

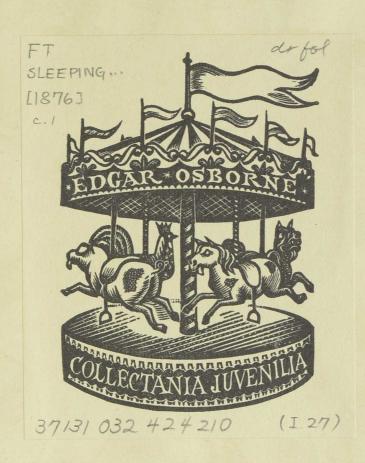
## THE SLEEPING BEAUTY.

L ONG, long ago, in ancient times, there lived a King and Queen, And for the blessing of a child their longing sore had been; At last, a little daughter fair, to their great joy, was given, And to the christening feast they made, they bade the Fairies seven—



And angry things she muttered long, and kept her anger hot,



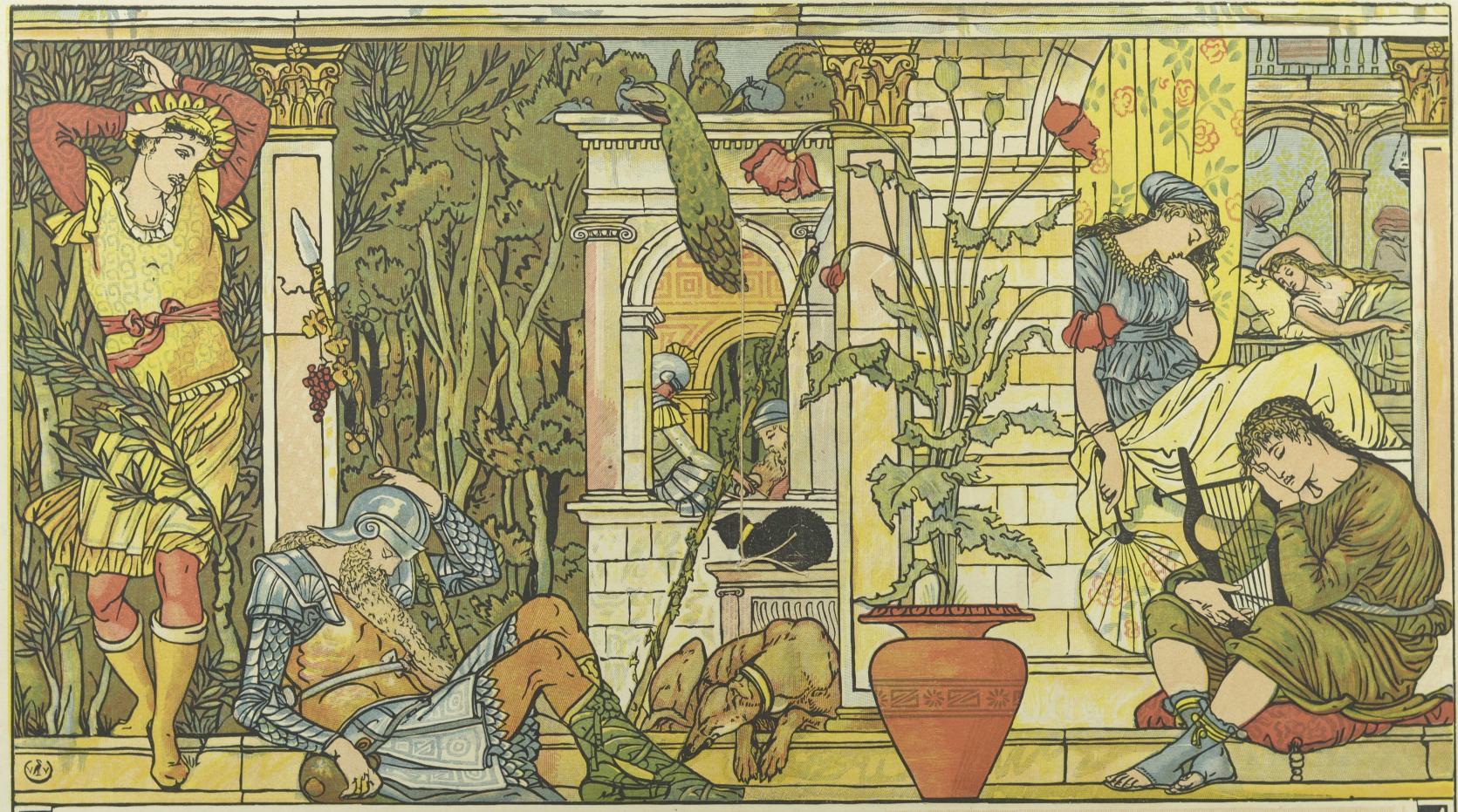


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Came forth, and muttered, angry still, and good gift gave she none;





But said, that in the future years the Princess young should die,
By pricking of a spindle-point—ah, woeful prophecy!
But now, a kind young Fairy, who had waited to the last, [are past;
Stepped forth, and said, "No, she shall sleep till a hundred years
Stepped forth, and said, "No, she shall sleep till a hundred years
"And then she shall be wakened by a King's son—truth I tell—
"And the will take her for his wife, and all will yet be well."

In vain in all her father's Court the spinning-wheel's forbid
In vain in all her father's Court the spinning-wheel's forbid
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In vain in all her father's Court the spinning-wheel's forbid
And all around her sink to rest—a palace of the dead!

For in a lonely turret high, and up a winding stair,

There lives an ancient woman who still turns her wheel with
A wood of thorns has risen up—no path a man can trace.

The Princess found her out one day, and tried to learn to spin;
At last, a King's son, in the hunt, asked how long it had stood,

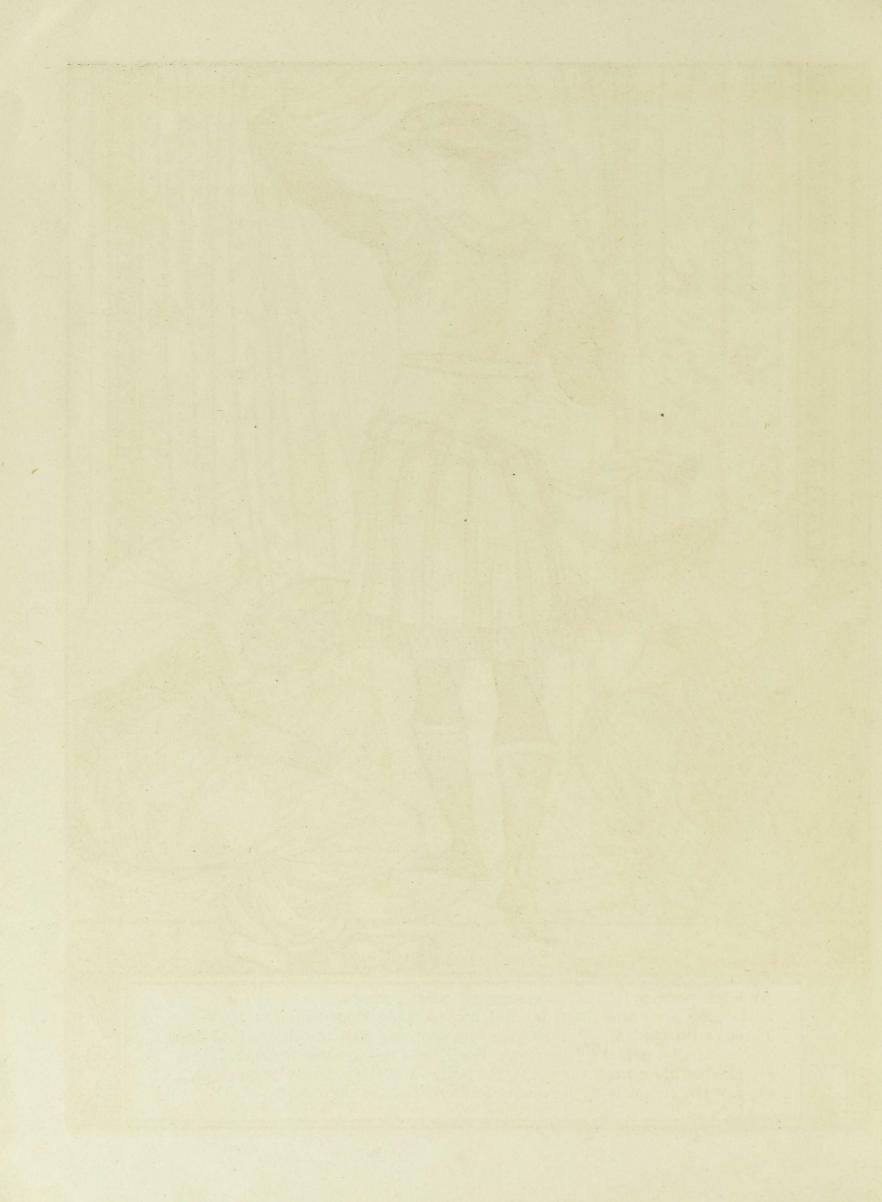
Alas! the spindle pricked her hand—the charm had entered in!

And what old towers were those he saw above the ancient wood,

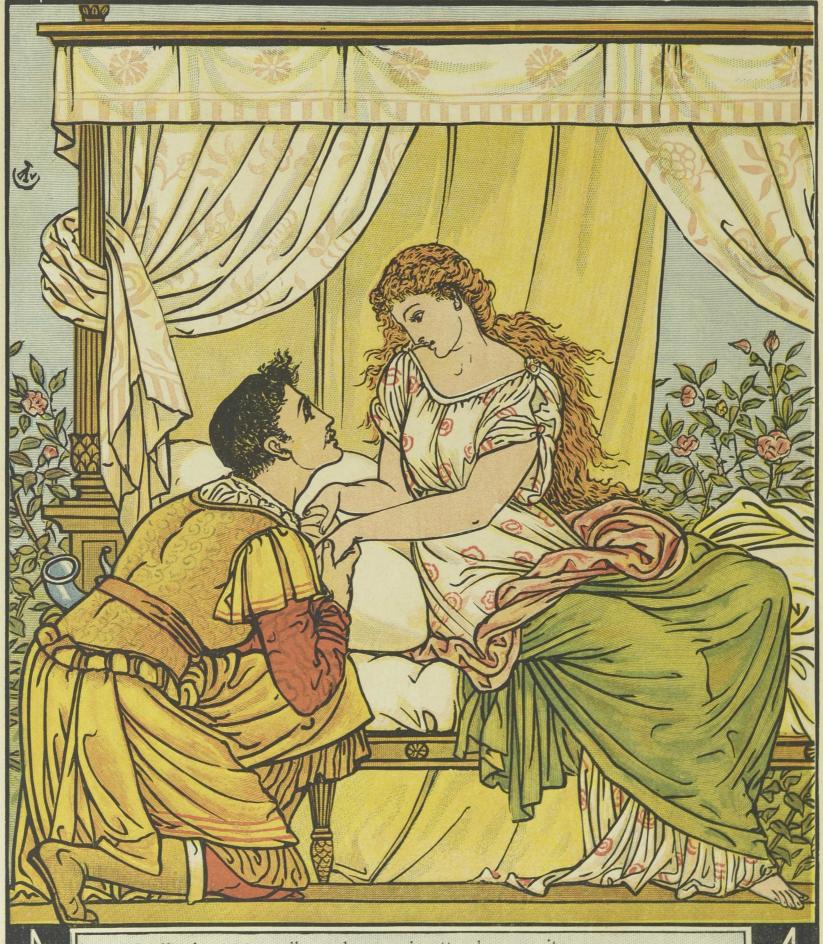


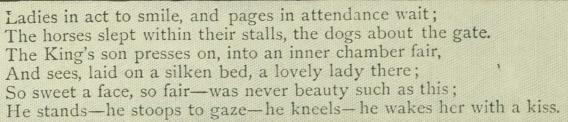


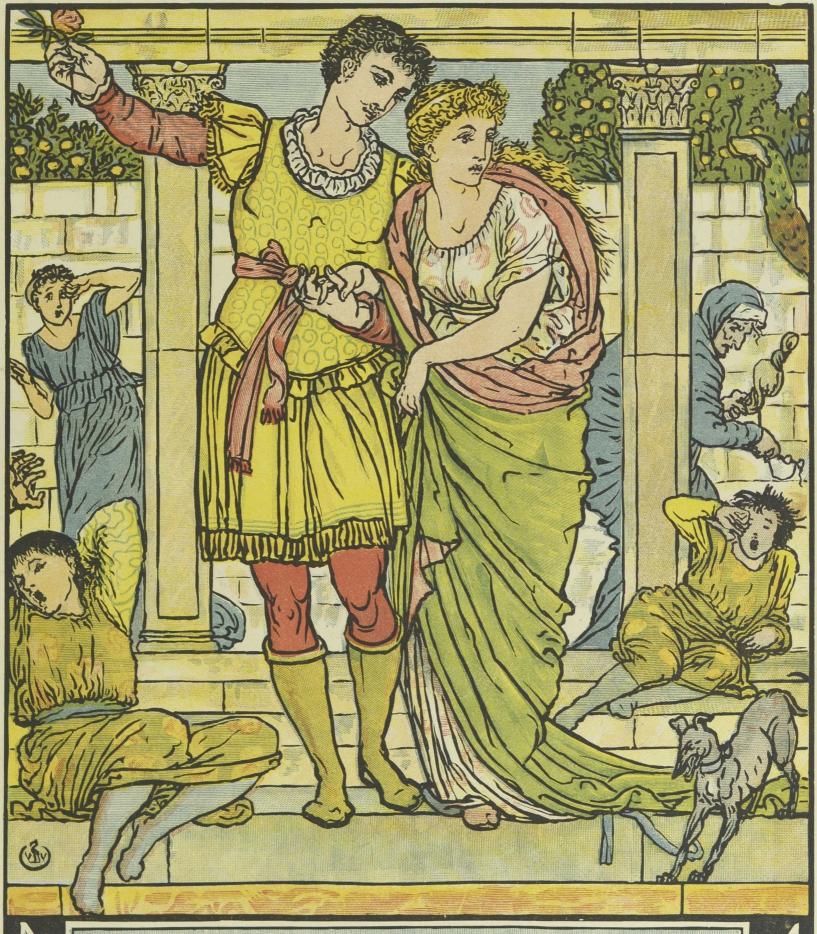
An aged peasant told of an enchanted palace, where
A sleeping King and Court lay hid, and sleeping Princess fair,
Through the thick wood, that gave him way, and past the thorns that drew
Their sharpest points another way, the King's son presses through.
He reached the guard, the court, the hall,—and there, where'er he stept,
He saw the sentinels, and grooms, and courtiers as they slept.













He leads her forth; the magic sleep of all the Court is o'er,—
They wake, they move, they talk, they laugh, just as they did of yore,
A hundred years ago. The King and Queen awake, and tell
How all has happed, rejoicing much that all has ended well.
They hold the wedding that same day, with mirth and feasting good—
The wedding of the Prince and Sleeping Beauty in the Wood.



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