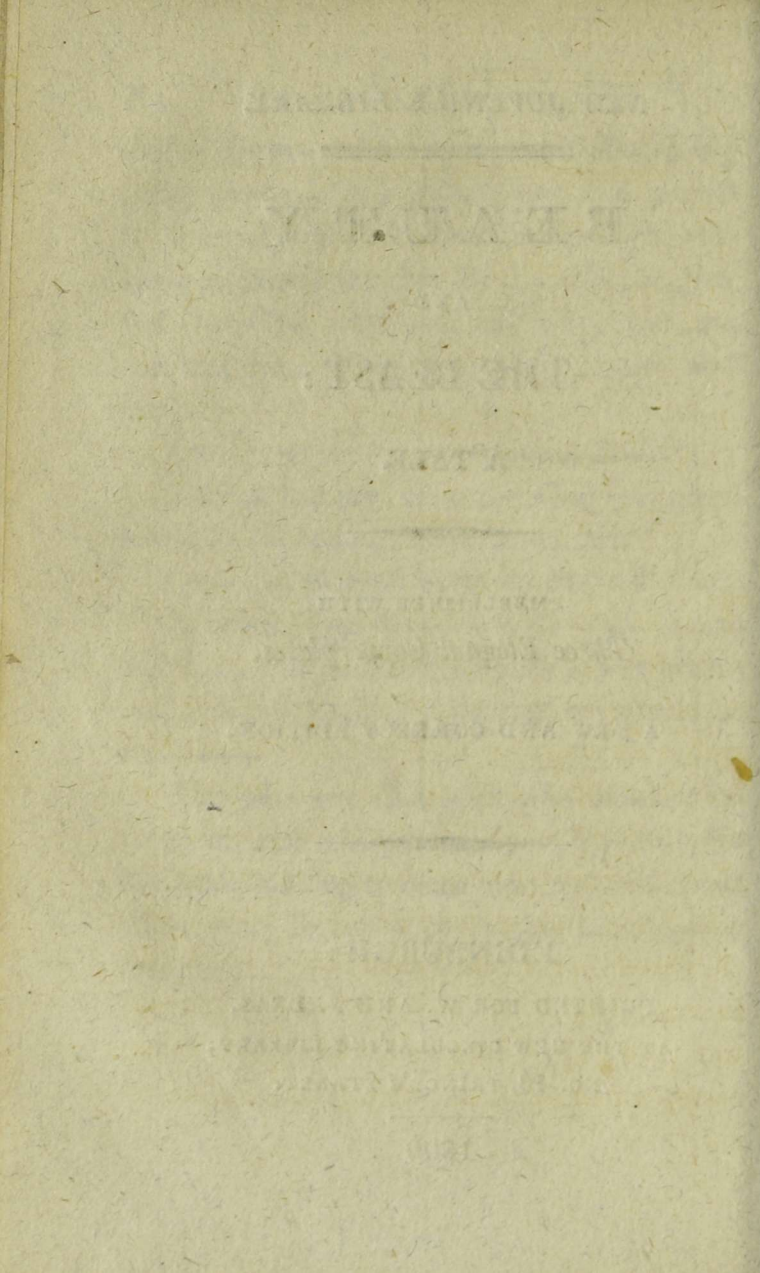
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1809



BEAUTY

AND

THE BEAST.

THERE was once a very rich merchant who had six children, three boys and three girls. As he was himself a man of great sense, he spared no expence for their education, but provided them with all sorts of masters for their improvement. The three daughters were all handsome, but in particular the youngest: indeed she was so very beautiful that in her childhood every one called her The Little Beauty; and being still the same when she was grown up, nobody called her by any other name, which made her sisters very jealous of her.

This youngest daughter was not only more handsome than her sisters, but also was better tempered. The two eldest were vain of being rich, and spoke with pride to those they thought below them. They gave themselves a thousand airs, and would not visit other merchants' daughters ; nor would they indeed be seen with any but persons of quality. They went every day to balls, plays, and public walks ; and always made game of their youngest sister for spending her time in reading, or other useful employments.

As it was well known that these young ladies would have large fortunes, many great merchants wished to get them for wives ; but the two eldest always answered, that for their parts, they had no thoughts of marrying any one below a duke, or an earl at least. Beauty had quite as many offers as her sisters, but she always answered with the greatest civility, that she was much obliged to her lovers, but would rather live some years longer with her father, as she thought herself too young to marry.

It happened that by some unlucky accident, the merchant suddenly lost all his fortune, and had nothing left but a small cottage in the country. Upon this he said to his daughters, while the tears ran down his cheeks all the time, " My children, we must now go and dwell in the cottage, and try to get a living by labour, for we have no other means of support." The two eldest replied, that for their part, they did not know how to work, and would not leave town ; for they had lovers enough who would be glad to marry them, though they had no longer any fortune. But in this they were mistaken ; for when the lovers heard what had happened, they said, " The girls were so proud and ill-tempered, that all we wanted was their fortune ; we are not sorry at all to see their pride brought down ; let them give themselves airs to their cows and sheep." But every body pitied Beauty, because she was so sweet tempered and kind to all that knew her ; and several gentlemen offered to marry her, though she had not a penny : but Beauty still refused, and said,

she could never think of leaving her poor father in his trouble, and would go and help him in his labours in the country.

At first Beauty could not help sometimes crying in secret for the hardships she was now obliged to suffer: but in a very short time she said to herself, "All the crying in the world will do me no good, so I will try to be happy without a fortune."

When they had removed to their cottage, the merchant and his three sons employed themselves in ploughing and sowing the fields and working in the garden. Beauty also did her part, for she got up by four o'clock every morning, lighted the fires, cleaned the house, and got the breakfast for the whole family. At first she found all this very hard; but she soon grew quite used to it, and thought it no hardship at all, and indeed the work greatly mended her health. When she had done, she used to amuse herself with reading, playing on her music, or singing while she spun. But her two sisters were at a loss what to do to pass the time away; they had their breakfast

in bed, and did not rise till ten o'clock. Then they commonly walked out; but always found themselves very soon tired; and then they would often sit down under a shady tree, and grieve for the loss of their carriage and fine clothes, and say to each other, "What a mean spirited poor stupid creature our young sister is to be so content with our low way of life!" But their father thought in quite another way; he admired the patience of this sweet young creature; for her sisters not only left her to do the whole work of the house, but made game of her every moment.

After they had lived in this manner about a year, the merchant received a letter which informed him that one of the richest ships, which he thought was lost, had just come in to port. This news made the two eldest sisters almost mad with joy; for they thought they should now leave the cottage, and have all their finery again. When they found that their father must take a journey to the ship, the two eldest begged he would not fail to bring them back some new gowns, caps, rings,

and all sorts of trinkets. But Beauty asked for nothing ; for she thought in herself that all the ship was worth would hardly buy every thing her sisters wished for.

“ Beauty,” (said the merchant), “ how comes it about that you ask for nothing ; what can I bring you, my child ? ” “ Since you are so kind as to think of me, dear father,” she answered, “ I should be glad if you would bring me a rose, for we have none in our garden.” Now Beauty did not indeed wish for a rose, nor any thing else, but she only said this that she might not affront her sisters, for else they would have said she wanted her father to praise her for not asking him for any thing. The merchant took his leave of them, and set out on his journey : but when he got to the ship, some persons went to law with him about the cargo, and after a deal of trouble he came back to his cottage as poor as he had gone away. When he was within thirty miles of his home, and thinking of the joy he should have in again meeting his children, his road lay through a thick forest, and he quite lost

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Beauty's father benighted
and having lost his road arrives at
the castle of the beast

himself. It rained and snowed very hard, and besides the wind was so high as to throw him twice off his horse. Night came on, and he thought to be sure he should die of cold and hunger, or be torn to pieces by the wolves that he heard howling round him. All at once, he now cast his eyes towards a long row of trees, and saw a light at the end of them, but it seemed a great way off. He made the best of his way towards it, and found that it came from a fine palace, lighted all over. He walked faster, and soon reached the gates; which he opened, and was very much surprised that he did not see a single person or creature in any of the yards. His horse had followed him, and finding a stable with the door open, went into it at once; and here the poor beast, being nearly starved, helped himself to a good meal of oats and hay. His master then tied him up, and walked towards the house, which he entered, but still without seeing a living creature. He went on to a large hall, where he found a good fire, and a

table covered with some very nice dishes, and only one plate with a knife and fork.

As the snow and rain had wetted him to the skin, he went up to the fire to dry himself. "I hope," says he, "the master of the house or his servants will excuse me, for to be sure it will not be long now before I see them." He waited a good time, but still nobody came: at last the clock struck eleven; and the merchant, being quite faint for the want of food, helped himself to a chicken, which he made but two mouthfuls of, and then to a few glasses of wine, yet all the time trembling with fear. He sat till the clock struck twelve, but did not see a single creature. He now took courage, and began to think of looking a little more about him; so he opened a door at the end of the hall, and went through it into a very grand room, in which there was a fine bed; and as he was quite weak and tired, he shut the door, took off his clothes and got into it.

It was ten o'clock in the morning before he thought of getting up; when he was amazed

to see a handsome new suit of clothes laid ready for him instead of his own, which he had spoiled. "To be sure," said he to himself, "this place belongs to some good fairy, who has taken pity on my ill luck." He looked out of the window; and instead of snow, he saw the most charming arbours covered with all kinds of flowers. He returned to the hall where he had supped, and found a breakfast-table with some chocolate got ready for him. "Indeed, my good fairy," said the merchant aloud, "I am vastly obliged to you for your kind care of me." He then made a hearty breakfast, took his hat, and was going to the stable to pay his horse a visit; but as he passed under one of the arbours, which was loaded with roses, he thought of what Beauty had asked him to bring back to her, and so he took a bunch of roses to carry home.

At the same moment he heard a most shocking noise; and saw such a frightful beast coming towards him, that he was ready to drop with fear. "Ungrateful man!" said the beast in a terrible voice, "I have saved your

life by letting you into my palace, and in return you steal my roses, which I value more than any thing else that belongs to me. But you shall make amends for your fault with your life : you shall die in a quarter of an hour." The merchant fell on his knees to the beast, and, clasping his hands, said, " My lord, I humbly beg your pardon : I did not think it would offend you to gather a rose for one of my daughters who wished to have one." " I am not a lord, but a beast," replied the monster ; " I do not like false compliments, but that people should say what they think : so do not fancy that you can coax me by any such ways. You tell me that you have daughters ; now I will pardon you, if one of them will agree to come and die instead of you. Go ; and if your daughters should refuse, promise me that you will return yourself in three months."

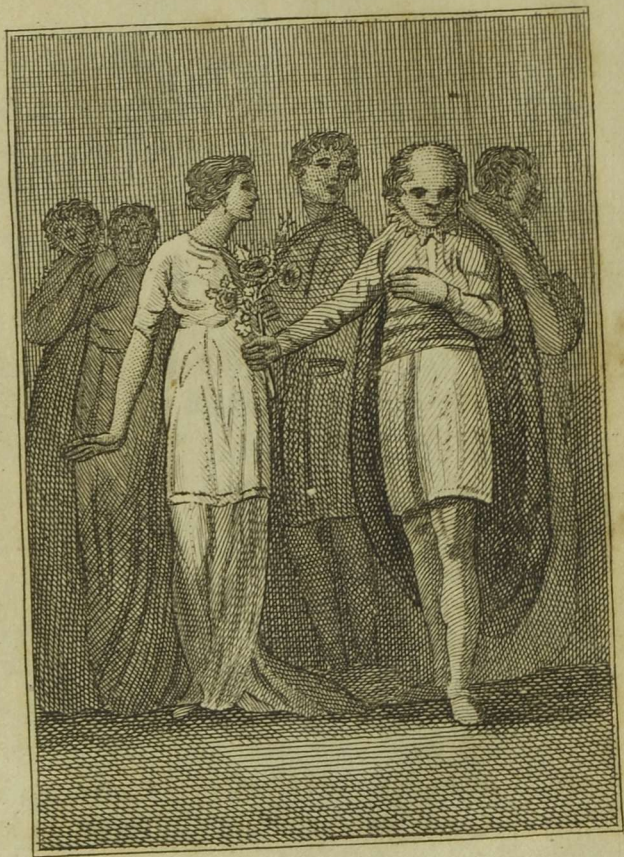
The tender-hearted merchant had no thoughts of letting any one of his daughters die instead of him ; but he knew that if he seemed to accept the beast's terms, he should at least

have the pleasure of seeing them once again. So he gave the beast his promise : and the beast told him he might then set off as soon as he liked. “ But,” said the beast, “ I do not wish you to go back empty handed. Go to the room you slept in, and you will find a chest there : fill it with just what you like best, and I will get it taken to your own house for you.” When the beast had said this, he went away ; and the good merchant said to himself, “ If I must die, yet I shall now have the comfort of leaving my children some riches.”

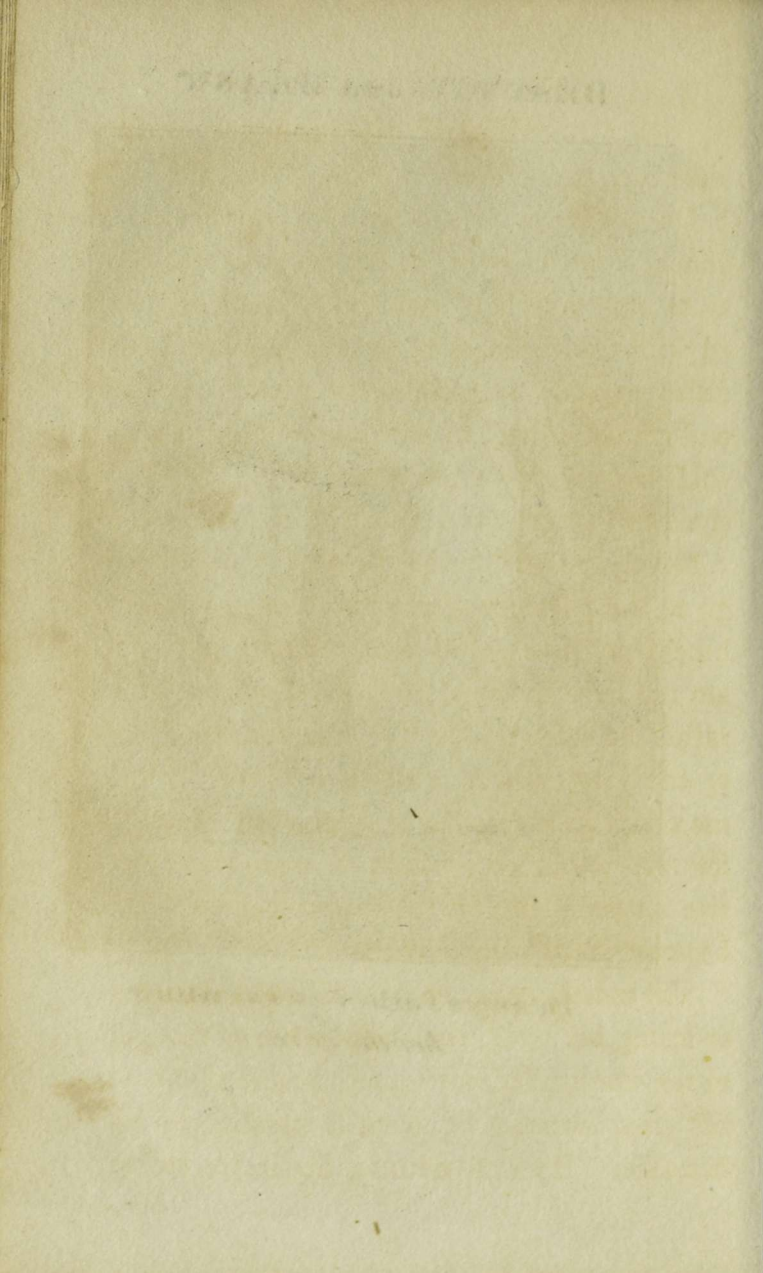
He returned to the room he had slept in, and found a great many pieces of gold. He filled the chest with them to the very brim, locked it, and mounting his horse, left the palace as sorry as he had been glad when he first found it. The horse took a path across the forest of his own accord, and in a few hours they reached the merchant's house. His children came running round him as he got off his horse : but the merchant, instead of kissing them with joy, could not help cry-

ing as he looked at them. He held in his hand the bunch of roses, which he gave to Beauty, saying : " Take these roses, Beauty : but little do you think how dear they have cost your poor father : " and then he gave them an account of all that he had seen or heard in the palace of the beast. The two eldest sisters now began to shed tears, and to lay the blame upon Beauty, who they said would be the cause of her father's death. " See," said they, " what happens from the pride of the little wretch : why did not she ask for fine things as we did ? But, to be sure, miss must not be like other people ; and though she will be the cause of her father's death, yet she does not shed a tear. " " It would be of no use," replied Beauty, " to weep for the death of my father, for he shall not die now. As the beast will accept of one of his daughters, I will give myself up to him ; and think myself happy in being able at once to save his life, and prove my love for the best of fathers. " " No, sister," said the three brothers, " you shall not die ; we will go in search of this

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Beauty's father presenting
her the rose



monster, and either he or we will perish."

"Do not hope to kill him," said the merchant; "for his power is far too great for you to be able to do any such thing. I am charmed with the kindness of Beauty, but I will not suffer her life to be lost. I myself am old, and cannot expect to live much longer: so I shall but give up a few years of my life, and shall only grieve for the sake of my children."

"Never, father," cried Beauty, "shall you go to the palace without me; for you cannot hinder my going after you: though young, I am not over fond of life; and I would much rather be eaten up by the monster, than die of the grief your loss would give me." The merchant in vain tried to reason with Beauty, for she would go; which in truth made her two sisters glad, for they were jealous of her because every body loved her.

The merchant was so grieved at the thoughts of losing his child, that he never once thought of the chest filled with gold; but at night, to his great surprise, he found it standing by his bed-side. He said nothing about his riches

to his eldest daughters; for he knew very well it would at once make them want to return to town; but he told Beauty his secret, and she then said, that while he was away two gentlemen had been on a visit at their cottage, who had fallen in love with her two sisters. She then begged her father to marry them without delay; for she was so sweet tempered, that she loved them for all they had used her so ill, and forgave them with all her heart.

When the three months were past, the merchant and Beauty got ready to set out for the palace of the beast. Upon this the two sisters rubbed their eyes with an onion, to make believe they shed a great many tears: but both the merchant and his sons cried in earnest: there was only Beauty who did not, for she thought this would but make the matter worse.

They reached the palace in a few hours; and the horse, without bidding, went into the same stable as before. The merchant and Beauty walked towards the large hall, where they found a table covered with every dainty,

and two plates laid ready. The merchant had very little appetite ; but Beauty, that she might the better hide her grief, placed herself at the table, and helped her father. She then began herself to eat ; and thought all the time, that to be sure the beast had a mind to fatten her before he ate her up, as he had got such good cheer for her. When they had done their supper, they heard a great noise ; and the good old man began to bid his poor child farewell, for he knew it was the beast coming to them. When Beauty first saw his frightful form, she could not help being afraid ; but she tried to hide her fear as much as she could. The beast asked her if she had come quite of her own accord ; and though she was now still more afraid than before, she made shift to say " Y-e-s." " You are a good girl," said he, " and I think myself much obliged to you." He then turned towards her father, and said to him, " Good man, you may leave the palace to-morrow morning, and take care never to come back to it again. Good night,

Beauty." "Good night, Beast," said she; and then the monster went out of the room.

"Ah! my dear child," said the merchant, kissing his daughter, "I am half dead already, at the thoughts of leaving you with this dreadful beast; you had better go back, and let me stay in your place." "No," said Beauty boldly, "I will never agree to that, you must go home to-morrow morning." They then wished each other good night, and went to bed, both of them thinking they should not be able to close their eyes; but as soon as ever they had lain down, they fell into a deep sleep, and did not wake till morning. Beauty dreamed that a lady came up to her, who said, "I am very much pleased, Beauty, with the goodness you have shown, in being willing to give your life to save that of your father; and it shall not go without a reward." As soon as Beauty awoke she told her father this dream; but though it gave him some comfort, he could not take leave of his darling child without shedding many tears.

When the merchant got out of sight, Beau-

ty sat down in the large hall, and began to cry also : yet she had a great deal of courage, and so she soon resolved not to make her sad case still worse by sorrow, which she knew could not be of any use to her, but to wait as well as she could till night ; when she thought the beast would not fail to come and eat her up. She walked about to take a view of all the palace, and the beauty of every part of it much charmed her. But what was her surprise, when she came to a door on which was written, “ *Beauty’s room !*” She opened it in haste, and her eyes were all at once dazzled at the grandeur of the inside of the room. What made her wonder more than all the rest was, a large library filled with books, a harpsichord, and many other pieces of music. “ The beast takes care I shall not be at a loss how to amuse myself,” said she. She then thought that it was not likely such things would have been got ready for her, if she had but one day to live ; and began to hope all would not turn out so bad as she and her father had feared. She opened the library, and

saw these verses written in letters of gold on the back of one of the books.

Beauteous lady, dry your tears,
Here's no cause for sighs or fears ;
Command as freely as you may,
Enjoyment still shall mark your sway.

“ Alas !” said she sighing, “ there is nothing I so much desire as to see my poor father, and to know what he is doing at this moment.” She said this to herself ; but just then by chance she cast her eyes on a looking glass that stood near her, and in the glass she saw her home, and her father riding up to the cottage in the deepest sorrow. Her sisters came out to meet him ; but for all they tried to look sorry, it was easy to see that in their hearts they were very glad. In a short time all this picture went away again out of the glass ; but Beauty began to think that the beast was very kind to her, and that she had no need to be afraid of him.

About the middle of the day she found a table laid ready for her ; and a sweet concert of music played all the time she was eating

her dinner, without her seeing a single creature. But at supper, when she was going to seat herself at table, she heard the noise of the beast, and could not help trembling with fear. "Beauty," said he, will you give me leave to see you sup?" "That is as you please," answered she, very much afraid. "Not in the least," said the beast: "you alone command in this place. If you should not like my company, you need only to say so, and I will leave you that moment. But tell me Beauty, do not you think me very ugly?" "Why yes," said she, "for I cannot tell a story; but then I think you are very good." "You are right," replied the beast; and, besides being ugly, I am also very stupid; I know well enough that I am but a beast." "I should think you cannot be very stupid;" said Beauty, "if you yourself know this." "Pray do not let me hinder you from eating," said he; "and be sure you do not want for any thing; for all you see is yours, and I shall be vastly grieved if you are not happy." "You are very kind," said Beauty: "I must needs

own that I think very well of your good-nature, and then I almost forget how ugly you are." "Yes, yes, I hope I am good-tempered," said he, "but still I am a monster." "There are many men who are worse monsters than you are," replied Beauty; "and I am better pleased with you in that form, though it is so ugly, than with those who carry wicked hearts under the form of a man." "If I had any sense," said the beast, "I would thank you for what you have said; but I am too stupid to say any thing that could give you pleasure."

Beauty ate her supper with a very good appetite, and almost lost all her dread of the monster; but she was ready to sink with fright, when he said to her, "Beauty will you be my wife?" For a few minutes she was not able to speak a word, for she was afraid of putting him in a passion, by refusing. At length she said, "No, Beast." The beast made no reply, but sighed deeply, and went away. When Beauty found herself alone, she began to feel pity for the poor beast. "Dear!"

said she, " what a sad thing it is that he should be so very frightful, since he is so good-tempered !"

Beauty lived three months in this palace, very well pleased. The beast came to see her every night, and talked with her while she supped : and though what he said was not very clever, yet as she saw in him every day some new mark of his goodness, so instead of dreading the time of his coming, she was always looking at her watch, to see if it was almost nine o'clock ; for that was the time when he never failed to visit her. There was but one thing that vexed her ; which was, that every night, before the beast went away from her, he always made it a rule to ask her if she would be his wife, and seemed very much grieved at her saying No. At last, one night, she said to him, " You vex me greatly, Beast, by forcing me to refuse you so often ; I wish I could take such a liking to you as to agree to marry you, but I must tell you plainly that I do not think this will ever happen. I shall always be your friend ; so try to let that make

you easy." I must needs do so then," said the beast, " for I know well enough how very frightful I am ; but I love you better than myself. Yet I think I am very lucky in your being pleased to stay with me : now promise me, Beauty, that you will never leave me." Beauty was quite struck when he said this ; for that very day she had seen in her glass that her father had fallen sick of grief for her sake, and was very ill for want of seeing her again. " I would promise you, with all my heart," said she, " never to leave you quite ; but I long so much to see my father, that if you do not give me leave to visit him I shall die with grief."

" I would rather die myself, Beauty," answered the beast, " than make you fret. I will send you to your father's cottage ; you shall stay there, and your poor beast shall die of sorrow." " No," said Beauty, crying, " I love you too well to be the cause of your death ; I promise to return in a week. You have shown me that my sisters are married, and my brothers are gone for soldiers, so that my

father is left all alone. Let me stay a week with him." "You shall find yourself with him to-morrow morning," replied the beast; "but mind and do not forget your promise. When you wish to return, you have nothing to do but to put your ring on a table when you go to bed. Good bye, Beauty!" The beast then sighed as he said these words, and Beauty went to bed very sorry to see him so much grieved. When she awoke in the morning, she found herself in her father's cottage. She rung a bell that was at her bed-side, and a servant entered; but as soon as she saw Beauty, the woman gave a loud shriek; upon which the merchant ran up stairs, and when he beheld his daughter he was ready to die of joy. He ran to the bed-side, and kissed her a hundred times. At last Beauty began to remember that she had brought no clothes with her to put on; but the servant told her she had just found in the next room a large chest full of dresses, trimmed all over with gold, and adorned with pearls and diamonds.

Beauty, in her own mind, thanked the beast

for his kindness, and put on the plainest gown she could find among them all. She then told the servant to put the rest away with a great deal of care, for she intended to give them to her sisters: but as soon as she had spoken these words the chest was gone out of sight in a moment. Her father then said, perhaps the beast chose for her to keep them all for herself; and as soon as he had said this, they saw the chest standing again in the same place. While Beauty was dressing herself, a servant brought word to her that her sisters were come with their husbands to pay her a visit. They both lived unhappy with the gentlemen they had married. The husband of the eldest was very handsome: but was so very proud of this, that he thought of nothing else from morning till night, and did not attend to the beauty of his wife. The second had married a man of great learning; but he made no use of it except to insult and affront all his friends, and his wife more than any of them. The two sisters were ready to burst with spite when they saw Beauty dressed

like a princess, and look so very charming. All the kindness that she shewed them was of no use ; for they were vexed more than ever, when she told them how happy she lived at the palace of the beast. The spiteful creatures went by themselves into the garden, where they cried to think of her good fortune. " Why should the little wretch be better off than we?" said they. " We are much handsomer than she is." " Sister," said the eldest, " a thought has just come into my head: let us try to keep her here longer than the week that the beast gave her leave for: and then he will be so angry, that perhaps he will eat her up in a moment." " That is well thought of," answered the other ; " but to do this we must seem very kind to her." They then made up their minds to be so, and went to join her in the cottage; where they shewed her so much false love, that Beauty could not help crying for joy.

When the week was ended, the two sisters began to pretend so much grief at the thought of her leaving them, that she agreed to stay a week more; but all that time Beauty could

not help fretting for the sorrow that she knew her staying would give her poor beast; for she tenderly loved him, and much wished for his company again. The tenth night of her being at the cottage she dreamed she was in the garden of the palace, and that the beast lay dying on a grass plot, and, with his last breath, put her in mind of her promise, and laid his death to her keeping away from him. Beauty awoke in a great fright, and burst into tears. "Am not I very wicked," said she, "to behave so ill to a beast who has shown me so much kindness; Why will not I marry him? I am sure I should be more happy with him than my sisters are with their husbands. He shall not be wretched any longer on my account; for I should do nothing but blame myself all the rest of my life."

She then rose, put her ring on the table, got into bed again, and soon fell asleep. In the morning she with joy found herself in the palace of the beast. She dressed herself very finely, that she might please him the better, and thought she had never known a day pass

away so slow. At last the clock struck nine, but the beast did not come. Beauty then thought to be sure she had been the cause of his death in earnest. She ran from room to room all over the palace, calling out his name, but still she saw nothing of him. After looking for him a long time, she thought of her dream, and ran directly towards the grass plot; and there she found the poor beast lying senseless, and seeming dead. She threw herself upon his body, thinking nothing at all of his ugliness; and finding his heart still beat, she ran and fetched some water from a pond in the garden, and threw it on his face. The beast then opened his eyes, and said: "You have forgot your promise, Beauty. My grief for the loss of you has made me resolve to starve myself to death: but I shall die content, since I have had the pleasure of seeing you once more."

"No, dear beast," replied Beauty, "you shall not die; you shall live to be my husband: from this moment I offer to marry you, and will be only yours. Oh! I thought

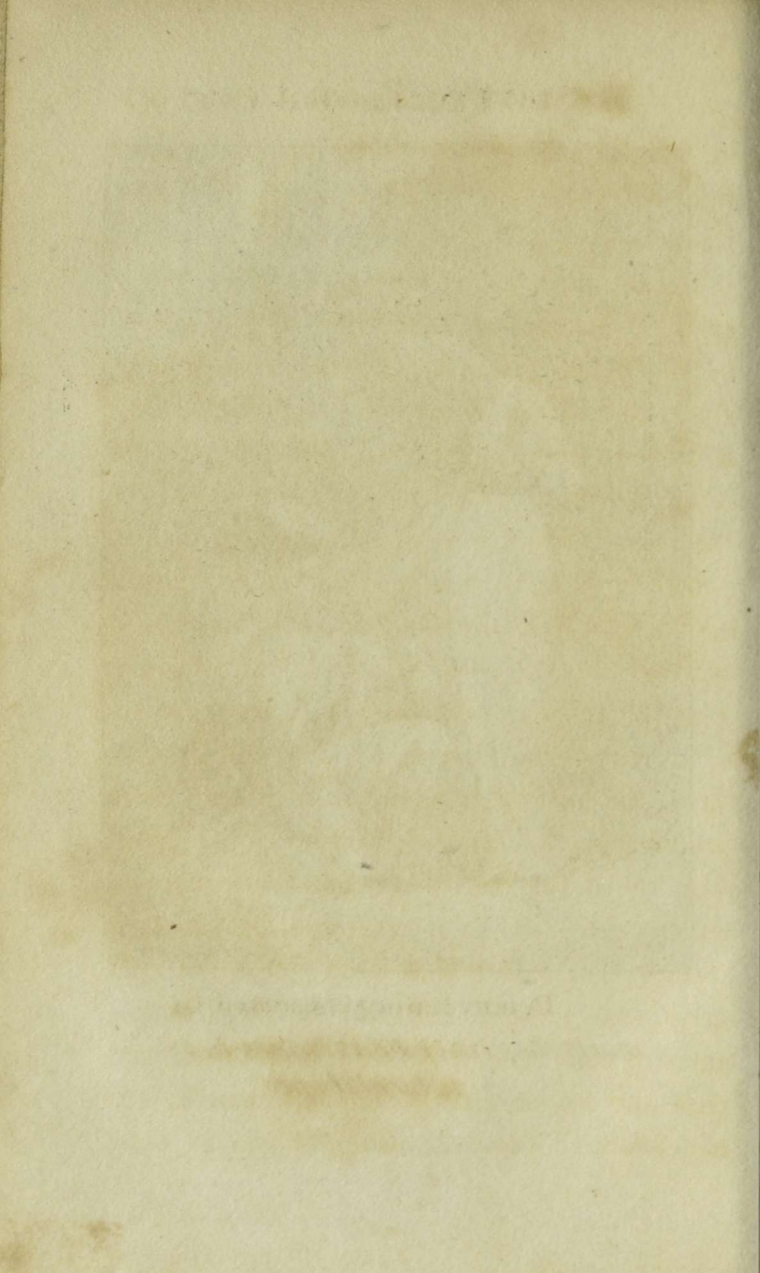
I felt only friendship for you ; but the pain I now feel, shows me that I could not live without seeing you."

The moment beauty had spoken these words, the palace was suddenly lighted up, and music, fire-works, and all kinds of rejoicings, appeared round about them. Yet Beauty took no notice of all this, but watched over her dear beast with the greatest tenderness. But now she was all at once amazed to see at her feet, instead of her poor beast, the handsomest prince that was ever seen, who thanked her most warmly for having broken his enchantment. Though this young prince deserved all her notice, she could not help asking him what was become of the beast. " You see him at your feet, Beauty," answered the prince, " for I am he. A wicked fairy had condemned me to keep the form of a beast till a beautiful young lady should agree to marry me, and ordered me on pain of death to show that I had any sense. You alone, dearest Beauty, have kindly judged of me by the goodness of my heart; and

BEAUTY and the BEAST



Beauty having consented to
marry the prince he assumes his
natural shape



in return I offer you my hand and my crown, though I know the reward is much less than what I owe you."

Beauty, in the most pleasing surprise, helped the prince to rise, and they walked along to the palace; when her wonder was very great, to find her father and sisters there, who had been brought by the lady Beauty had seen in her dream. "Beauty," said the lady, (for she was a fairy,) "receive the reward of the choice you have made. You have chosen goodness of heart rather than sense and beauty: therefore you deserve to find them all three joined in the same person. You are going to be a great queen: I hope a crown will not destroy your virtue. As for you ladies," said the fairy to the other two sisters, "I have long known the malice of your hearts, and the wrongs you have done. You shall become two statues; but under that form you shall still keep your reason, and shall be fixed at the gates of your sister's palace; and I will not pass any worse sentence on you than to see her happy. You will never appear in your

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own persons again till you are fully cured of your faults; and to tell the truth, I am very much afraid you will remain statues for ever."

At the same moment the fairy, with a stroke of her wand, removed all who were present to the young prince's country, where he was received with the greatest joy by his subjects. He married Beauty, and passed a long and happy life with her, because they still kept in the same course of goodness that they had always been used to.

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OR

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ALI BABA,

OR

THE FORTY THIEVES.

IN a town of Persia there lived two brothers, the sons of a poor man ; the one was named Cassim, and the other Ali Baba. Cassim, the elder, married a wife with a considerable fortune, and lived at his ease, in a handsome house, with plenty of servants ; but the wife of Ali Baba was as poor as himself ; they dwelt in a mean cottage in the suburbs of the city, and he maintained his family by cutting wood in a neighbouring forest.

One day when Ali Baba was in the forest, and preparing to load his asses with the wood he had cut, he saw a troop of horsemen ap-

proaching toward him. He had often heard of robbers who infested that forest, and, in a great fright, he hastily climbed a large thick tree, which stood near the foot of a rock, and hid himself among the branches.

The horsemen soon galloped up to the rock, where they all dismounted. Ali Baba counted forty of them, and he could not doubt but they were thieves, by their ill-looking countenances. They each took a loaded portmantau from his horse, and he who seemed to be their captain, turning to the rock, said, *Open, Sesame*, and immediately a door opened in the rock, and all the robbers passed in, when the door shut of itself. In a short time the door opened again, and the forty robbers came out, followed by their captain; who said, *Shut, Sesame*. The door instantly closed; and the troop, mounting their horses, were presently out of sight.

Ali Baba remained in the tree a long time, and seeing that the robbers did not return, he ventured down; and approaching close to the rock, said, *Open, Sesame*. Immediately

the door flew open, and Ali Baba beheld a spacious cavern, very light, and filled with all sorts of provisions, merchandise, rich stuffs, and heaps of gold and silver coin, which these robbers had taken from merchants and travellers. Ali Baba then went in search of his asses, and having brought them to the rock, took as many bags of gold coin as they could carry, and put them on their backs, covering them with some loose faggots of wood ; and afterwards (not forgetting to say, *Shut, Sesame*), he drove the asses back to the city ; and having unloaded them in the stable belonging to his cottage, carried the bags into the house, and spread the gold coin out upon the floor before his wife.

His wife, delighted with possessing so much money, wanted to count it; but finding it would take up too much time, she was resolved to measure it; and running to the house of Ali Baba's brother, she entreated them to lend her a small measure.

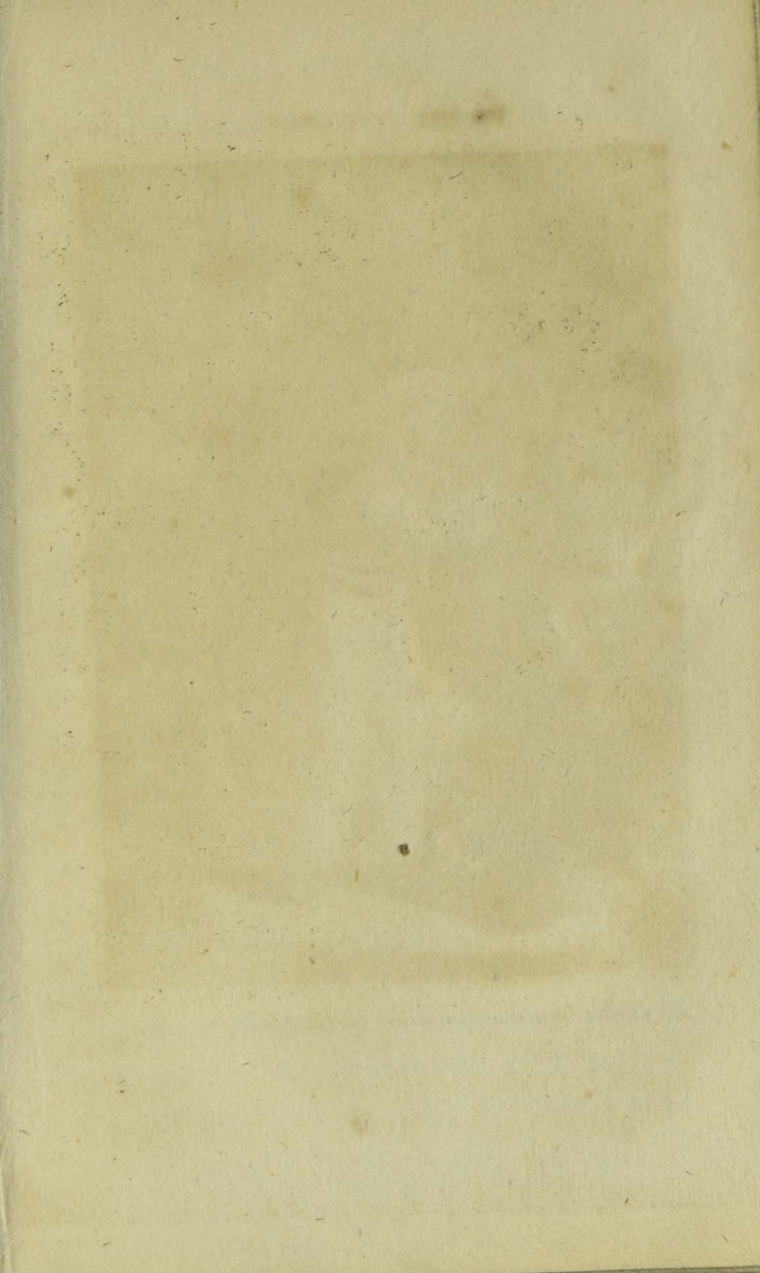
Cassim's wife was very proud and envious :
“ I wonder,” she said to herself, “ what sort

“ of grain such poor people can have to measure ; but I am determined I will find out what they are doing.” So before she gave the measure, she artfully rubbed the bottom with some suet.

Away ran Ali Baba's wife, measured her money ; and having helped her husband to bury it in the yard, she carried back the measure to her brother-in-law's house, without perceiving that a piece of gold was left sticking to the bottom of it.

“ Fine doings, indeed !” cried Cassim's wife to her husband, after examining the measure, “ your brother there, who pretends to be so very poor, is richer than you are, for he does not count his money, but measures it.”

Cassim hearing these words, and seeing the piece of gold, grew as envious as his wife, and hastening to his brother, threatened to inform the Cadi of his wealth, if he did not confess to him how he came by it. Ali Baba without hesitation told him the history of the robbers, and the secret of the cave ; and offered him half his treasure ; but the envious Cassim dis-



FORTY THIEVES



Ali Baba loading his Asses in the Robbers Cave .

deined so poor a sum, resolving to have fifty times more than that out of the robbers' cave.

Accordingly he rose early the next morning, and set out with ten mules loaded with great chests. He found the rock easily enough by Ali Baba's description; and having said, *Open, Sesame*, he gained admission into the cave; where he found more treasure than he even had expected to behold from his brother's account of it. He immediately began to gather bags of gold, and pieces of rich brocades, all which he piled close to the door; but when he had got together as much, or even more than his ten mules could possibly carry, and wanted to get out to load them, the thoughts of his wonderful riches had made him entirely forget the word which caused the door to open. In vain he tried *Bame, Fame, Lame, Tetame*, and a thousand others; the door remained as immoveable as the rock itself, notwithstanding Cassim kicked and screamed, till he was ready to drop with fatigue and vexation. Presently he heard the sound of horses' feet, which he rightly con-

cluded to be the robbers, and he trembled lest he should now fall a victim to his thirst of riches.

He resolved however to make one effort to escape; and when he heard *Sesame* pronounced, and saw the door open, he sprung out; but was instantly put to death by the swords of the robbers.

The thieves now held a council, but not one of them could possibly guess by what means Cassim had got into the cave. They saw the heaps of treasure he had piled ready to take away, but they did not miss what Ali Baba had secured before. At length they agreed to cut Cassim's body into four quarters, and hang the pieces within the cave, that it might terrify any one from further attempts; and also determined not to return themselves for some time to the cave, for fear of being watched and discovered.

When Cassim's wife saw night come on, and her husband not returned, she became greatly terrified. She watched at her window till day break, and then went to tell Ali Baba

of her fears. Cassim had not informed him of his design of going to the cave, but Ali Baba, now hearing of his journey thither, did not wait to be desired to go in search of him.

He drove his asses to the forest without delay. He was alarmed to see blood near the rock; and on entering the cave, he found the body of his unfortunate brother cut to pieces, and hung up within the door. It was now too late to save him; but he took down the quarters, and put them upon one of his asses, covering them with faggots of wood; and weeping for the miserable end of his brother, he regained the city.

The door of his brother's house was opened by Morgiana, an intelligent faithful female slave, who Ali Baba knew was worthy to be trusted with the secret. He therefore delivered the body to Morgiana, and went himself to impart the sad tidings to the wife of Cassim. The poor woman was deeply afflicted, and reproached herself with her foolish envy and curiosity, as being the cause of her husband's death; but Ali Baba having convinced her of

the necessity of being very discreet, she checked her lamentations, and resolved to leave every thing to the management of Morgiana.

Morgiana having washed the body, hastened to an apothecary's, and asked for some particular medicine; saying it was for her master Cassim, who was dangerously ill. She took care to spread the report of Cassim's illness through the neighbourhood; and as they saw Ali Baba and his wife going daily to the house of their brother in great affliction, they were not surprised to hear shortly that Cassim had died of his disorder.

The next difficulty was to bury him without discovery; but Morgiana was ready to contrive a plan for that also. She put on her veil, and went to a distant part of the city very early in the morning, where she found a poor cobbler, just opening his stall. She put a piece of gold into his hand; and told him he should have another, if he would suffer himself to be blindfolded, and go with her, carrying his tools with him. Mustapha the cobbler hesitated at first; but the gold tempt-

ed him, and he consented : when Morgiana, carefully covering his eyes, so that he could not see a step of the way, led him to Cassim's house ; and taking him to the room where the body was lying, removed the bandage from his eyes, and bade him sew the mangled limbs together.

Mustapha obeyed her order ; and having received two pieces of gold, was led blindfolded the same way back to his own stall.

Morgiana then covering the body with a winding-sheet, sent for the undertaker to make preparations for the funeral ; and Cassim was buried with all due solemnity that very day.

Ali Baba now removed his few goods, and all his gold coin that he had brought from the cavern, to the house of his deceased brother, of which he took possession ; and Cassim's widow received every kind attention both from Ali Baba and his wife.

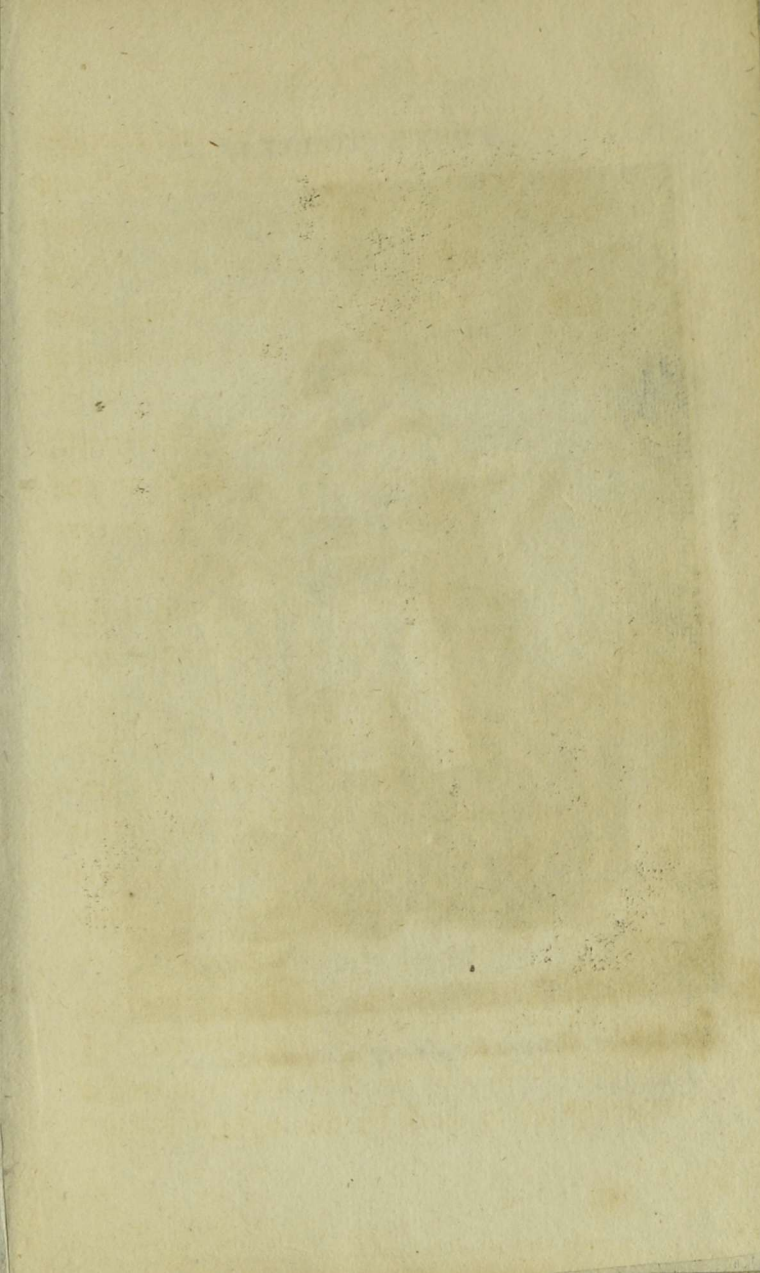
After an interval of some months, the troop of robbers again visited their retreat in the forest, and were completely astonished to find the body taken away from the cave, and

every thing else remaining in its usual order. "We are discovered," said the captain, "and shall certainly be undone if we do not adopt speedy measures to prevent our ruin. Which of you, my brave comrades, will undertake to search out the villain who is in possession of our secret?"

One of the boldest of the troop advanced, and offered himself, and was accepted on the following conditions; namely, that if he succeeded in his enterprise, he was to be made second in command of the troop; but that if he brought false intelligence, he was immediately to be put to death.

The bold robber readily agreed to the conditions; and having disguised himself, he proceeded to the city. He arrived there about day-break, and found the cobbler Mustapha in his stall, which was always open before any shop in the town.

"Good morrow, friend," said the robber, as he passed the stall, "you rise betimes: I should think, old as you are, you could scarcely see to work by this light."



FORTY THIEVES



Mustapha shewing the door of Cassim's House .

“ Indeed, sir,” replied the cobbler, “ old as I am, I do not want for good eye-sight ; as you must needs believe, when I tell you I sewed a dead body together the other day, where I had not so good a light as I have now.”

“ A dead body !” exclaimed the robber ; “ you mean, I suppose, that you sewed up the winding-sheet for a dead body.”

“ I mean no such thing,” replied Mustapha ; “ I tell you I sewed the four quarters of a man together.”

This was enough to convince the robber he had luckily met with the very man who could give him the information he was in search of. However he did not wish to appear eager to learn the particulars, lest he should alarm the old cobbler. He therefore began to laugh : “ Ha ! ha !” said he, “ I find, good Mr Cobbler, that you perceive I am a stranger here, and you wish to make me believe that the people of your city do impossible things.”

“ I tell you,” said Mustapha, in a loud and

angry tone, "I sewed a dead body together
"with my own hands."

"Then I suppose you can tell me also where
"you performed this wonderful business?"

Upon this, Mustapha related every particular of his being led blindfold to the house, &c.

"Well, my friend," said the robber, "'tis
"a fine story, I confess, but not very easy to
"believe: however, if you will convince me
"by shewing me the house you talk of, I will
"give you four pieces of gold to make amends
"for my unbelief."

"I think," said the cobbler, after considering awhile, "that if you were to blindfold me,
"I should remember every turning we made;
"but with my eyes open I am sure I should
"never find it."

Accordingly the robber covered Mustapha's eyes with his handkerchief, who led him through most of the principal streets, and stopping by Cassim's door, said, "Here it is, I
"went no further than this house."

The robber immediately marked the door

with a piece of chalk; and giving Mustapha his four pieces of gold, dismissed him.

Shortly after the thief and Mustapha had quitted the door, Morgiana coming home from market, perceived the little mark of white chalk on the door; and suspecting something was wrong, directly marked four doors on one side and five on the other of her master's, in exactly the same manner, without saying a word to any one.

The robber meantime rejoined his troop, and boasted greatly of his success. His captain and comrades praised his diligence; and being well armed, they proceeded to the town in different disguises, and in separate parties of three and four together. It was agreed among them, that they were to meet in the market-place at the dusk of evening; and that the captain, and the robber who had discovered the house, were to go there first, to find out to whom it belonged. Accordingly, being arrived in the street, and having a lantern with them, they began to examine the doors, and found, to their confusion and astonishment,

that ten doors were marked exactly alike. The robber who was the captain's guide could not say one word in explanation of this mystery; and when the disappointed troop got back to the forest, his enraged companions ordered him to be put to death.

Another now offered himself upon the same conditions as the former; and having bribed Mustapha, and discovered the house, he made a mark with dark red chalk upon the door, in a part that was not in the least conspicuous; and carefully examined the surrounding doors, to be certain that no such mark was upon any one of them.

But nothing could escape the prying eyes of Morgiana: scarcely had the robber departed, when she discovered the red mark; and getting some red chalk, she marked seven doors on each side precisely in the same place and in the same manner.

The robber, valuing himself highly upon the precautions he had taken, triumphantly conducted his captain to the spot: but great indeed was his confusion and dismay, when he

found it impossible to say which, among fifteen houses marked exactly alike, was the right one. The captain, furious with his disappointment, returned again with the troop to the forest; and the second robber was also condemned to death.

The captain having thus lost two of his troop, judged that their hands were more active than their heads in such services; and he resolved to employ no other of them, but to go himself upon the business.

Accordingly he repaired to the city, and addressed himself to the cobbler Mustapha; who, for six pieces of gold, readily performed the same services for him he had done for the two other strangers; and the captain, much wiser than his men, did not amuse himself with setting a mark upon the door, but attentively considered the house, counted the number of its windows, and passed by it very often to be certain that he should know it again.

He then returned to the forest, and ordered his troop to go into the town, and buy nine-

teen mules and thirty-eight large jars, one full of oil, and the rest empty.

In two or three days the jars were bought, and all things in readiness; and the captain having put a man into each jar, properly armed, the jars being rubbed on the outside with oil, and the covers having holes bored in them for the men to breathe through, loaded his mules, and in the habit of an oil merchant, entered the town in the dusk of the evening. He proceeded to the street where Ali Baba dwelt, and found him sitting in the porch of his house. "Sir," said he to Ali Baba, "I have brought this oil a great way to sell, and am too late for this day's market. As I am quite a stranger in this town, will you do me the favour to let me put my mules into your court-yard, and direct me where I may lodge to-night?"

Ali Baba, who was a good-natured man, welcomed the pretended oil merchant very kindly, and offered him a bed in his own house; and having ordered the mules to be unloaded in the yard, and properly fed, he in-

vited his guest into supper. The captain, having seen the jars placed ready in the yard, followed Ali Baba into the house, and after supper was shewn to the chamber where he was to sleep.

It happened that Morgiana was obliged to sit up later that night than usual, to get ready her master's bathing linen for the following morning; and while she was busy about the fire, her lamp went out, and there was no more oil in the house.

After considering what she could possibly do for a light, she recollected the thirty-eight oil jars in the yard, and determined to take a little oil out of one of them for her lamp. She took her oil pot in her hand, and approaching the first jar, the robber within said, "Is it time, captain?" Any other slave, perhaps, on hearing a man in an oil-jar, would have screamed out; but the prudent Morgiana instantly recollected herself, and replied softly, "No, not yet; lie still till I call you." She passed on to every jar, receiving the same question, and making the same answer, till

she came to the last, which was really filled with oil.

Morgiana was now convinced that this was a plot of the robbers to murder her master Ali Baba; so she ran back to the kitchen, and brought out a large kettle, which she filled with oil, and set it on a great wood fire; and as soon as it boiled, she went and poured into the jars sufficient of the boiling oil to kill every man within them.

Having done this, she put out her fire, and her lamp, and crept softly to her chamber.

The captain of the robbers, hearing every thing quiet in the house, and perceiving no light any where, arose, and went down into the yard to assemble his men. Coming to the first jar, he felt the steams of the boiled oil; he ran hastily to the rest, and found every one of his troop put to death in the same manner. Full of rage and despair at having failed in his design, he forced the lock of a door that led to the garden, and made his escape over the walls.

On the following morning, Morgiana rela-

ted to her master Ali Baba his wonderful deliverance from the pretended oil merchant and his gang of robbers. Ali Baba at first could scarcely credit her tale ; but when he saw the robbers dead in the jars, he could not sufficiently praise her courage and sagacity ; and without letting any one else into the secret, he and Morgiana, the next night, buried the thirty-seven thieves in a deep trench at the bottom of the garden. The jars and the mules, as he had no use for them, were sent from time to time to the different markets, and sold.

While Ali Baba took these measures to prevent his and Cassim's adventures in the forest from being known, the captain returned to his cave, and for some time abandoned himself to grief and despair. At length however he determined to adopt a new scheme for the destruction of Ali Baba. He removed by degrees all the valuable merchandize from the cave to the city, and took a shop exactly opposite to Ali Baba's house.

He furnished this shop with every thing

that was rare and costly, and went by the name of the merchant Cogia Hassan. Many persons made acquaintance with the stranger ; and among others, Ali Baba's son went every day to his shop. The pretended Cogia Hassan soon appeared to be very fond of Ali Baba's son, offered him many presents, and often detained him to dinner, on which occasions he treated him in the handsomest manner.

Ali Baba's son thought it was necessary to make some return to these civilities, and pressed his father to invite Cogia Hassan to supper. Ali Baba made no objection, and the invitation was accordingly given.

The artful Cogia Hassan would not too hastily accept this invitation, but pretended he was not fond of going into company, and that he had business which demanded his presence at home. These excuses only made Ali Baba's son the more eager to take him to his father's house ; and after repeated solicitations, the merchant consented to sup at Ali Baba's the next evening.

A most excellent supper was provided,

which Morgiana cooked in the best manner, and, as was her usual custom, she carried in the first dish herself. The moment she looked at Cogia Hassan, she knew him to be the pretended oil-merchant. The prudent Morgiana did not say a word to any one of this discovery, but sent the other slaves into the kitchen, and waited at table herself; and while Cogia Hassan was drinking, she perceived he had a dagger hid under his coat. When supper was ended, and the desert and wine on the table, Morgiana went away and dressed herself in the habit of a dancing girl: she next called Abdalla, a fellow-slave, to play on his tabor while she danced.

As soon as she appeared at the parlour-door, her master, who was very fond of seeing her dance, ordered her to come in to entertain his guest with some of her best dancing. Cogia Hassan was not very well satisfied with this entertainment, yet was compelled, for fear of discovering himself, to seem pleased with the dancing, while in fact he wished Morgiana a great way off, and was

quite alarmed, lest he should lose his opportunity of murdering Ali Baba and his son.

Morgiana danced several dances with the utmost grace and agility ; and then drawing a poinard from her girdle, she performed many surprising things with it, sometimes presenting the point to one, and sometimes to another, and then seemed to strike it into her own bosom. Suddenly she paused, and holding the poinard in the right hand, presented her left to her master, as if begging some money ; upon which Ali Baba and his son each gave her a small piece of money. She then turned to the pretended Cogia Hassan, and while he was putting his hand into his purse, she plunged the poinard into his heart.

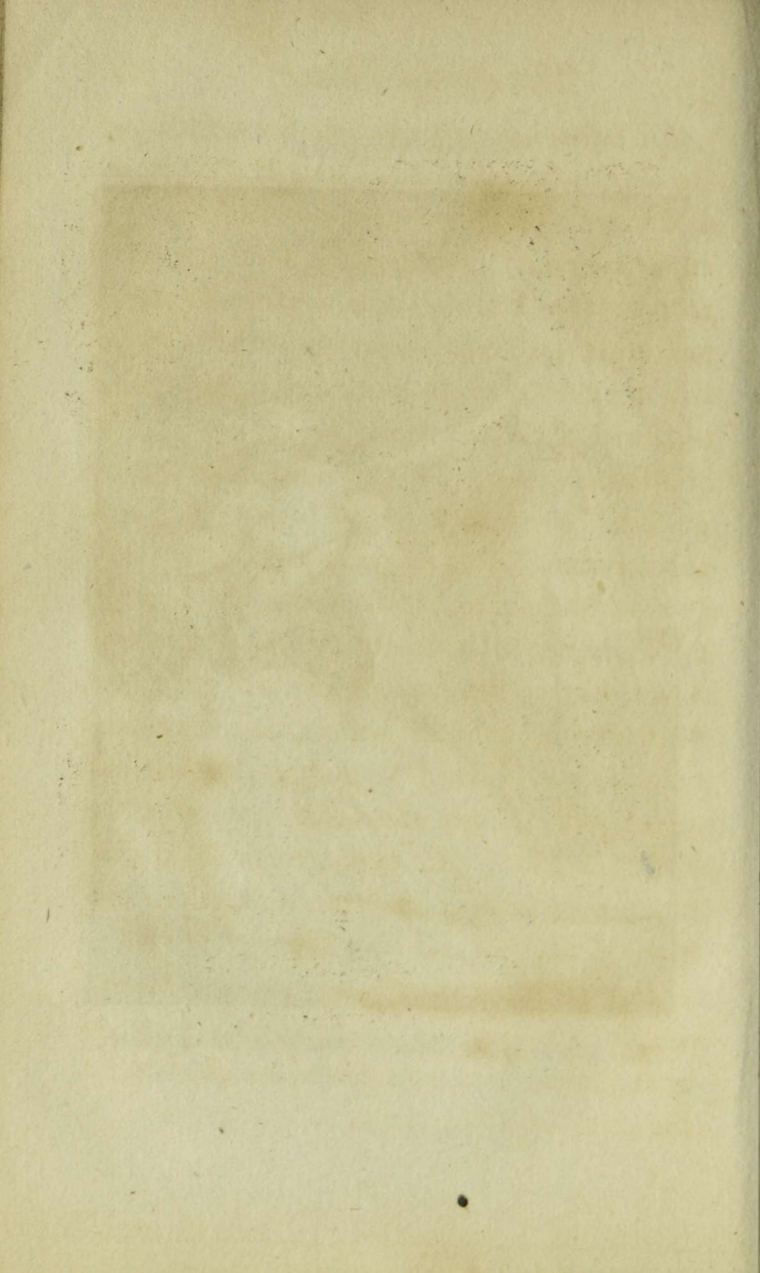
“ Wretch ! ” cried Ali Baba, “ thou hast ruined me and my family.”

“ No Sir,” replied Morgiana, “ I have preserved, and not ruined, you and your son. Look well at this traitor, and you will find him to be the pretended oil-merchant, who came once before to rob and murder you.”

FORTY THIEVES



The Captain of the Robbers Stab'd by Morgiana.



Ali Baba, having pulled off the turban and the cloak which the false Cogia Hassan wore, discovered that he was not only the pretended oil-merchant, but the captain of the forty robbers, who had slain his brother Cassim ; nor could he doubt that his perfidious aim had been to destroy him, and probably his son, with the concealed dagger.

Ali Baba, who felt the new obligation he owed to Morgiana for thus saving his life a second time, embraced her, and said, “ My
“ dear Morgiana, I give you your liberty ;
“ but my gratitude must not stop there ; I
“ will also marry you to my son, who can
“ esteem and admire you no less than does
“ his father.” Then turning to his son, he added, “ You, my son, will not refuse the
“ wife I offer ; for, in marrying Morgiana,
“ you take to wife the preserver and benefactor of yourself and your family.”

The son, far from shewing any dislike, readily and joyfully accepted his proposed bride, having long entertained an affection for the good slave Morgiana.

Having rejoiced in their deliverance, they buried the Captain that night with great privacy, in the trench along with his troop of robbers; and a few days afterwards, Ali Baba celebrated the marriage of his son and Morgiana with a sumptuous entertainment; and every one who knew Morgiana said she was worthy of her good fortune, and highly commended her master's generosity toward her.

During a twelvemonth Ali Baba forbore to go near the forest, but at length his curiosity incited him to make another journey. When he came to the cave, he saw no footsteps of either men or horses; and having said, *Open Sesame*, he went in, and judged by the state of things deposited in the cavern, that no one had been there since the pretended Cogia Hassan had removed the merchandise to his shop in the city. Ali Baba took as much gold home as his horse could carry; and afterwards he carried his son to the cave, and taught him the secret. This secret they handed down to their posterity; and using

their good fortune with moderation, they lived in honour and splendour, and served with dignity some of the highest offices of the city.

ALEXANDER AND DARIUS.

—00000—

WHEN Alexander the Great king of Macedon, invaded Persia, Darius, who was king thereof, opposed him with a very great army, consisting, according to the lowest account, of 200,000 men. The manner of his coming on was rather like a masker than a warrior, and like one that took more care to set out his riches, than to provide for his own safety, persuading himself, as it seemed, to beat Alexander with pomp and sumptuous pageants. For before the army was carried the holy fire, which the Persians worshipped, attended by their priests; and after them 365 young men, according to the number of the days of the year, covered with scarlet; then the chariot of

Jupiter drawn by white horses, their riders clothed in the same colour, with rods of gold in their hands ; and after it the horse of the sun : next after these, followed ten sumptuous chariots, inlaid and garnished with silver and gold ; and then the vanguard of their horse, compounded of twelve several nations, which (the better to avoid confusion) did hardly understand each other's language : and these, marshalled at the head of the rest, being beaten, might serve very fitly to disorder all that followed them. At the tail of these horses marched the regiment of foot the Persians call immortal, because if any died, the number was presently supplied, and these were armed with chains of gold, and their coats embroidered with the same metal, whereof the sleeves were garnished with pearl ; baits either to tempt the hungry Macedonians withal, or to persuade them that it were great incivility to cut and deface so glorious garments.

To second this court-like company, 15,000 were appointed, more rich and glittering than

the former, but appareled like women, (to breed the more terror), and these were honoured with the title of the king's kinsmen. Then came Darius himself, the gentlemen of his ward-robe riding before his chariot, which was supported by the gods of the nation, cast and cut in pure gold. The head of this chariot was set with precious stones, and two little golden idols, covered with an open-winged eagle of the same metal; the hinder part being raised high, whereon Darius sat, had a covering of inestimable value. This chariot of the king was followed by 10,000 horsemen, their lances plated with silver, and their heads gilt, which they meant not to embrue in the Macedonian blood, for fear of marring their beauty. He had for the proper guard of his own person 200 of the blood royal, blood too royal and precious to be spilt by any valorous adventurer, (I am of opinion 200 sturdy fellows like the Switzers, would have done him more service); and these were backed with 30,000 footmen, after whom again were led 400 spare horses for the king, which if he had meant to

have used, he would have had marshalled somewhat nearer him.

Now followed the rear guard, the same being led by Sisigambis the king's mother, and by his wife, drawn in glorious chariots, followed by a great train of ladies on horseback, with 15 waggons of the king's children and the wives of the nobility, waited on by 250 concubines ; and a world of nurses and eunuchs most sumptuously appareled. By which it should seem that Darius thought that the Macedonians had been a company of comedians or tumblers ; for this troop was far fitter to behold those sports than to be present at battles. Between these and a company of light armed slaves was the king's treasure, on 600 mules and 300 camels, brought, as it proved, to pay the Macedonians. In this sort came the may-game king into the field, encumbered with a most unnecessary train of strumpets, attended with troops of divers nations, speaking divers languages, and for their numbers impossible to be marshalled, and for the most part so effeminate, so rich in gold and in gar-

ments, as the same could not but have encouraged the rackedest nation in the world against them.

The event was, that Darius was utterly overthrown, his treasure lost, his wife, mother and children taken prisoners, and all the train of ladies spoiled of their rich garments and jewels. It is true, that both the queen, and her daughters, who had the good hap to be brought to Alexander's presence, were entertained with all respect due to their birth, their honours preserved, and their jewels and rich garments restored again unto them: and though Darius' wife was a very beautiful lady and his daughters of excellent form, yet Alexander mastered his affection towards them all.

Darius himself, leaving his brother dead, with divers other of his chief captains, casting the crown from his head, hardly escaped.

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WITH

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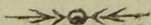
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RIQUET

WITH

THE TUFT.



THERE was once upon a time a queen who had a little son ; but he had a hump upon his back, which made him be named Riquet with the Tuft ; and was besides very ugly, that people hardly knew for a long time whether he had the form of a human creature.

A fairy, who by chance was present at the prince's birth, told his parents, that for all his ugliness, he would make himself pleasing to every one by his great wit and talents : and she said too that this was not all ; for she would also bestow on him the power of giving the very same charms to the person he should love best.

All this was some comfort to the queen, who was in great grief at the thought of having brought such a frightful little creature into the world. It is true, as soon as ever he began to talk, he said the most charming things that could be ; and all that he did was done in so clever and pleasant a manner, as made every body love and admire him.

Seven years after this, the queen of another kingdom was brought-to-bed of twin daughters. The one that was born first was more beautiful than the day ; which caused the queen so very much joy, that it was like to put her health in danger.

The same fairy who had been present at the birth of little Riquet with the Tuft, now chanced to be with this queen also at her lying-in ; and to lessen the danger of her too great joy, she told her that the new-born princess should have no sense at all, but be as silly and stupid as she was handsome.

This grieved the queen very much : but in a few minutes she had a still greater sor-

row ; for the second princess, when born, was the ugliest little thing that was ever beheld.

When the fairy saw the queen's distress at this, she said to her : " I entreat your majesty, do not thus afflict yourself. Your daughter shall possess so much wit, that nobody will perceive her want of beauty."

" This would be a great comfort to me, indeed," replied the queen : " but cannot you bestow a small share of the same charming talent on the princess who is so beautiful?"

" This is not in my power," answered the fairy, " I cannot meddle with her mind, but I can do all I please with respect to her beauty ; and therefore, as there is nothing that I would not do for your sake, I will bestow on her for a gift, that she shall be able to make the person whom she loves as handsome as she pleases."

As the two young ladies grew up, nothing was talked of but the beauty of the eldest, and the wit and talents of the youngest. It is true, their defects grew in the same degree ; for the youngest became every day more ugly, and the eldest more senseless and stupid ; she

either did not reply at all to the questions that were asked of her, or spoke in as silly a manner as could be. She was so very awkward too, that if she had to place half a dozen tea-cups on the chimney-piece, she was sure to break one of them ; or if she tried to drink a glass of water, she spilt half of it upon her clothes.

Though beauty is a great charm to a young lady, yet the youngest princess was thought more of by every one than the eldest. To be sure, people went first to the eldest to see and admire her ; but they soon left her, to hear the clever and pleasing talk of her sister : so that in less than a quarter of an hour the eldest always found herself alone, while all strangers got as near as they could to the youngest.

Though the eldest was very stupid, yet she minded all this, and would gladly have parted with her beauty to gain but half the wit of her sister. The queen for all her good nature could not help scolding her now and then for being so stupid ; which made the poor princess ready to die of grief.

One day, having walked to a wood not far off, where she might sit down and cry at her ease for her hard fate without being seen, she saw a young man of small size and very ugly coming near to her; he was at the same time finely dressed. This was the young prince Riquet with the Tuft; who had fallen deeply in love with this princess from the portraits he had every where seen of her, and had now left his father's kingdom to have the pleasure of seeing and talking with her.

He was charmed at meeting her alone, and went up to her and spoke to her with great respect. Finding, after the first compliments were over, that she seemed very mournful, he said, "I cannot think, madam, how a lady with so much beauty as you have, can be so unhappy; for though I can boast of having seen a great number of handsome ladies, none of them could in the smallest degree compare with you."

"You are pleased to flatter me," replied the princess, without saying a word more. "Beauty," answered Riquet with the Tuft,

“ is so great a charm, that it supplies the place of every thing else ; and she who owns so great a blessing ought to be careless of every kind of misfortune.”

“ I would much rather,” said the princess, “ be as ugly as you are, and possess wit, than have the beauty you praise, and be such a fool as I am.”

“ Nothing, madam,” replied the prince, “ is a surer mark of good sense, than to believe ourselves in want of it : indeed, the more sense we possess, the plainer we see how much we fall short of being perfect.”

“ I know nothing of what you are talking of,” answered the princess, “ I only know that I am very foolish, and that is the cause of my grief.”

“ If this is all that makes you unhappy, madam,” said the prince, “ I can very soon put an end to your sorrow.”

“ By what means, pray ?” asked the princess.

“ I have the power,” said Riquet with the Tuft, “ to bestow as much wit as I please on

the person I am to love best in the world ; and as that person can be no other, madam, than yourself, it depends only on your own will to be the wittiest lady upon the earth. I shall ask you in return but one thing ; which is, that you shall consent to marry me."

The princess looked at him with great surprise, but did not speak a word.

" I see," added Riquet, " that my offer makes you uneasy, and I do not wonder at it ; I will therefore give you a whole year to think of what answer you will give me."

The princess was so very stupid and silly, and at the same time so much wished to be witty, that she resolved to accept the offer made her by prince Riquet with the Tuft ; she even thought a whole year a very long time, and would gladly have made it shorter if she could.

She therefore told the prince she would marry him on that day twelvemonth ; and as soon as she had spoken these words, she found herself quite another creature : she said every thing she wished, not only with the greatest

ease, but in the most graceful manner. She at once took a share in a pleasing discourse with the prince; in which she showed herself so witty, that Riquet began to fear he had given her more of the charming talent for which she so much longed, than he had kept to himself.

When the princess went back to the palace, the whole court was thrown into the utmost surprise at the sudden change they found in her; for every thing she now said was as clever and pleasing as it had before been stupid and foolish.

The joy at this event was the greatest ever known through the court: the youngest princess was the only person who did not share in it; for as her wit no longer served to set her above the beauty of her sister, she now seemed to every one a most ugly and frightful creature.

The news of this great change being every where talked of, it soon reached the ears of the princes in other kingdoms; who all hastened to gain her favour, and demand her for a wife.

But the princess would hardly listen to all they had to say; not one of them had wit enough to make her think of his offer in earnest for a moment.

At last there came a prince so great, so rich, so witty, and so handsome, that she could not help feeling a great liking for him. When the king her father saw this, he told her she had only to choose for a husband whom she liked best, and that she might be sure of his consent to her marriage.

As the most sensible persons are always the most careful how to resolve in such serious matters, the princess, after thanking her father, begged him to allow her time to think of what she should do.

Soon after this, the princess chanced in her walk to wander towards the very wood in which she had met Riquet with the Tuft; and wishing to be free from being disturbed while thinking of her new lover, she strolled a good way into it.

When she had walked about for some time, she heard a great noise under ground, like the

sound of many persons running backwards and forwards, and busy on some great affair. After listening for a moment, she heard different voices: one said, "Bring me that kettle:" another said, "Fetch that great boiler:" another, "Put some coals on the fire." At the same moment the ground opened, and the princess saw, with the greatest wonder, a large kitchen filled with a vast number of cooks, servants, and scullions, with all sorts of things fit for making ready a noble dinner; some had rolling-pins, and were making the most dainty sorts of pastry; others were beating the syllabubs and turning the custards: and at one end of the kitchen she saw at least twenty men-cooks, all busy in trussing different sorts of the finest game and poultry, and singing all the time as merry as could be.

The princess, in the utmost surprise at what she beheld, asked them, to whom they belonged.

"To Prince Riquet with the Tuft, madam," said the head cook; "it is his wedding dinner we are making ready."

The princess was now in still greater surprise than before ; but in a moment it came into her mind, that this was just the day twelve-month on which she had promised to marry prince Riquet. When she thought of this, she was ready to sink in the ground. The reason of her not thinking of it before was, that when she made the promise to the prince, she was quite silly ; and the wit which the prince had given to her had made her forget all that had happened to her before.

She tried to walk away from the place ; but had not gone twenty steps, when she saw Riquet with the Tuft before her, dressed finely in the grandest wedding suit that ever was seen.

“ You see, madam,” said he, “ that I have kept my promise strictly ; and I dare say you are come for the same purpose, and to make me the most happy of men.”

“ I must confess,” replied the princess, “ that I have not yet made up my mind on that subject ; and also, that I fear I can never consent to what you desire.”

"You quite surprise me, madam," answered prince Riquet.

"That I can easily believe," replied the princess, "and to be sure I should be greatly at a loss what to say to you, if I did not know that you possess the best sense in the world. If you were a silly prince, you would say, 'The promise of a princess should not be broken, and therefore you must marry me.'" But you, prince Riquet, who have so much more sense than any body else, will, I hope, excuse me for what I have said.

"You cannot forget, that when I was only a silly stupid princess, I would not freely consent to marry you: how therefore now that I am blessed with sense, and for that reason must of course be the more hard to be pleased, can you expect me to choose the prince I then would not accept?"

"If you really wished to marry me, you did very wrong to change me from the most silly creature in the world to the most witty, so as to make me see more plainly the faults of others."

“ If, madam,” replied Riquet with the Tuft, “ you would think it but right in a prince without sense to blame you for what you have said, why should you deny to me the same power in an affair in which the welfare of my whole life is at stake? Is it just that persons of sense should be worse treated than those who have none?”

“ Can you, my princess, who are now so very clever, and who so much wished to be so, resolve indeed to treat me in this manner? But let us reason upon it a little. Is there any thing in me besides my being ugly that you dislike? Do you object to my birth, my sense, my temper, manners, or rank?”

“ No, none of these,” replied the princess; “ I dislike nothing in you but your being so very ugly.”

“ If that is the case,” answered Riquet, “ I shall soon be the most happy man alive; for you, princess, have the power to make me as handsome as you please.”

“ How can that be?” asked the princess.

“ Nothing more is wanting,” said Riquet, “ than that you should love me well enough to wish me very handsome. In short my charming princess, I must inform you, that the same fairy who at my birth was pleased to bestow upon me the gift of making the lady I loved best, as witty as I pleased, was present also at yours, and gave to you the power of making him whom you should love best, as handsome as you pleased.”

“ If this is the case,” said the princess, “ I wish you with all my heart to be the most handsome prince in all the world ; and as much as depends on me, I bestow upon you the gift of beauty.”

As soon as the princess had done speaking, Riquet with the Tuft seemed to her eyes the most handsome, the best shaped, and most pleasing person that she had ever beheld.

Some people thought that this great change in the prince was not brought about by the gift of the fairy, but that the love which the princess felt for him was the only cause of it ;

and in their minds the princess thought so much of the good-faith of her lover, of his prudence, and the goodness of his heart and mind, that she no longer thought of either his being so ugly in his face, or so crooked in his shape.

The hump on his back, such people thought, now seemed to her to be nothing more than the easy gait in which men of rank sometimes indulge themselves ; and his lameness seemed a careless freedom, that was very graceful : the squinting of his eyes, in those of the princess, did not make them seem more sparkling and more tender ; and his thick red nose, in her mind, gave a manly and warlike air to his whole face.

Let this be as it may, the princess promised to marry Prince Riquet with the Tuft directly, if he could obtain the consent of the king her father.

When the king was told that his daughter felt a great esteem for Riquet with the Tuft, as he had already heard of the goodness of both the heart and mind of that prince, he agreed

with pleasure to have him for a son-in-law ; so that the next day, as the prince had long hoped for, he was married to the beautiful and no less witty princess.

FINIS.

THE

ADVENTURES OF OBIDAH.

OBIDAH, the son of Abensina, left the Caravansera early in the morning, and pursued his journey through the plains of Indostan. He was fresh and vigorous with rest ; he was animated with hope ; he was incited by desire ; he walked swiftly forward over the vallies, and saw the hills gradually rising before him. As he passed along, his ears were delighted with the morning song of the bird of paradise ; he was fanned with the last flutters of the sinking breeze, and sprinkled with dew by groves of spices ; he sometimes contemplated the towering height of the oak, monarch of the hills ;

and sometimes caught the gentle fragrance of the primrose, eldest daughter of the spring : all his senses were gratified, and all care was banished from his heart.

Thus he went on till the sun approached his meridian, and the increasing heat preyed upon his strength ; he then looked round about him for some more commodious path. He saw on his right hand, a grove that seemed to wave its shades, as a sign of invitation ; he entered it, and found the coolness and verdure irresistibly pleasant. He did not, however, forget whither he was travelling, but found a narrow way bordered with flowers, which appeared to have the same direction with the main road, and he was pleased that by this happy experiment he had found means to unite pleasure with his business, and to gain the rewards of diligence without suffering its fatigues. He, therefore, still continued to walk for a time, without the least remission of his ardour, except that he was sometimes tempted to stop by the music of the birds, whom the heat had assembled in the shade ; and sometimes amused

himself with plucking the flowers that grew on either side, or the fruits that hung upon the branches. At last the green path began to decline from its first direction, and to wind among hills and thickets, cooled with fountains, and murmuring with water-falls. Here Obidah paused for a time, and began to consider whether it were longer safe to forsake the known and open road ; but remembering that the heat was now in its greatest violence, and that the plain was dusty and uneven, he resolved to pursue the new path, which he supposed only to make a few meanders, in compliance with the varieties of the ground, and to end at last in the common road.

Having thus calmed his solicitude, he renewed his pace, though he suspected that he was not gaining ground. This uneasiness of his mind inclined him to lay hold on every new object, and give way to every sensation that might sooth or divert him. He listened to every echo, he mounted every hill for a fresh prospect, he turned aside to every cascade, and pleased himself with tracing the course of a

gentle river that rolled among the trees, and watered a large region with innumerable circumvolutions. In these amusements the hours passed away uncounted, his deviations had perplexed his memory, and he knew not towards what point to travel. He stood pensive and confused, afraid to go forward lest he should go wrong, yet conscious that the time of loitering was now past. While he was thus tortured with uncertainty, the sky was overspread with clouds, the day vanished from before him, and a sudden tempest gathered round his head. He was now roused by his danger to a quick and painful remembrance of his folly ; he now saw how happiness is lost when ease is consulted, and lamented the unmanly impatience that prompted him to seek shelter in the grove, and despised the petty curiosity that led him on from trifle to trifle. While he was thus reflecting, the air grew blacker, and a clap of thunder broke his meditation.

He now resolved to do what remained yet in his power, to tread back the ground which he passed, and try to find some issue where

the wood might open into the plain. He prostrated himself on the ground, and commended his life to the Lord of nature. He rose with confidence and tranquillity, and pressed on with his sabre in his hand, for the beasts of the desert were in motion, and on every hand were heard the mingled howls of rage, and fear, and ravage, and expiration ; all the horrors of darkness and solitude surrounded him ; the winds roared in the woods, and the torrents tumbled from the hills.

Thus forlorn and distressed, he wandered through the wild, without knowing whither he was going, or whither he was every moment drawing nearer to safety or to destruction. At length not fear but labour began to overcome him ; his breath grew short, his knees trembled, and he at last prostrated himself on the ground. A Hermit now proceeded from his cottage, and found him almost expiring. Touched with sympathy, he raised him, took him by the hand, and conducted him to his habitation, to which they were directed by the glimmering of a taper through the cram-

bles. The old man then set before him such provisions as he had collected for himself, on which Obidah fed with eagerness and gratitude.

When the repast was over, "Tell me, (said the Hermit) by what chance thou hast been brought hither; I have been now twenty years an inhabitant of the wilderness, in which I never saw a man before." Obidah then related the occurrences of his journey, without any concealment or paliation.

"Son, (said the Hermit) let the errors and follies, the dangers and escape of this day sink deep into thine heart. Remember, my son, that human life is the journey of a day. We rise in the morning of youth, full of vigour and full of expectation; we set forward with spirit and hope, with gaiety and with diligence, and travel on a while in the straight road of piety towards the mansions of rest. In a short time we remit our fervour, and endeavour to find some mitigation of our duty, and some more easy means of obtaining the self-same end. We then relax our

“ vigour, and resolve no longer to be terrified
 “ with crimes at a distance, but rely upon our
 “ own constancy, and venture to approach
 “ what we resolve never to touch. We thus
 “ enter the bowers of ease, and repose in the
 “ shades of security. Here the heart softens,
 “ and vigilance subsides ; we are then willing
 “ to inquire whether another advance cannot
 “ be made, and whether we may not, at least,
 “ turn our eyes upon the gardens of pleasure :
 “ we approach them with scruple and hesita-
 “ tion ; we enter them, but enter timorous and
 “ trembling, and always hope to pass through
 “ them without losing the road of virtue,
 “ which we, for a while, keep in our sight,
 “ and to which we propose to return. But
 “ temptation succeeds temptation, and one
 “ compliance prepares us for another ; we in
 “ time lose the happiness of innocence, and so-
 “ lace our disquiet in sensual gratifications. By
 “ degrees, we let fall the remembrance of our
 “ original intention, and quit the only adequate
 “ object of rational desire. We entangle our-
 “ selves in business, immerge ourselves in lux-

“ ury, and rove through the labyrinths of in-
“ constancy, till the darkness of old age be-
“ gins to invade us, and disease and anxiety
“ obstruct our way. We then look back up-
“ on our lives with horror, with sorrow, with
“ repentance, and wish, but too often vainly
“ wish, that we had not forsaken the ways of
“ virtue. Happy are they, my son, who shall
“ learn from thy example not to despair, but
“ shall remember, though the day is past, and
“ their strength is wasted, there yet remains
“ one effort to be made ; that reformation is
“ never hopeless, nor sincere endeavours ever
“ unassisted, but the wanderer may at length
“ return after all his errors ; and he who im-
“ plores strength and courage from above,
“ shall find danger and difficulty give way be-
“ fore him.—Go now, my son, to thy repose,
“ commit thyself to the care of Omnipotence,
“ and when the morning calls again to toil, be-
“ gin anew thy journey and thy life.”

THE

ANCHORITE AND ANGEL ;

OR, A

VINDICATION OF PROVIDENCE.

AN holy Anchorite being in a wilderness, among other contemplations fell to admire the method of Providence, how out of causes which seem bad to us he produceth oftentimes good effects ; how he suffers virtuous, loyal, and religious men to be oppressed, and others to prosper. As he was transported with these ideas, a goodly young man appeared to him : Father, said he, I know your thoughts are distracted, and I am sent to quiet them ; therefore, if you will accompany me a few days, you shall return very well satisfied of those

doubts which now encumber your mind. So going along with him, they went to pass over a deep river whereon there was a narrow bridge, and meeting there with another passenger, the young man jostled him into the water, and so drowned him. The old Anchorite being much astonished thereat, would have left him ; but his guide said, Father, be not amazed, because I shall give you good intentions for what I do, and you shall see stranger things than this before you and I part ; but at last I shall settle your judgment, and put your mind in full repose. So going that night to lodge in an inn where there was a crew of banditti, and debauched ruffians, the young man struck into their company, and revelled with them till morning, whilst the Anchorite spent most of the night in numbering his beads ; but as soon as they were departed thence, they met with some officers who went to apprehend the crew of the banditti they had left behind them. The next day they came to a gentleman's house, which was a fair palace, where they received all the courteous

hospitality that could be ; but in the morning, as they parted, there was a child in a cradle, which was the only son of the gentleman, and the young man, spying his opportunity, strangled the child, and so got away. The third day they came to another inn, where the man of the house treated them with all the civility that could be, and gratis ; yet the young man embezzled a silver goblet, and carried it away in his pocket, which still increased the amazement of the Anchorite.

The fourth day in the evening they came to lodge at another inn, where the host was very sullen and uncivil to him, exacting much more than the value of what they had spent ; yet at parting the young man bestowed upon him the silver goblet he had stolen from that host who had used them so kindly. The fifth day they made towards a great rich town : but some miles before they came at it, they met with a merchant at the close of the day, who had a great charge of money about him ; and asking the next passage to the town, the young man put him in a clean contrary way. The

Anchorite and his guide being come to the town, at the gate they espied a devil, who lay as it were centinel, but he was asleep : they found also both men and women at sundry kinds of sports, some dancing, others singing, with divers sorts of revellings. They went afterwards to a convent of Capuchins, where about the gate they found legions of devils laying siege to that monastery, yet they got in and lodged there that night. Being awaked the next morning, the young man came to that cell where the Anchorite was lodged, and told him, I know your heart is full of horror, and your head full of confusion, astonishment, and doubt, from what you have seen since the first time of our association. But know, I am an Angel sent from heaven to rectify your judgment, as also to correct a little of your curiosity in researches of the ways and acts of Providence too far ; for though separately they seem strange to the shallow apprehension of man, yet conjunctly they all tend to produce good effects.

That man whom I tumbled into the river

was an act of Providence ; for he was going upon a most mischievous design, that would have damnified not only his own soul, but destroyed the party against whom it was intended ; therefore I prevented it.

The cause why I conversed all night with that crew of rogues, was also an act of Providence, for they intended to go a-robbing all that night ; but I kept them there purposely till the next morning, that the hand of justice might seize upon them.

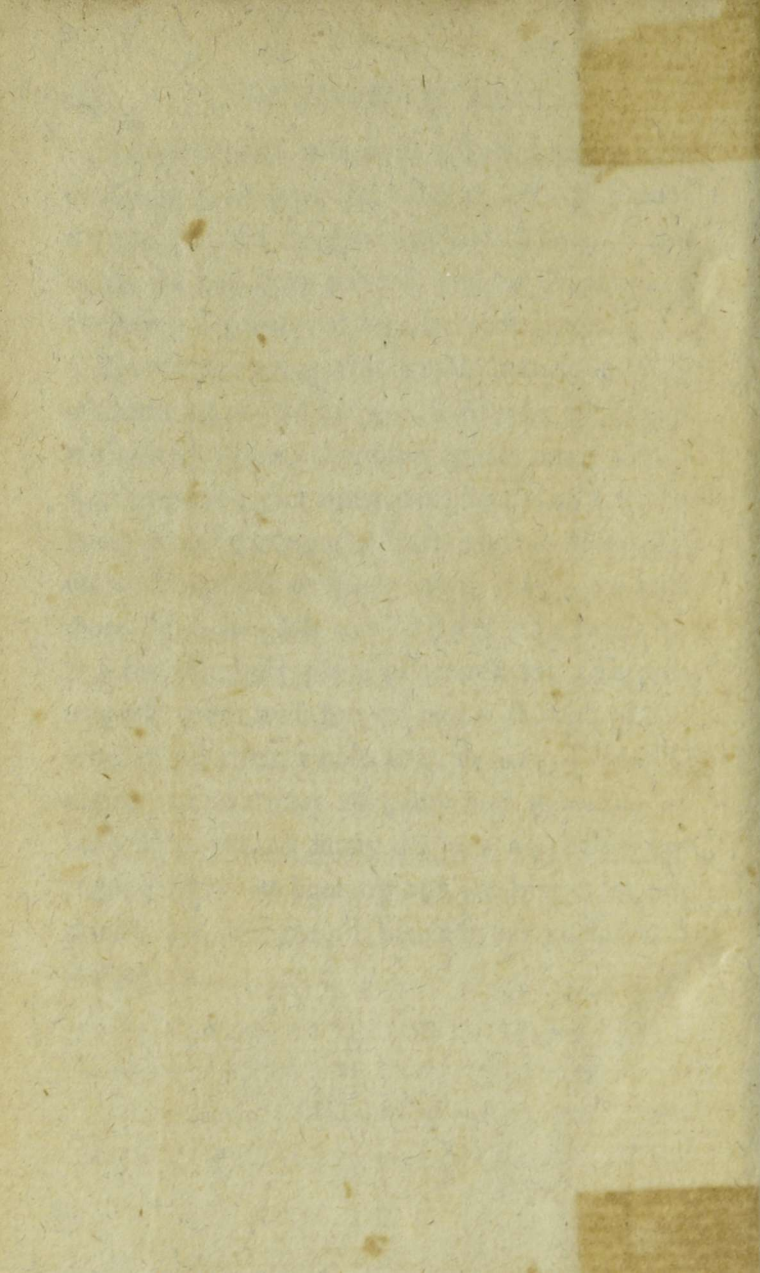
Touching the kind host, from whom I took a silver goblet, and the clownish or knavish host to whom I gave it ; let this demonstrate to you that good men are liable to crosses and losses, whereof bad men oftentimes reap the benefit ; but it commonly produceth patience in the one, and pride in the other.

Concerning that noble gentleman whose child I strangled after so courteous an entertainment, know, that that also was an act of Providence ; for the gentleman was so indulgent and doating on the child, that it lessened his love to Heaven ; so I took away the cause.

Touching the merchant whom I misguided on his way, it was likewise an act of Providence ; for had he gone the direct way to the town, he had been robbed, and his throat cut ; therefore I preserved him by that deviation.

Now concerning this great luxurious city, whereas we espied but one devil who lay asleep without the gate, there being so many about this convent ; you must consider, that Lucifer being already assured of that riotous town, by corrupting their manners every day more and more, he needs but one centinel to secure it : but for this holy place of retirement, this monastery inhabited by so many devout souls, who spend their whole lives in acts of mortification, as exercises of piety and penance, he hath brought so many legions to beleaguer them ; for they bear up against him most undoubtedly, maugre all his infernal power and stratagems.

THE END.



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