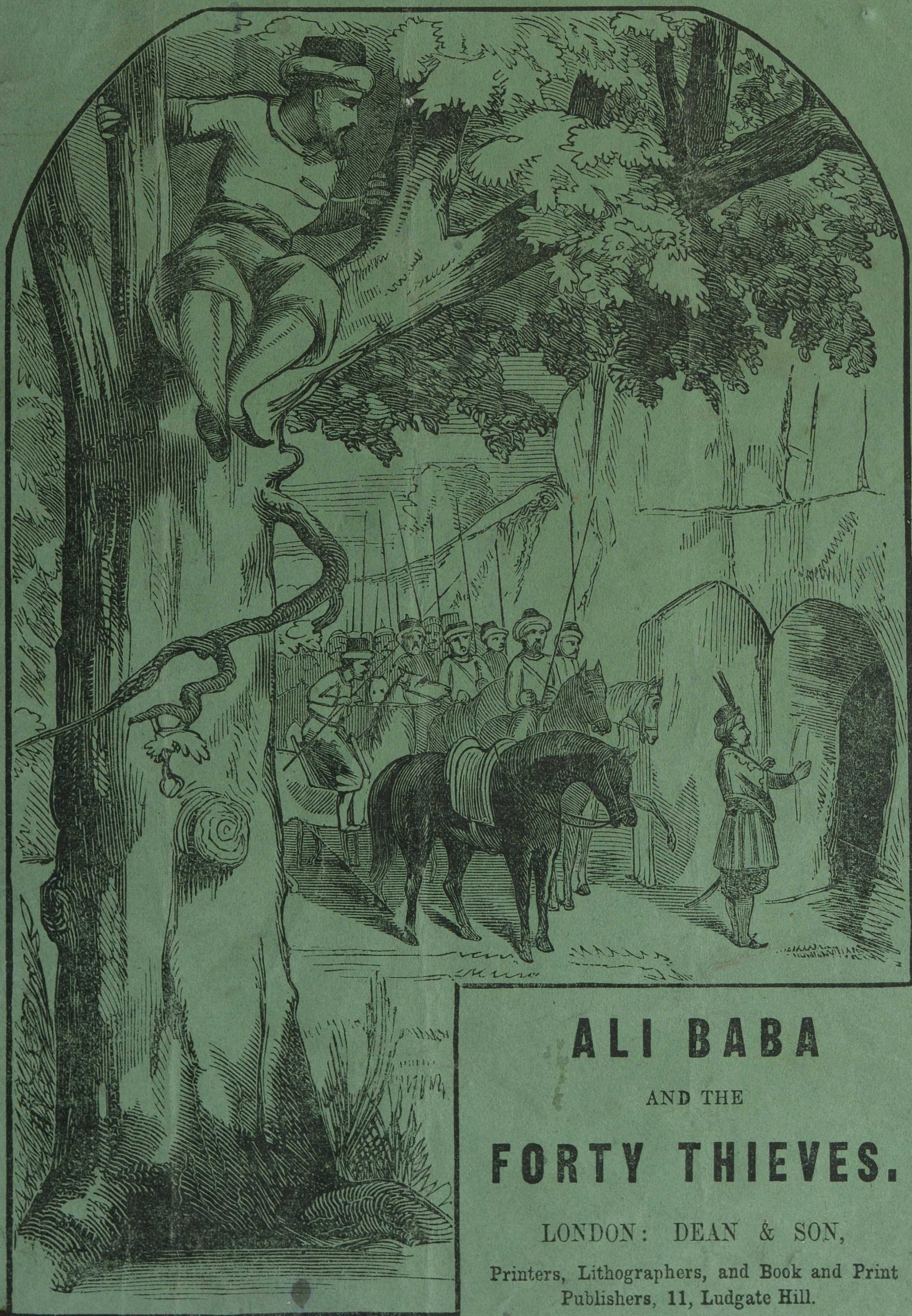


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**ALI BABA**

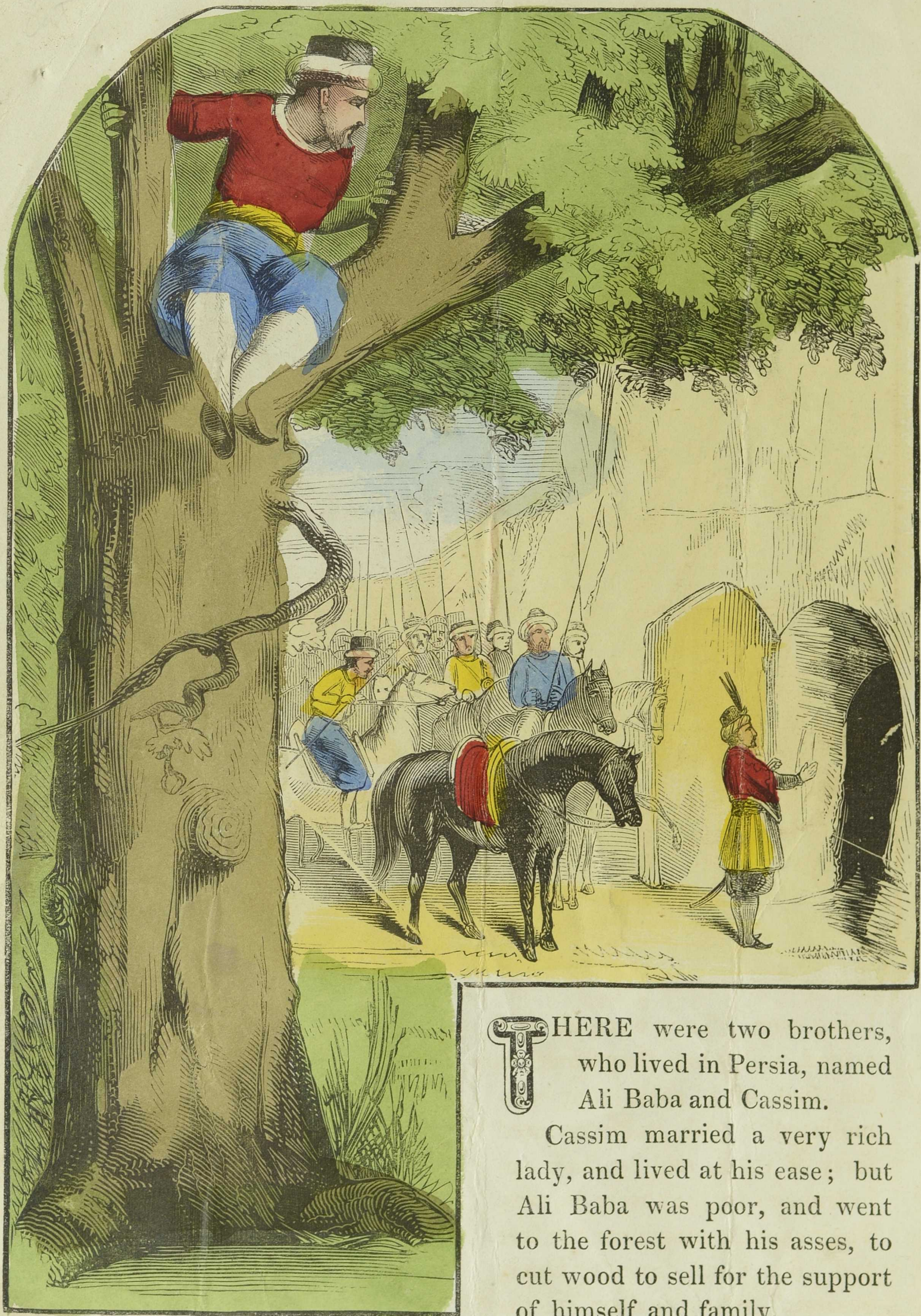
AND THE

**FORTY THIEVES.**

LONDON: DEAN & SON,

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**T**HERE were two brothers, who lived in Persia, named Ali Baba and Cassim.

Cassim married a very rich lady, and lived at his ease; but Ali Baba was poor, and went to the forest with his asses, to cut wood to sell for the support of himself and family.

One day, when he was in the forest, he saw a large number of horsemen, and having climbed up a tree, watched their movements without





being seen. They were all well armed, and when they came to the foot of a rock, they dismounted. Ali Baba counted forty of them, and by their appearance saw they were thieves. Their captain came near the tree and said, three times, "Open, Sesame," when a door in the rock opened, and the whole of the troop went in. They remained some time in the cave; at last the door opened, and they all came out. The



being seen. They were all well  
strong, and when they came to  
the foot of a rock they  
mounted. All these counted  
four of them, and by their ap-  
pearance they were  
their own kind. The two  
and early this time. One  
seemed to be a bit of the

rock opened, and the two of the troop went in. They went in  
the night, and they all went in.







captain bid the door shut, by exclaiming, three times, "Shut, Sesame," when every man mounted his horse, and rode away.

Ali Baba descended from the tree, and tried if his pronouncing the words would have the same effect, saying, three times, "Open Sesame," when the door flew open, and he was surprised to find that it led to a spacious cave, in which were heaps of plate and jewels, and bags filled with gold and silver. Ali Baba loaded his three asses with as many bags as they could carry, and said "Shut, Sesame," three times; the door then closed, and he made the best of his way home.

His wife was overjoyed at the sight of such a treasure, and while Ali Baba dug a hole in his garden, to bury it, she went to Cassim's house, to borrow a measure. Cassim's wife wishing to know what her brother-in-law wanted to measure, put some suet at the bottom of it. Ali Baba's wife soon returned, and measured the gold: but when she took the measure back, she did not observe that one piece of gold was left sticking to the fat at the bottom.

Cassim felt jealous at his brother's prosperity, and accused him of appearing miserably poor, when in reality he had so much money that he was obliged to measure it. This so worked on Ali Baba's feelings that he told him all; and Cassim, the next day, started out with ten mules, to the thieves' cave. When he arrived, he exclaimed "Open, Sesame," and he went in; he at once set about removing a large number of bags of gold, and placed them near the door. So much was his mind engaged with the treasures he beheld, that when he wanted to return, he forgot the words; so the door would not open, and he could not get out. About midnight, he was greatly alarmed by the sound of the tramping of the thieves' horses; and upon the captain bidding the door open, Cassim rushed out, but the robbers instantly seized him, and put him to death. They then cut his body in four quarters, which they hung up within the cave.

Ali Baba, feeling uneasy at Cassim's absence, set out with his three asses, to see what had become of him. When he came to the rock, he pronounced the words, and the door opened, when he beheld poor Cassim's remains. He loaded one ass with them, and the other two asses he loaded with bags of gold. Upon arriving at his brother's house, he saw Morgiana, a faithful slave, and told her that he had brought her master's remains, and she must manage to have them buried









as though he had died a natural death.

Morgiana then went to an old cobbler, named Baba Mustapha, and promised him two pieces of gold, to accompany her, blindfolded; this he agreed to, and she led him up one street and down another, until she arrived

in the house. She then took off his bandages, and bade him sew the quarters of Cassim's body together; and when he had finished, she led him





back again, blindfolded, but took him quite a different way.

On their return to the cave, the forty thieves discovered that some one had removed the body; so one of them was sent to the town, to try and learn if any one had been brutally murdered, and so find out who had learned their secret.

It being very early in the morning, he came up to the only stall that was open, which was that of Baba Mustapha, who in conversation,









said he had sewn the four quarters of a dead body together, but he could not tell the house, having been led there blindfolded. The thief gave him some gold to accompany him in a similar manner, and the cobbler stopped immediately opposite Cassim's house, at which Ali Baba now lived. The thief then chalked the door, and having led Mustapha back to his stall, returned to his companions in the forest.

Morgiana, who had been out on an errand, returned; and seeing the chalk mark which the thief had made, on the door, feared some danger; and marked several doors on both sides of their own, in the same way. The thief, not knowing this, told his companions how he had met the cobbler, and what he had done; so it was agreed by the troop that the captain should return with him to the town. When they came to the place, there were so many doors marked, that the thief could not distinguish which was the right house; he was therefore taken back to the forest, and executed.

Another of the troop then undertook to find out the house; and going to the cobbler's stall, agreed to pay Baba Mustapha to be led again to the house where he had sewn the dead body together. Having stopped opposite the door, the thief put a mark in a more remote part, with red chalk. But Morgiana detected it, and marked the other houses exactly the same. The thief with his captain came into the street, but the same difficulty presented itself. Thus the hopes of the captain were again frustrated, and the unfortunate robber put to death.

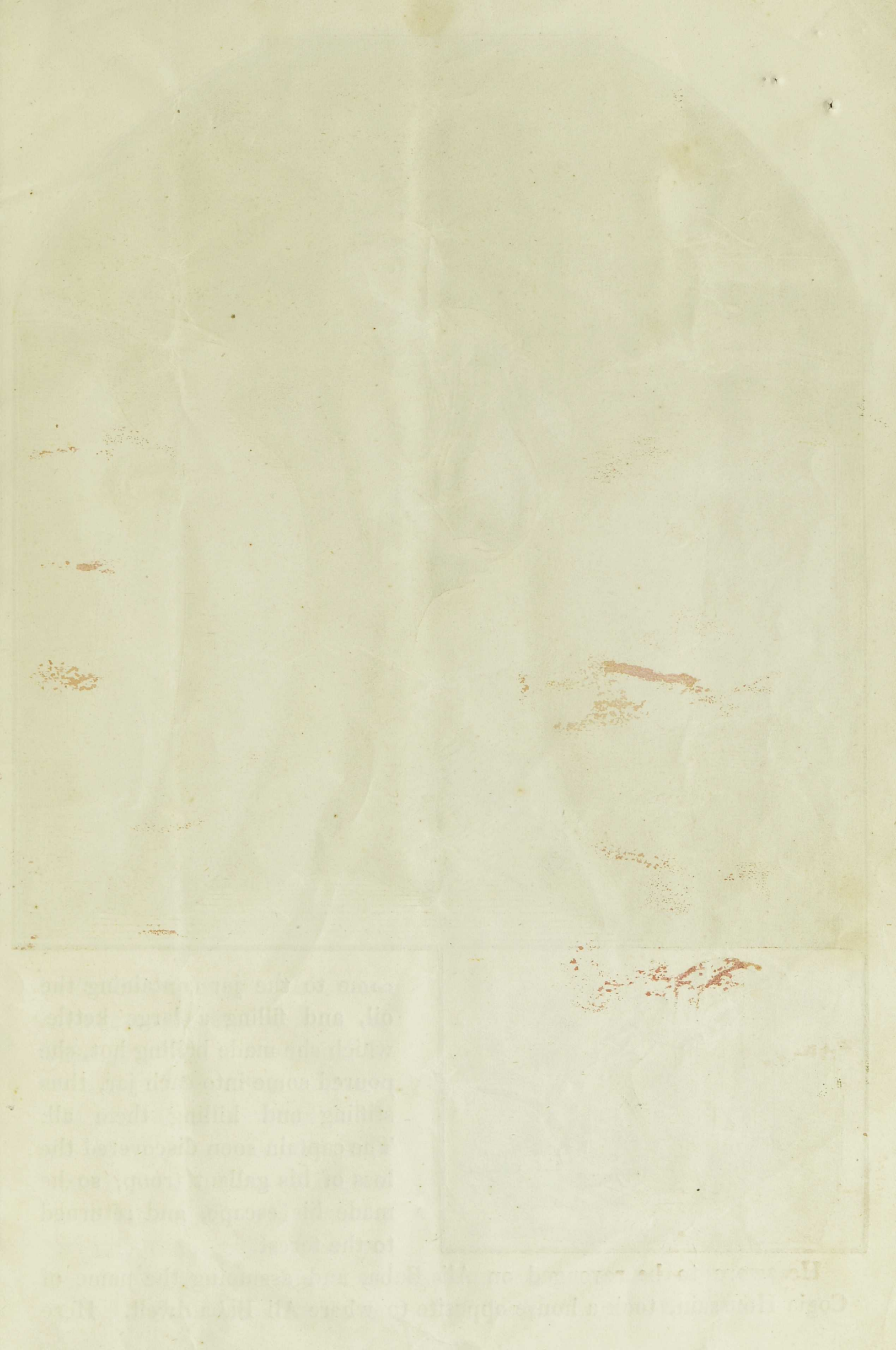
The captain now resolved to go himself; and being led by the cobbler to the house, he took such particular notice of it as to make certain of knowing it again. He then purchased nineteen mules, and thirty-eight large jars, one of which he had filled with oil. Into each of the other jars he put one of the thieves, and the jars being placed on the mules' backs, the captain, having disguised himself, led them to Ali Baba's house, where he was received as a travelling oil merchant, and deposited his jars in the yard. He told the thieves, who were all well armed, that when he threw stones among the jars, they were all to jump out and attack Ali Baba and his family.

Morgiana being in want of some oil, went to the first jar to get some; but was greatly surprised to hear a voice within the jar say "Is it time?" Her suspicions were at once awakened, and she answered, "Not yet." She went to them all, giving the same answer. At last she

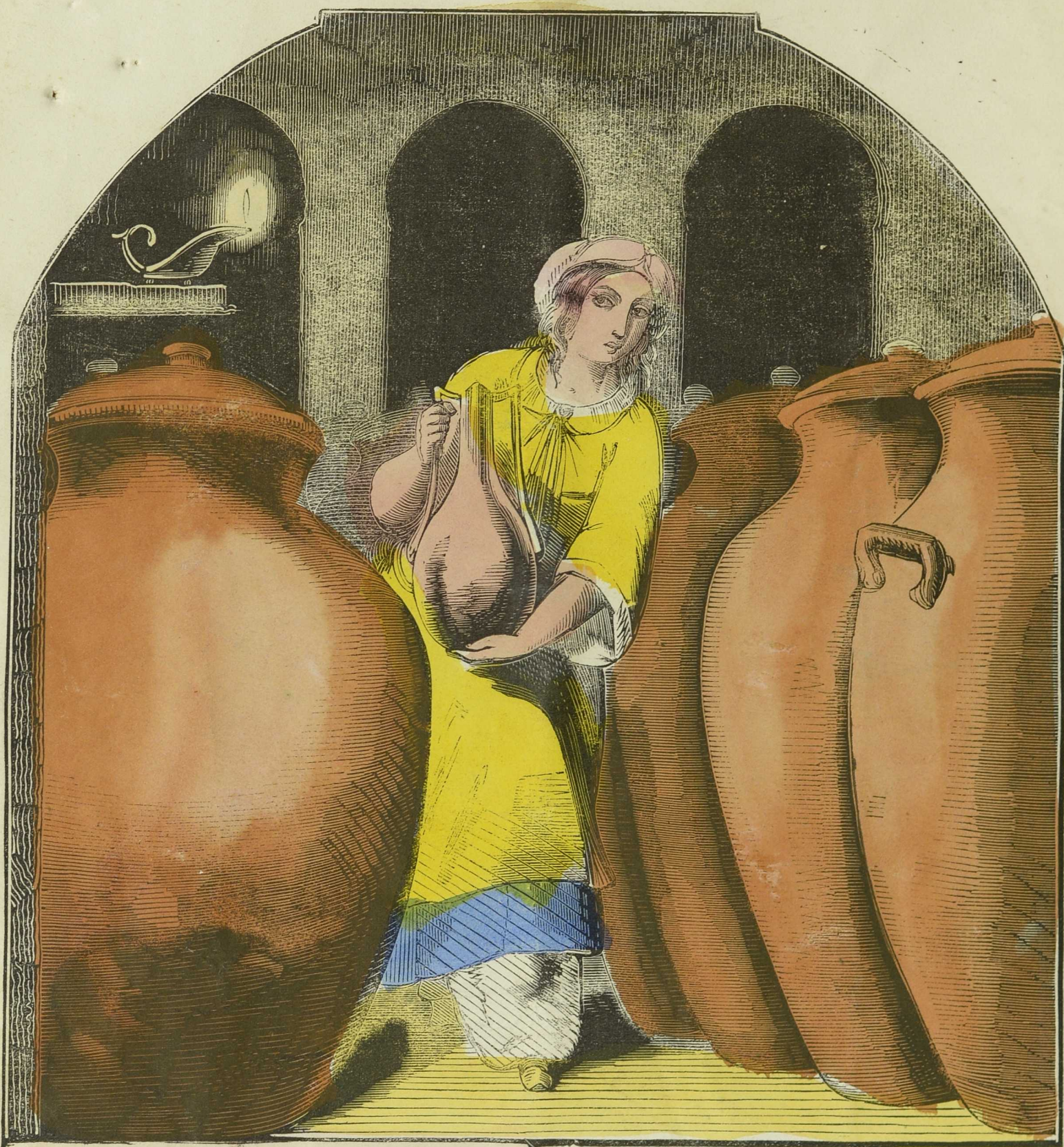












came to the jar containing the oil, and filling a large kettle, which she made boiling hot, she poured some into each jar, thus stifling and killing them all. The captain soon discovered the loss of his gallant troop, so he made his escape, and returned to the forest.

He swore to be revenged on Ali Baba, and assuming the name of Cogia Houssain, took a house opposite to where Ali Baba dwelt. Here





he lived in splendour, and made himself so agreeable, that Ali Baba prepared a feast, and invited him. The captain thought this a good opportunity to kill Ali Baba, so he went armed for that purpose; but Morgiana knew him again, and guessing his intention, while she was dancing before him, drew a poignard, and stabbed him to the heart. Thus Ali Baba became possessed of all the treasures in the cave.





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