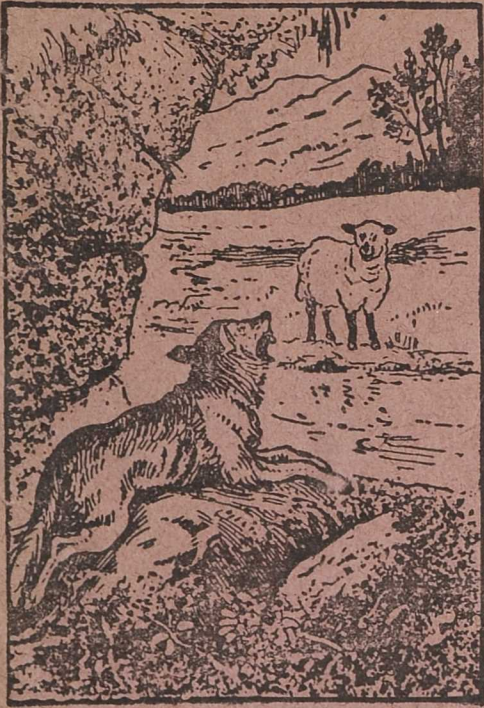


BOOKS FOR THE BAIRNS.—XXVI.

EDITED BY W. T. STEAD.



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WITH 152 SKETCHES

BY

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(SECOND SERIES).

ILLUSTRATED WITH NEW SKETCHES

BY

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LONDON:

"REVIEW OF REVIEWS" OFFICE.

[ENTERED AT STATIONERS' HALL.]

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THE FABLES OF ÆSOP.

(SECOND SERIES.)

THE PEDLAR'S ASS;

OR, THE DODGER OUTDODGED.

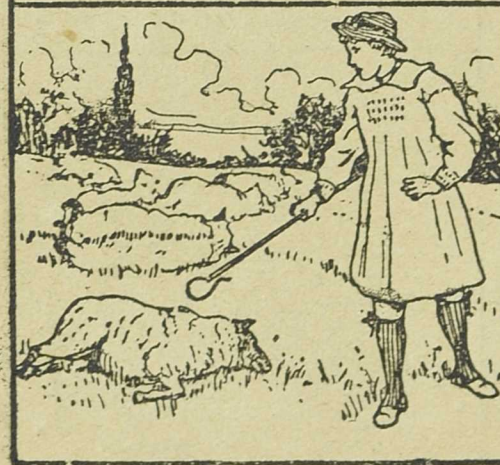
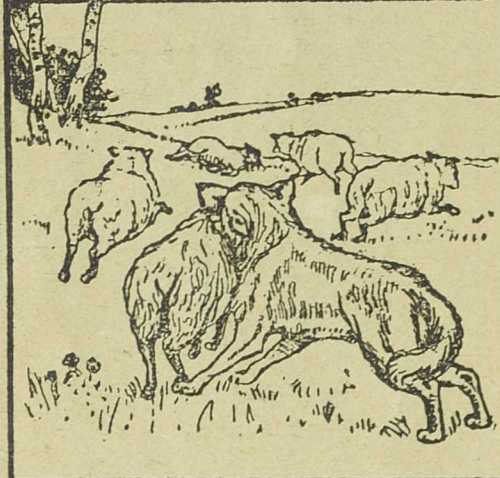
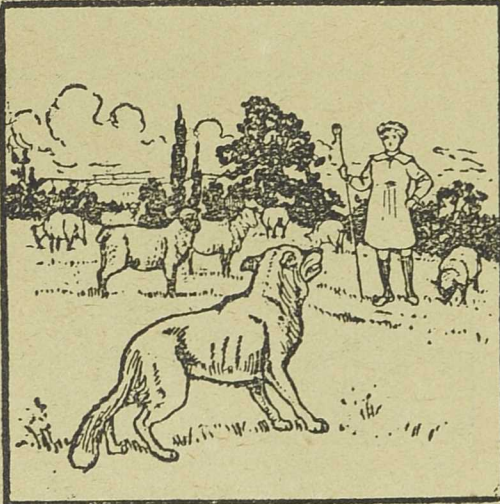
A PEDLAR had been to the sea-shore to buy salt. His way home lay across a stream, into which his Ass fell by accident. But he rose up again with his load considerably lighter, as the water had melted the salt. The Pedlar went back and refilled his panniers with a larger quantity of salt than before. When he came again to the stream, the Ass fell down on purpose in the same spot, and, regaining his feet with the weight of his load much lightened, brayed triumphantly as if he had obtained what he desired. But the Pedlar saw through the trick, and drove the donkey for the third time to the coast, where he bought a cargo of sponges instead of salt. The Ass, when he reached the stream, fell down as before, but this time the sponges becoming swollen with the water, his load was greatly increased; and thus his trick recoiled on himself, for he carried on his back a doubled burden.



THE SHEPHERD AND THE WOLF;

OR, NEVER TRUST UNTIL YOU TEST.

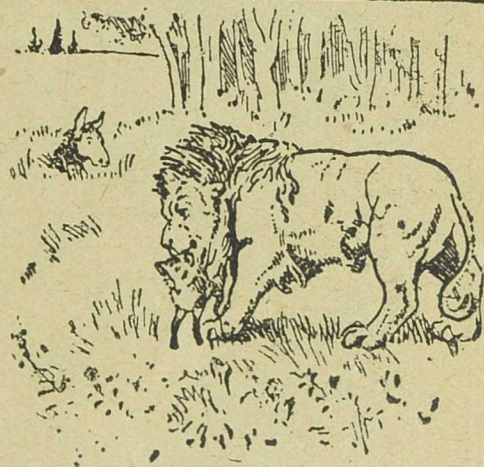
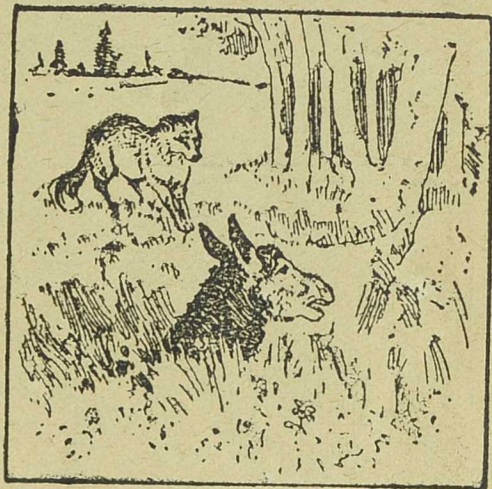
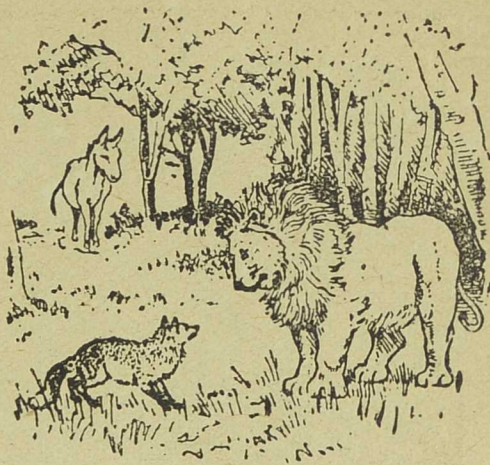
A WOLF once followed a flock of sheep for a long time, without attempting to injure any of them. The Shepherd at first kept a strict watch over his movements. But when the Wolf, day after day, kept in the company of the sheep, and made no effort to seize them, the Shepherd began to look upon him as a guardian of his flock rather than as an enemy of the sheep; and when occasion called him one day into the city, he left the sheep entirely in his charge. The Wolf, now seeing his opportunity, fell upon the sheep, and destroyed the greater part of the flock. The Shepherd, on his return, finding his flock destroyed, exclaimed, "I have been rightly punished; why did I trust my sheep to a Wolf?"



THE LION, THE ASS, AND THE FOX.

OR, TREACHERY IS SOMETIMES
AVENGED.

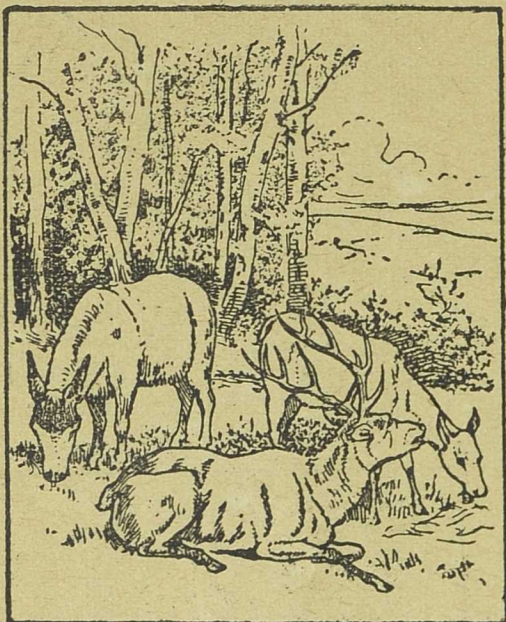
THE Fox and the Ass having made a bargain for their mutual protection, went out into the forest to hunt. They had not proceeded far when they met a Lion. The Fox, seeing their danger, approached the Lion, and promised to contrive for him the capture of the Ass, if he would pledge his word that his own life should not be endangered. On his assuring him that he would not injure him, the Fox led the Ass to a deep pit, and contrived that he should fall into it. The Lion, however, seeing that the Ass was secured, first seized the Fox, and then attacked the Ass at his leisure.



THE SICK STAG;

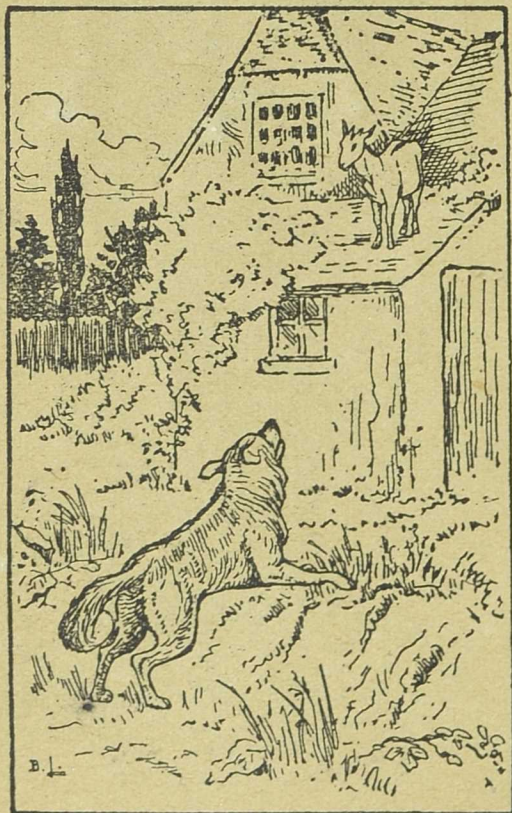
OR, CUPBOARD FRIENDS ARE
OFTEN FOES.

A sick Stag lay down in a quiet corner of its pasture-ground. His companions came in great numbers to inquire after his health, but each one helped himself to a share of the food which had been placed for the use of the Stag; so that he died, not from his sickness, but from the loss of his food.

THE KID AND THE
WOLF;

OR, THE COWARD'S CASTLE.

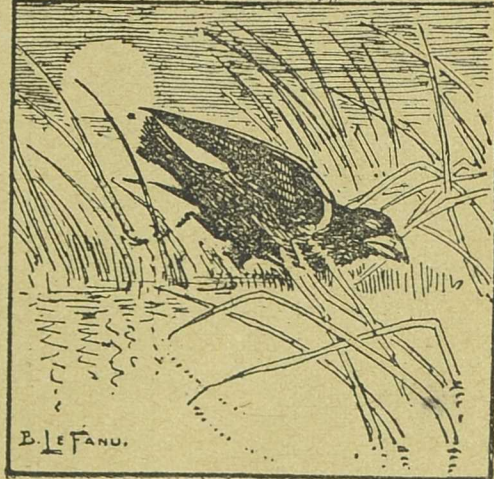
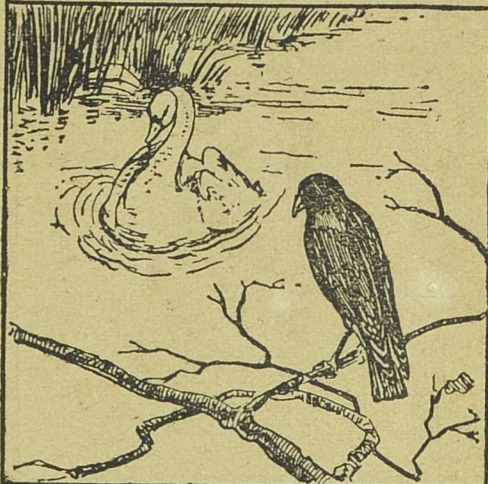
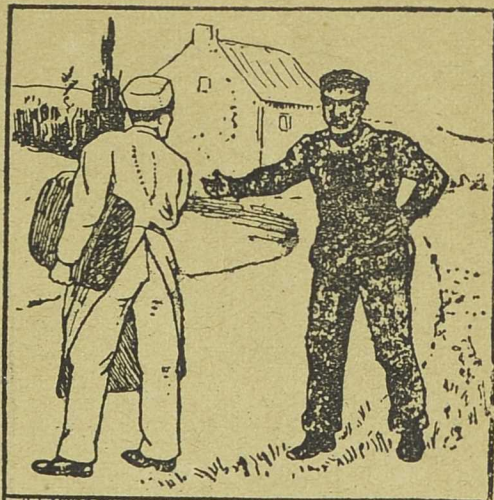
A KID being mounted upon the roof of a shed, and seeing a Wolf below, loaded him with all manner of reproaches. Upon which the Wolf, looking up, replied, "Do not flatter yourself, vain creature, that you mortify me, for I look upon this ill language as not coming from you, but from the place which protects you."



THE CHARCOAL-BURNER AND THE FULLER;

OR, LET BIRDS OF A FEATHER
FLOCK TOGETHER.

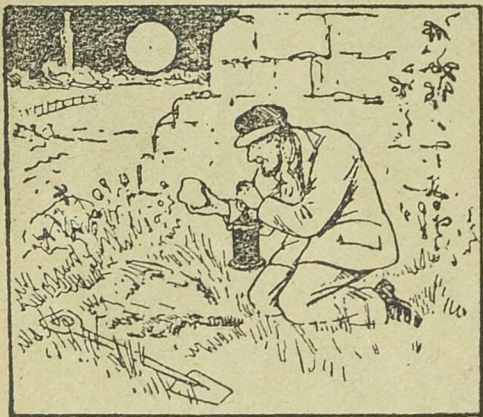
A CHARCOAL - BURNER, who carried on his trade in his own house, met a Fuller, and invited him to come and live with him, saying that their housekeeping expenses would thereby be lessened. But the Fuller refused; "For," said he, "whatever I should whiten, you would immediately blacken again with your charcoal."



THE SWAN AND THE RAVEN ;

OR, BE CONTENT.

A RAVEN having seen a Swan, desired to secure for himself the same beautiful plumage. Supposing that his splendid white colour arose from his washing in the water in which he swam, the Raven left the places in which he picked up his living, and took up his abode in the lakes and pools. But cleansing his feathers as often as he would, he could not change their colour, while through want of food he soon perished.



THE MISER;

OR, WHAT YOU CANNOT USE IS
OF NO USE.

A MISER sold all that he had, and bought a lump of gold, which he buried in a hole by the side of an old wall. He went every day to look at it, but one of his men watched his movements, and so discovered the secret of the buried gold, and stole it. When the miser, on his next visit, found the hole empty, he began to tear his hair. A neighbour, seeing him overcome with grief, and learning the cause, said, "Pray do not grieve so; but go and take a stone, and place it in the hole, and fancy that the gold is still lying there. It will do you quite the same service; for when the gold was there, you had it not, as you made no use of it."

THE THIEVES AND THE COCK;

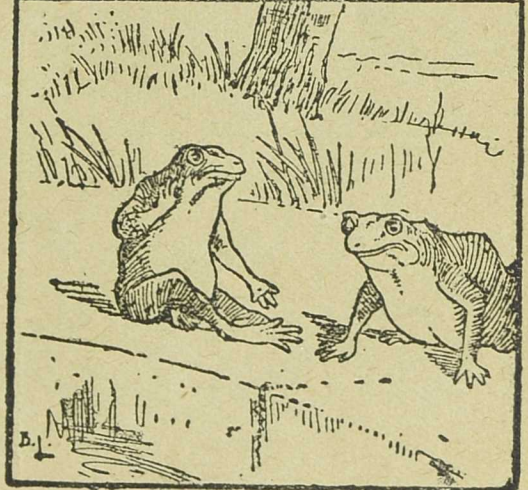
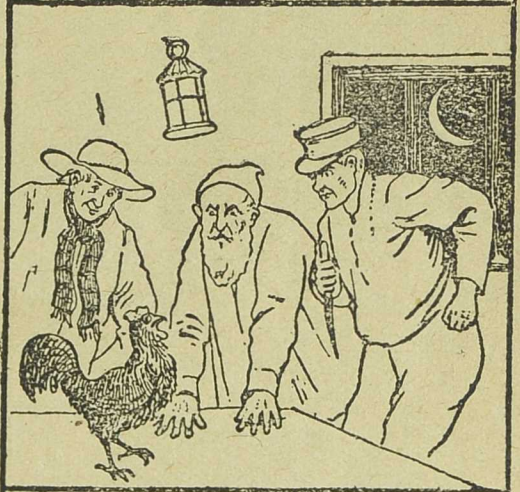
OR, DON'T PLEAD GOOD DEEDS
TO BAD MEN.

SOME Thieves entered a house to rob it, but they found nothing worth taking but a Cock, so they carried him off. But as they were about to kill him, he begged hard for his life, putting them in mind how useful he was to mankind by crowing and calling them up betimes to their work. "You villain," replied they, "it is for that very reason we will kill you, for you alarm and keep people waking, so that we cannot rob."

THE TWO FROGS;

OR, LOOK BEFORE YOU LEAP.

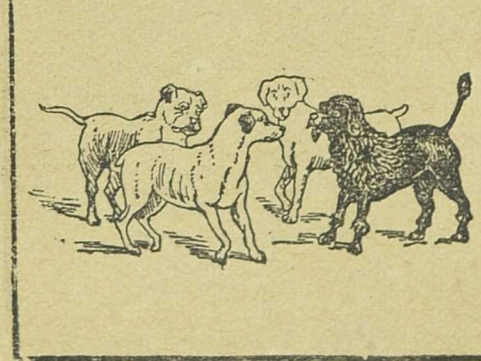
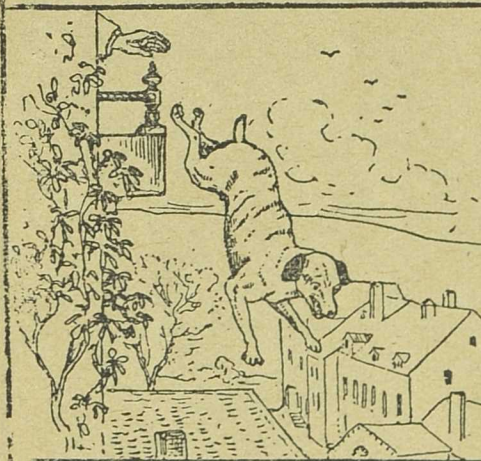
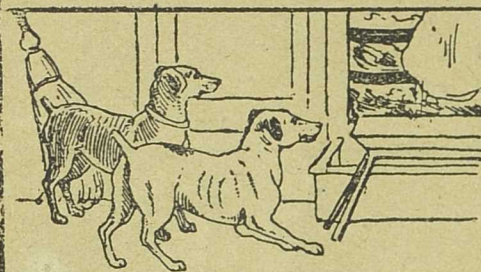
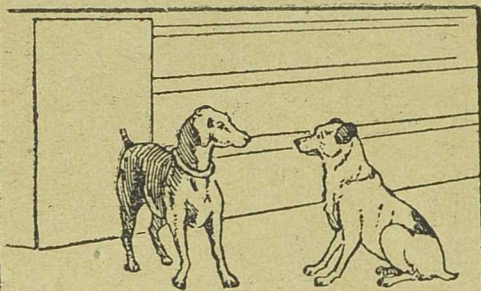
ONE hot summer, the ponds being almost everywhere dried up, two Frogs agreed to go in search of water. They came to a deep well, and sitting upon the brink of it, consulted whether they should leap in or not. One of them was for it, urging that there was plenty of clear water, and no danger of being disturbed. "Well," said the other, "all this may be true; but what if the water should happen to dry up here too, how shall we get out again?"



THE DOG AT THE FEAST;

OR, GETTING OUT OF A TIGHT PLACE THE WRONG WAY.

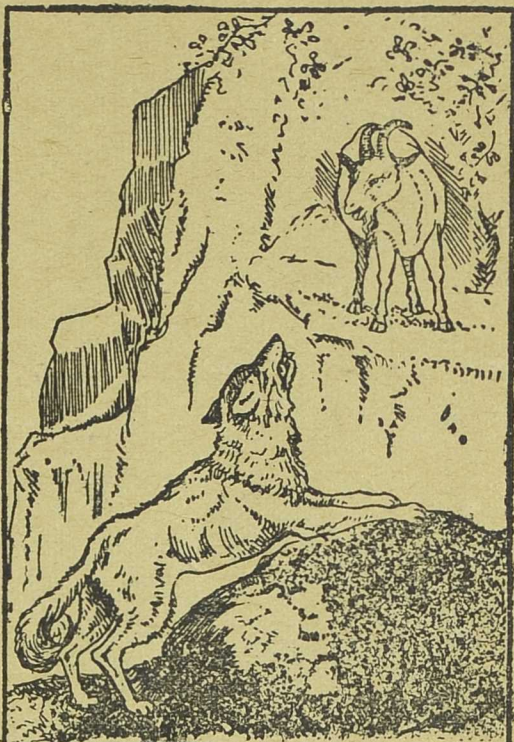
A GENTLEMAN having invited some friends to a grand supper, his dog thought it would be a good opportunity to invite another dog, a friend of his, to partake of the good cheer. He did so, and the strange dog was conducted into the kitchen. Thought he to himself, "This is rare! I'll eat enough to last me a week!" But while he stood and thought thus with himself, the cook, seeing a strange cur, with his eyes intent upon the victuals, stole softly behind him, and taking him by the two hind legs, threw him out of a window. The dog ran yelping and crying down the street. His yells attracted other street dogs, who came up and inquired how he had enjoyed his supper. He replied, "Why, to tell you the truth, I drank so much wine that I remember nothing. I do not know how I got out of the house."



THE WOLF AND THE GOAT;

OR, DISTRUST COUNSEL THAT PUTS YOU IN THE POWER OF THE COUNSELLOR.

A WOLF seeing a Goat feeding on a rock out of his reach, besought the Goat to come down lower, where there was less chance of slipping; "Besides," said he, "the grass is much sweeter down here in the meadows." "No," replied the Goat, "you care little about my food; what you want is to have me for your food."



THE WOLF, THE FOX, AND THE APE;

OR, BLACKGUARDS BOTH.

THE Wolf accused the Fox of theft, and the Ape was appointed to try the case. The Fox denied the charge, and after hearing both sides, the Ape delivered the following judgment: "I am of opinion that you, Wolf, never lost the goods you sue for; and as for you," turning to the Fox, "I make no question but you have stolen what is laid to your charge, at least." And thus the court was dismissed, with this public censure passed upon each party.



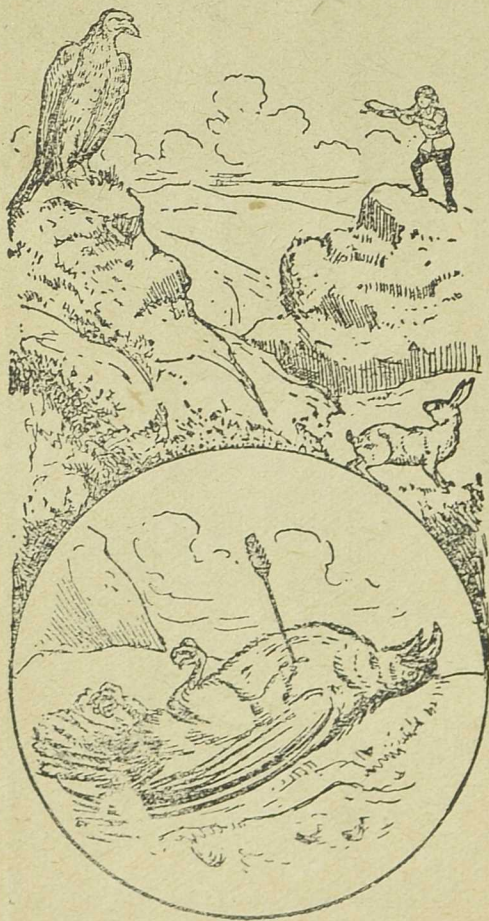
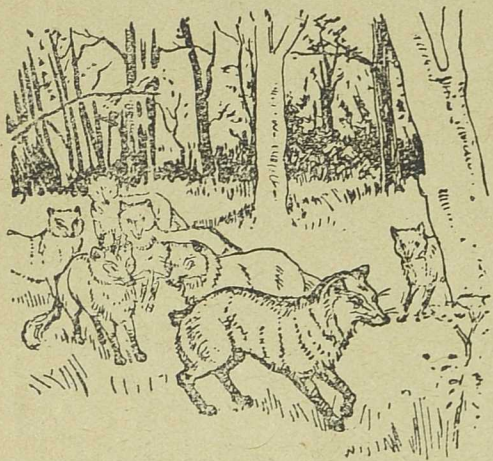
THE FOX WITHOUT A TAIL;

OR, YOU CAN'T ALWAYS SET THE FASHION TO SUIT YOURSELF.

AN Fox being caught in a trap by his tail, was glad to escape with the loss of it; but after a time he almost wished he had died rather than left it behind him. However, to make the best of a bad matter, he called together the rest of the foxes, and made a long speech to show the awkwardness and inconvenience of a tail; adding that he never enjoyed himself so well as he had done since he had cut off his tail. "Ah," said a sly old thief in the company, who understood traps, "I believe you may have found a conveniency in parting with your tail; and when we are in the same circumstances, perhaps we may do so too."

THE EAGLE AND THE ARROW.

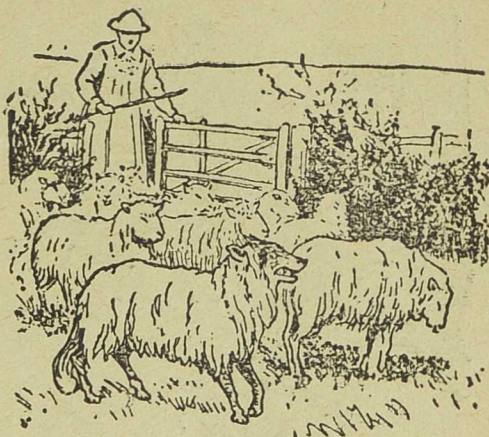
AN Eagle sat on a rock, watching a hare, whom he sought to make his prey. An archer, who was watching the Eagle, took aim, and wounded him mortally. The Eagle gave one look at the arrow that had entered his heart, and saw in that single glance that its feathers had been furnished by himself. "It is a double grief to me," he said, "that I should perish by an arrow feathered from my own wings."



THE WOLF IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING;

OR, THE BITER BIT.

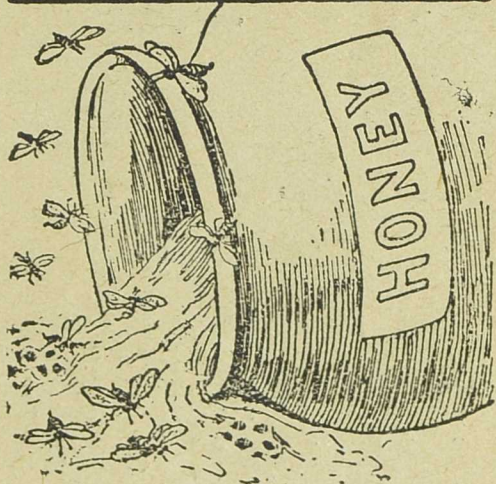
A WOLF, clothing himself in the skin of a Sheep, and getting in among the flock, by this means took the opportunity to devour many of them. But one night he got shut up in the fold with the Sheep, and the shepherd, going in amongst the flock to find a Sheep fit to kill for food, seized the Wolf in mistake for a Sheep, and killed him. Thus the Wolf who sought to destroy others was himself destroyed.



THE FLIES AND THE HONEY POT;

OR, DON'T BE GREEDY.

SOME Flies were attracted to a pot of honey which had been upset, and placing their feet in the honey, began to eat it greedily, until they discovered that their feet were so sticky they could not fly away. They were soon suffocated, and paid the penalty of their greediness.





THE TRAVELLERS AND THE BEAR;

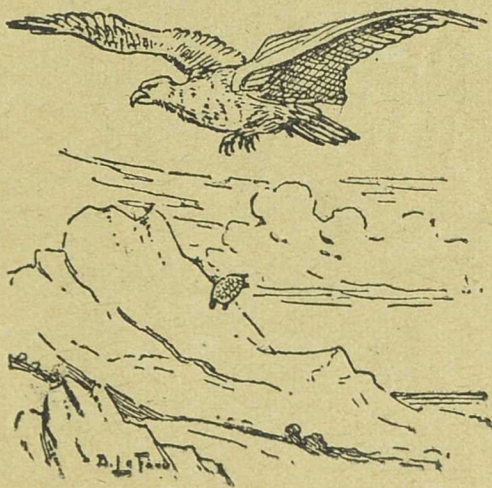
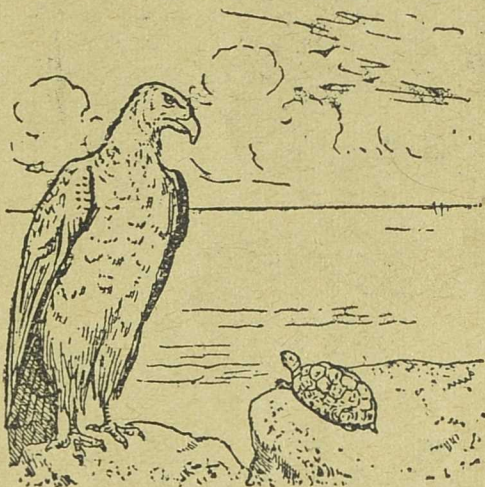
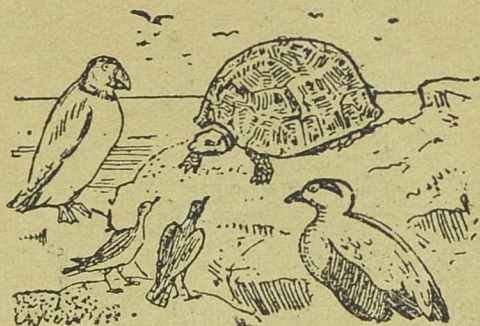
OR, ONLY A FRIEND IN NEED
IS A FRIEND IN DEED.

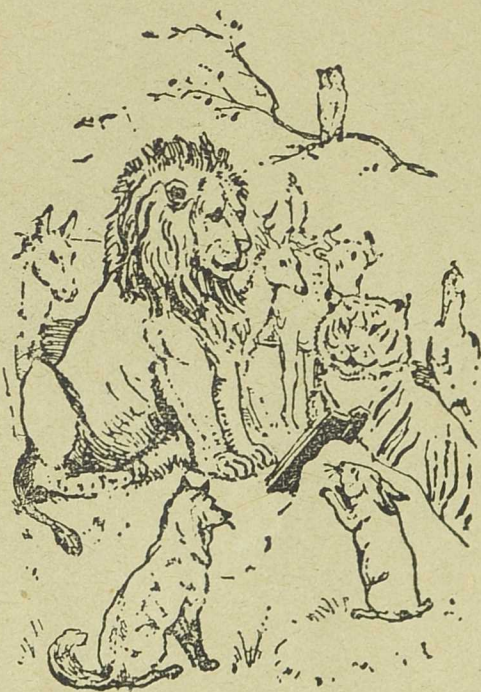
Two men, travelling through a forest together, promised to stand by each other in any danger they should meet upon the way. They had not gone far, before a Bear came rushing towards them out of a thicket; upon which one, being a light, nimble fellow, got up into a tree: the other, falling flat upon his face, and holding his breath, lay still, while the Bear came up and smelled at him; but Bruin, supposing him to be dead, went back into the wood, without doing him harm. When all was over, the man who had climbed the tree came to his companion, and with a smile asked what the Bear had said to him; "For," said he, "I took notice that he put his mouth very close to your ear." "Why," replied the other, "he charged me in future to put no confidence in such cowardly rascals as you are."

THE TORTOISE AND THE EAGLE;

OR, DON'T TRY TO SOAR TOO HIGH.

THE Tortoise, weary of his condition, by which he was compelled to keep upon the ground, and being ambitious to look about him, gave out if any bird would take him up into the air, and show him the world, he would reward him with a discovery of many precious stones, which he knew were hidden in a certain place of the earth. The Eagle undertook to do as he desired, and when he had performed his commission, demanded the reward; but finding the Tortoise could not make good his words, he struck his talons into the softer parts of his body, and made him a sacrifice to his revenge. The Tortoise exclaimed in the moment of death, "I have deserved my fate; for what had I to do with wings and clouds, who can with difficulty move about on the earth?"





THE LION'S KINGDOM;

OR, ONLY IN PEACE HAVE THE
WEAK ANY CHANCE.

THE beasts of the field chose the Lion as their king, and he made a good and just king. During his reign he sent out a royal proclamation for a general assembly of all the birds and beasts, and drew up conditions for a universal league, in which all the animals should live together in perfect peace. "Oh, how I have longed to see this day," said the Hare, "in which the weak shall take their place by the side of the strong."

THE BOYS AND THE FROGS;

OR, PUT YOURSELF IN THEIR
PLACE.

THREE boys amused themselves by throwing stones at the frogs in a pond, killing several, until presently a frog popped his head above the water and asked the boys to stop, for what was sport to them was death to the frogs.

THE FOX AND THE BOAR;

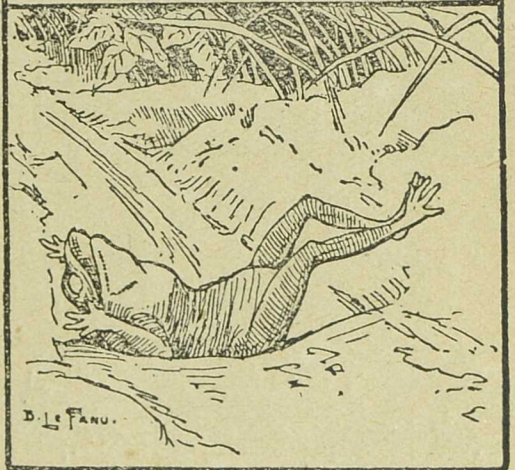
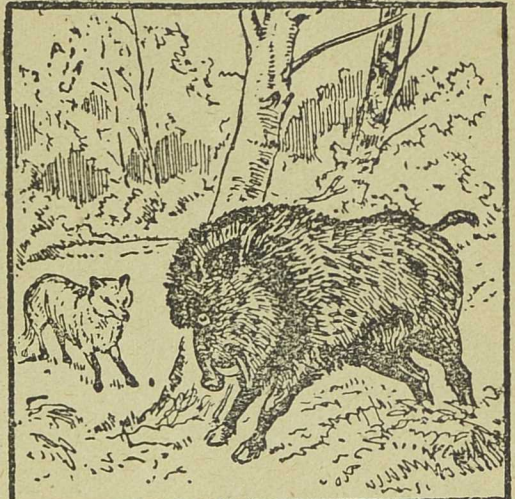
OR, IN TIME OF PEACE
PREPARE FOR WAR.

THE Boar stood sharpening his tusks against an oak-tree. The Fox, who happened to come by at the time, asked him why he made those preparations, since there was no enemy about that he could perceive. "That may be, Master Reynard," said the Boar, "but we should scour up our arms while we have leisure; for in time of danger we shall have something else to do."

TWO FROGS;

OR, EMIGRATE IN TIME.

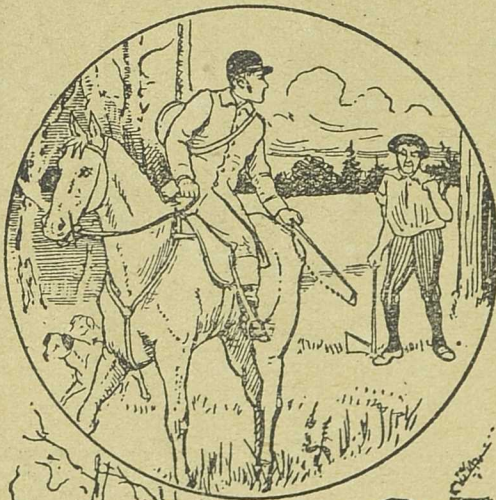
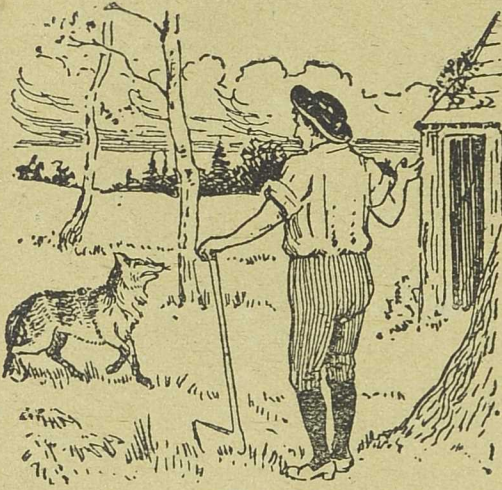
THERE were two Frogs, one of whom lived in a deep pond, and the other in a ditch containing little water, and crossed by a country road. The Frog in the pond warned his friend, and invited him to come and live with him, saying that he would enjoy greater safety and also find more food. The other refused, because he was unwilling to remove from a place to which he had become accustomed. A few days afterwards a heavy cart passed that way and crushed him to death.



D. L. FANU.

THE FOX AND THE WOODCUTTER.

A Fox, being hard hunted and quite tired, spied a man in a wood, to whom he applied for refuge, entreating that he would give him leave to hide himself in his cottage till the hounds were gone by. The man consented, and the Fox went and covered himself up close in a corner of the cottage. Presently the hunters came up, and inquired of the man if he had seen the Fox. "No," said he, "I have not seen him"; but all the while he pointed with his finger to the place where the Fox was hid. However, the hunters did not understand him, but called off their hounds. Soon after, the Fox, creeping out of his hole, was going to sneak off, when the man asked him if that was his manners—to go away without thanking the man to whose fidelity he owed his life. Reynard, who had peeped all the while and seen what passed, answered, "I know what obligations I have to you well enough; and I assure you, if your actions had been but agreeable to your words, I should have returned you suitable thanks."



THE LION AND THE DOLPHIN;

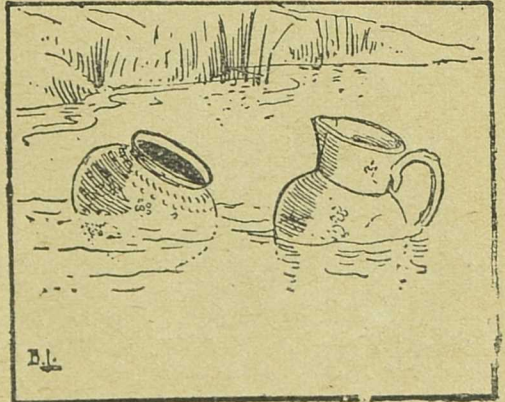
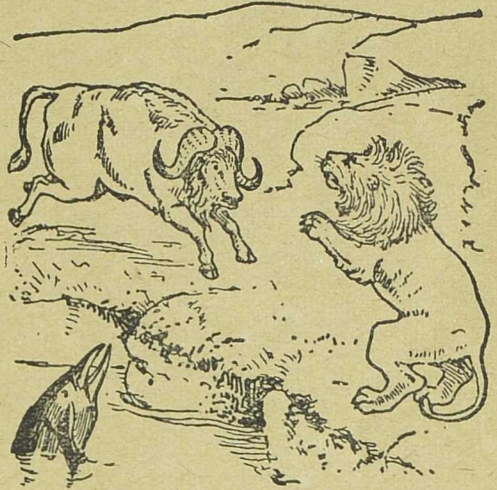
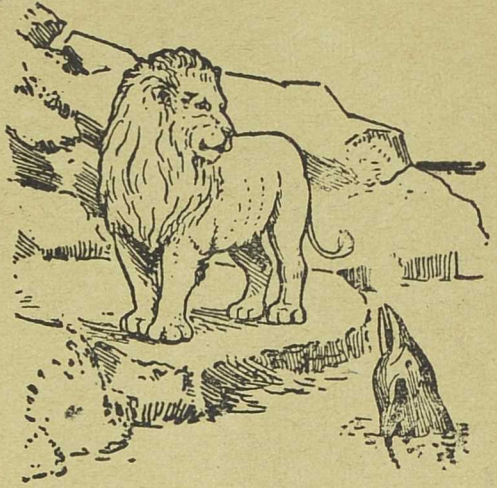
OR, ENGLAND'S FLEET CANNOT
FIGHT ON LAND.

A LION walking by the sea saw a Dolphin's head above the waves. He made an alliance with him, one being king of beasts on earth, and the other sovereign of the sea. The Dolphin gladly consented. Not long afterwards the Lion had a combat with a wild bull, and demanded the Dolphin's help. The Dolphin said he was unable to do so, as he could not, by any means, reach the land. The Lion roared out "Traitor!" The Dolphin replied, "Friend, don't blame me, but nature, who made me sovereign of the sea, but denies me the power to live on land."

THE TWO POTS;

OR, THE WEAKER ALWAYS GO
TO THE WAJE.

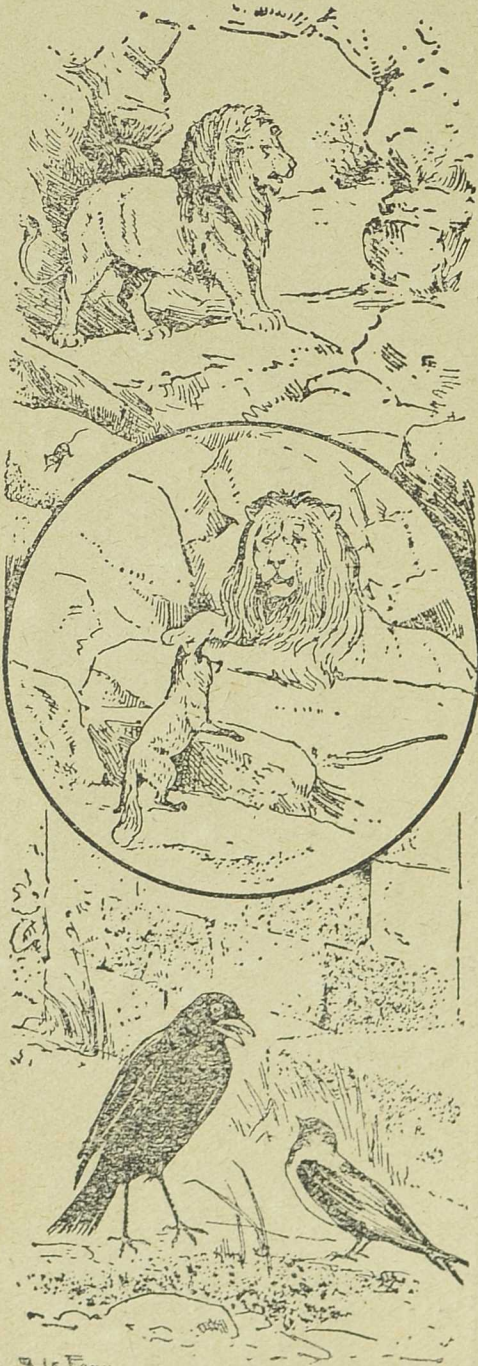
AN earthen Pot and one of brass, standing together upon the river's bank, were both carried away by the tide. The earthen Pot showed some uneasiness, fearing he should be broken; but his companion of brass said he would take care of him. "Oh," replied the other, "keep as far off as you can; it is you I am most afraid of; for whether the stream dashes you against me, or me against you, I am sure to be the sufferer."



THE LION AND THE MOUSE;

OR, THE SMALLEST CAN OFFEND
THE GREATEST.

A LION having fallen asleep in his den one very hot day, was awakened by a little Mouse, which ran over his head and tickled his ears. The indignant Lion was looking about for the Mouse, when a Fox laughed at the Lion for being frightened at a little Mouse. "Oh," said the Lion, "I do not fear the Mouse, but I object to his familiarity."



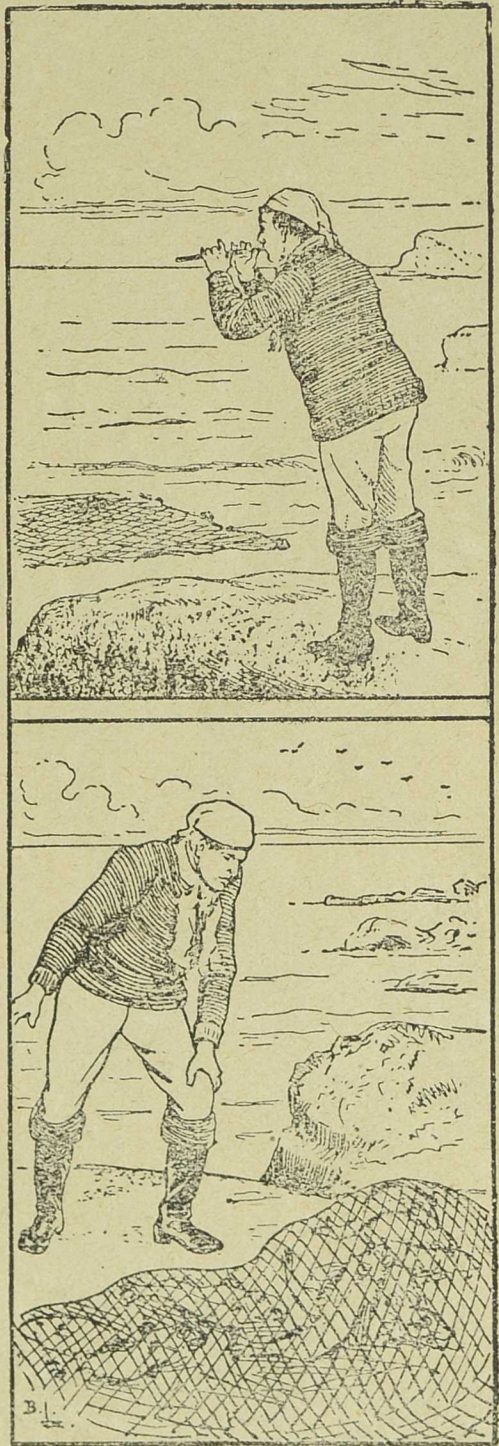
THE CROW AND THE SWALLOW;

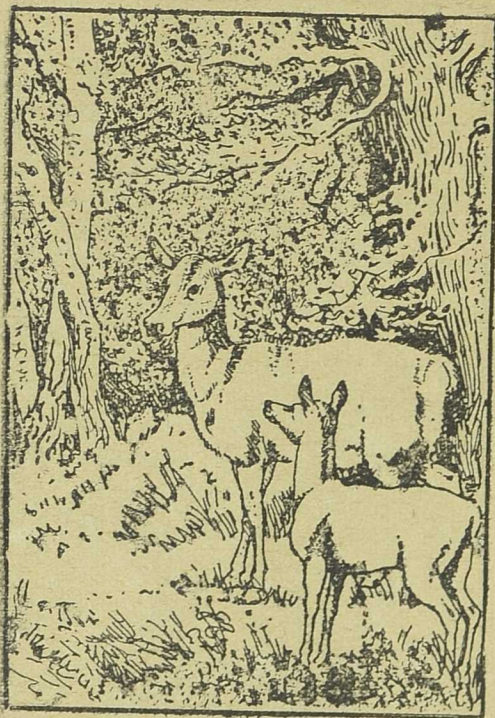
OR, WHAT IS OF MOST USE IS
THE BEST.

A CROW and a Swallow quarrelled about the colour of their plumage, but the Crow had the last word when he said to the Swallow, "Your plumage is all very well for warm weather, but mine protects me when it is cold."

THE PIPER AND THE FISH.

A FISHERMAN once conceived the idea that if he spread his nets on the sea-shore and played tunes on his pipe to the Fish, the Fish would dance into his nets. So he played tune after tune, all to no purpose. At last, in disgust, he threw away his pipe, and cast his net into the sea, when he made a big haul. Seeing the Fish jumping about in his net, he exclaimed, "O perverse creatures, when I piped you would not dance, but now that I have ceased you dance merrily enough."





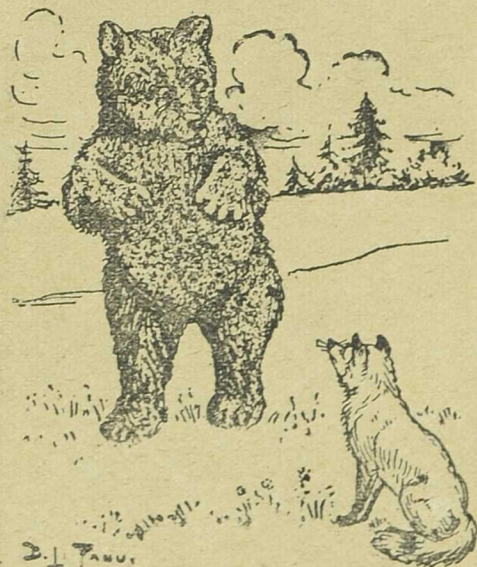
THE FAWN AND ITS MOTHER;

OR, THE INSTINCT OF SELF-PRESERVATION.

A YOUNG Fawn once asked its Mother how it was that she, although brave enough at all other times, was ready to jump out of her skin for fear if she but heard the cry of the hounds. "What you say is true," replied the Deer, "though I know not how to account for it; I often resolve within myself that nothing shall ever dismay my courage for the future. But, alas! I no sooner hear the voice of a hound than all my spirits fail me, and I cannot help making off as fast as my legs can carry me."

THE BEAR AND THE FOX;

OR, BETTER SPARE THE LIVING THAN THE DEAD.

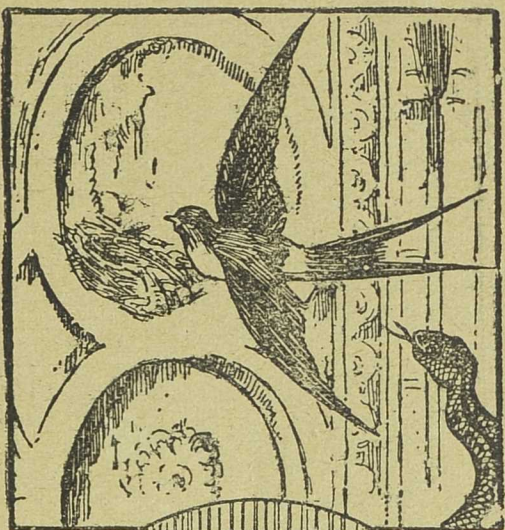


A BEAR, who was very proud of himself, boasted that of all animals he was the most tender in his regard for man, for he would not even touch his dead body. A Fox hearing this, said, with a smile, to the Bear, "Oh! that you would eat the dead and not the living."

THE SWALLOW AT THE LAW COURTS;

OR, THE DEVIL LOVES HOLY PLACES.

A SWALLOW built herself a nest in the wall of a Court of Justice, and there hatched seven young birds. A Serpent ate up the young unfledged nestlings. The Swallow lamented greatly, "Woe is me! that in this place where others' rights are protected, I alone should suffer injustice."



THE CAT AND BIRDS.

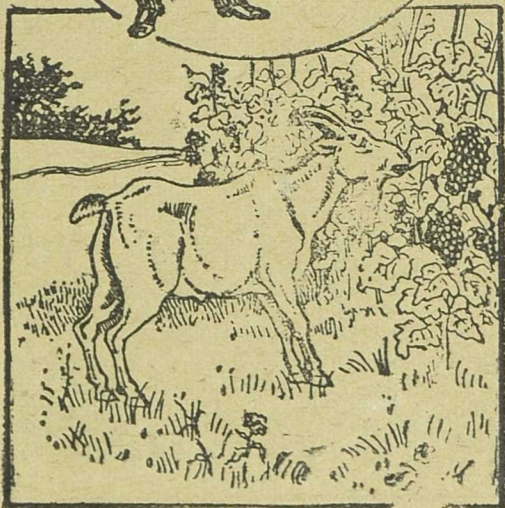
A CAT hearing that the Birds in a cage were ill, dressed up as a doctor, and, going to the cage, knocked at the door, and inquired of the inmates if they were ill, for if so, he would be happy to cure them. They replied, "We are all very well, and shall continue so, if you will only be good enough to go away."



THE GOAT AND THE VINE;

OR, THE DAY OF JUDGMENT WILL COME.

A GOAT, passing a Vine, nibbled its young leaves. The Vine asked, "Why do you eat my leaves? Some day I shall provide the wine to pour over you when you are led as a victim to the sacrifice."



HARES AND FROGS;

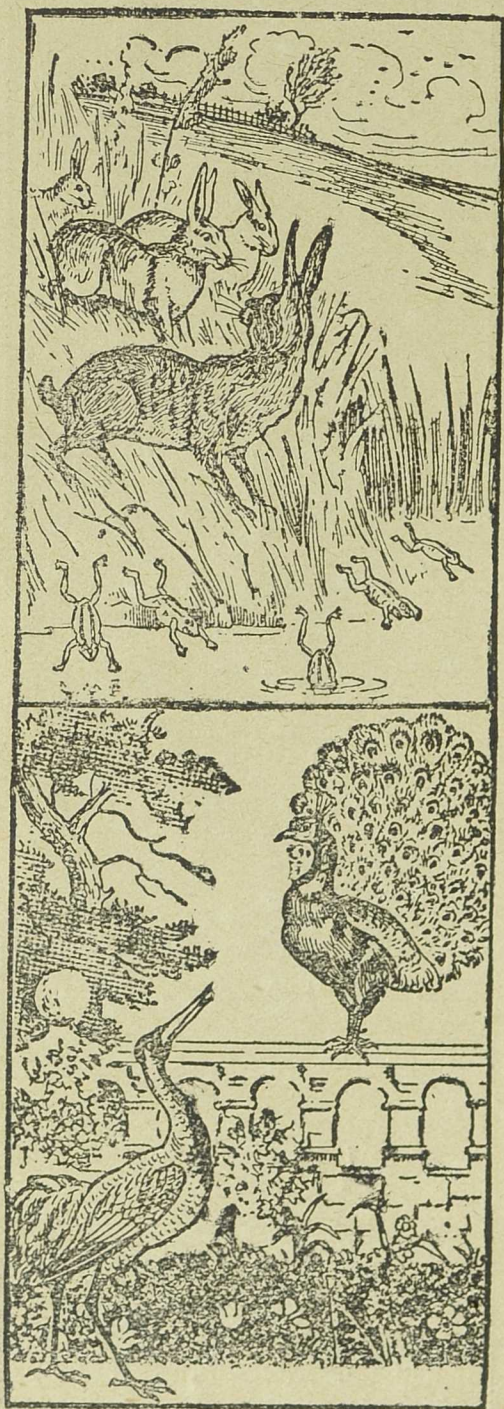
OR, THERE'S A CROOK IN
EVERY LOT.

WHEN a great storm of wind blew among the trees, the Hares in a certain park were so frightened that they ran like mad all over the place, resolving to seek out some safe retreat. They had not run far before their course was stopped by that of a brook. This was such a disappointment that they determined rather to throw themselves headlong into the water, let what would become of it, than lead a life so full of dangers. But some Frogs, which were sitting there, frightened at their approach, leapt into the stream and dived to the bottom for fear: which a cunning old puss observing, called to the rest, and said, "Hold! have a care what you do; here are other creatures, which have their fears as well as we; don't, then, let us fancy ourselves the most miserable of any upon earth."

THE PEACOCK AND THE CRANE;

OR, BETTER STRONG WINGS
THAN PAINTED TAIL.

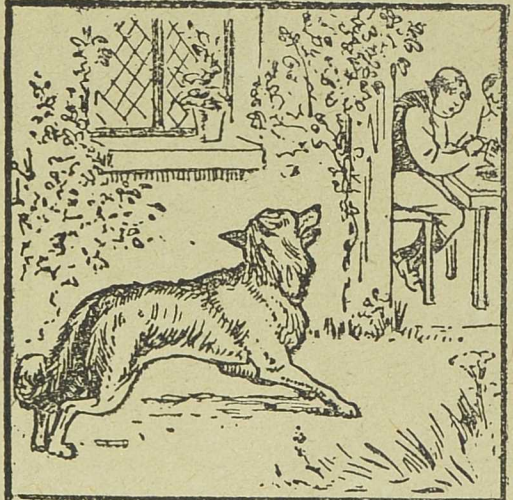
THE Peacock and the Crane by chance met together in the same place; the Peacock, erecting his tail, displayed his gaudy plumes, and looked with contempt upon the Crane, who took occasion to say, that Peacocks were very fine birds, if fine feathers could make them so; but that he thought it a much nobler thing to be able to rise above the clouds, than to strut about upon the ground.



THE WOLF AND THE SHEPHERDS;

OR, CIRCUMSTANCES ALTER CASES.

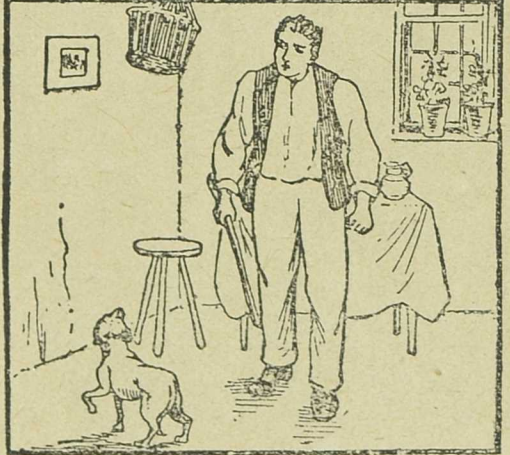
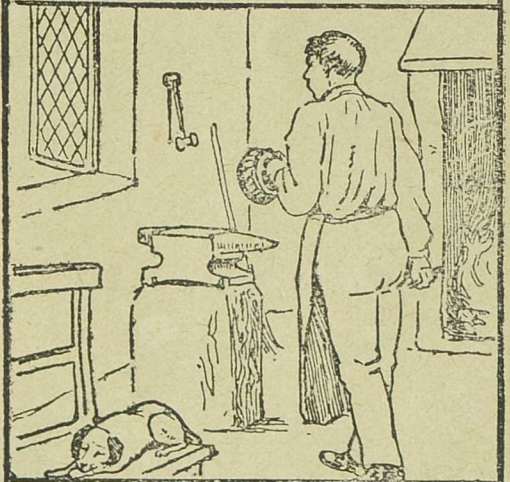
SOME Shepherds were eating a leg of mutton for dinner, when a Wolf passed by, and seeing what was on the table, sneered at the Shepherds and said, "What a cackle you would make were I to do what you are doing!"

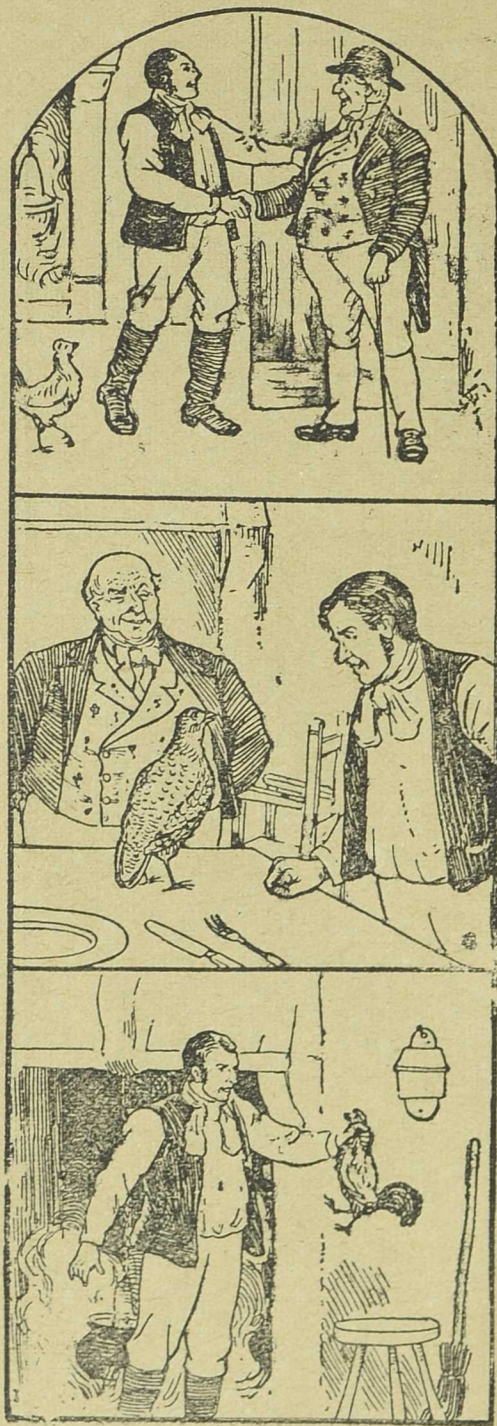


THE BRAZIER'S DOG;

OR, A GOOD MORAL IN THE WRONG PLACE.

A BRAZIER once had a little Dog of which he was very fond. While the man was working at his trade, the Dog would sleep soundly enough; but when his master went to dinner, the Dog would invariably wake up, and wag his tail, and look up for a share of the food. So, one day, the Brazier made believe that he was very angry, and showing a stick, he said to the Dog, "You lazy little cur! while I am hammering away on the anvil you sleep on the rug, but when I go to dinner you wake up fast enough and expect to be fed. But remember this—only those who work should be allowed to eat."





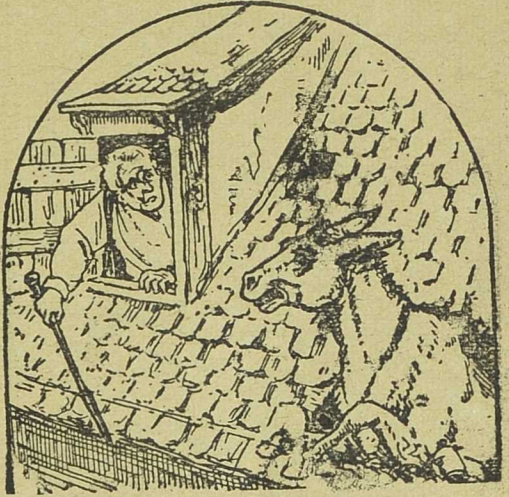
THE BIRDCATCHER AND THE COCK;

OR, NECESSITY KNOWS NO LAW.

BIRDCATCHERS often keep tame birds, which they place in their traps as a decoy for other poor birds, who would not otherwise be caught. A Birdcatcher was once visited by a friend, when there was little or nothing ready for dinner; so the Birdcatcher was about to kill a decoy Partridge, when the bird saved his life by telling the Birdcatcher that he could not do without a decoy when next he set his traps. A fine young Cock was selected as the victim instead, but the Cock, finding that he was about to be killed, asked the Birdcatcher who would wake him at dawn if he were dead. "Ah," replied the Birdcatcher, "that is all very well, but necessity knows no law, and while you are a good bird to tell the time of day, I and my friend must have our dinner."

THE PLAYFUL DONKEY.

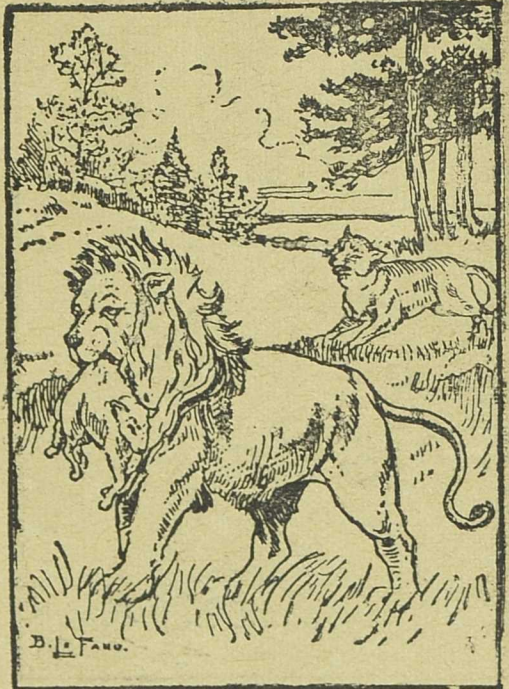
A DONKEY climbed on the roof of a house, and frisking about there, broke in the tiles. The owner went up after him, and quickly drove him down, beating him severely with a stick. "Why," said the Ass, "I saw the monkey do this yesterday, and you all laughed heartily." But those who do not know their right place must be taught it.

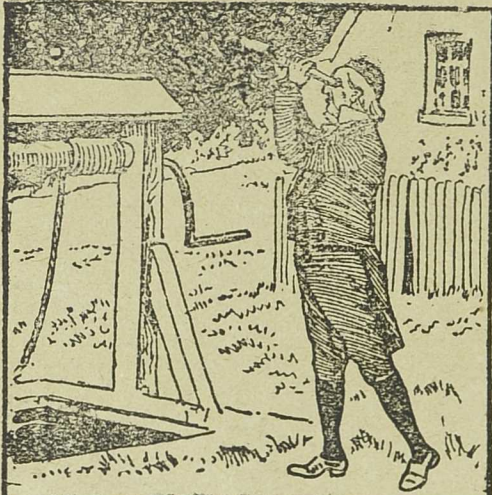


THE LION AND THE WOLF;

OR, THE POT CALLING THE
KETTLE BLACK.

A WOLF stole a lamb from its fold, but when he carried it away he was met by a Lion, who took the lamb from him. The Wolf pretended to be very indignant with the Lion for taking that which did not belong to him; but the Lion only laughed and said: "So the lamb was your property I suppose, the gift of a friend, eh?"

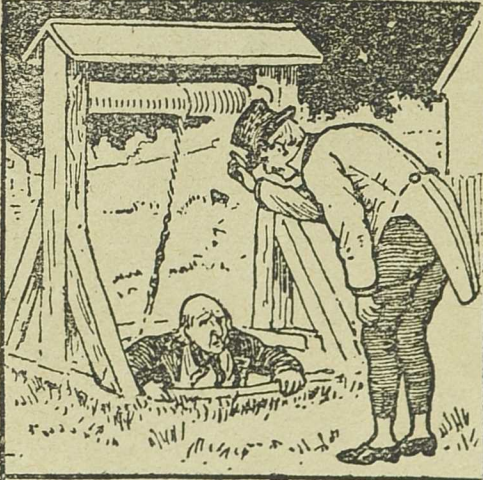




THE ASTROLOGER;

OR, LOOK WHERE YOU ARE
GOING.

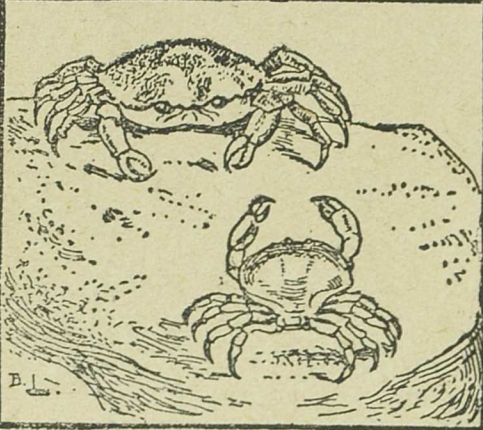
A LEARNED Astrologer was walking out one night gazing at the stars. "Ah!" cried he, "what a noble profession is mine; to read my own fate and the fates of other men in the stars. What a superior being am I to the grovelling mass of mankind." Thus he spoke as he gazed upwards, and at the same moment tumbled head first into a well.



THE TWO CRABS;

OR, EXAMPLE IS BETTER THAN
PRECEPT.

"You awkward, ungainly creature!" said a Crab to her daughter; "why do you walk backwards? Turn round, and walk right way first directly." "You go first, mother, and show me how," said the little Crab.



THE FOOLISH CAMEL;

OR, DON'T ATTEMPT WHAT YOU
ARE NOT CUT OUT FOR.

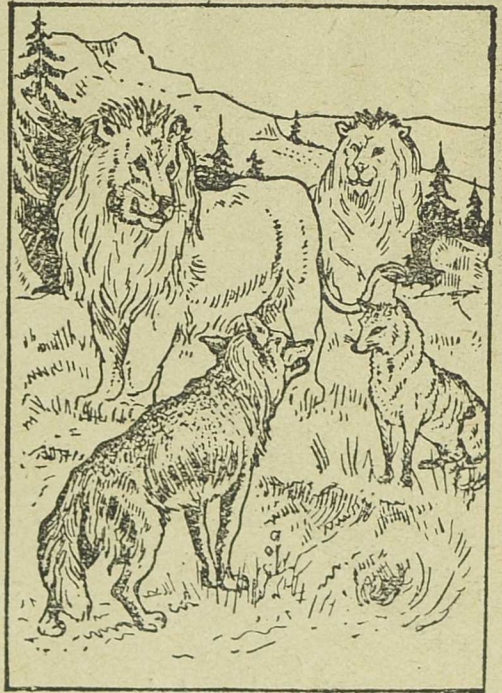
THE beasts of the forest once organized a great entertainment, at which the Monkey danced to the great delight of all the beasts assembled together. The Camel, thinking to gain similar applause, proposed to stand up also and dance before the company. But being a Camel and not a Monkey, he only made himself ridiculous by trying to do what the Monkey had done, and the indignant beasts drove him out of their company.



THE VAIN WOLF;

OR, A MAN LOOKS RIDICULOUS
WHEN HE GETS TOO BIG FOR
HIS BOOTS.

THERE was once a big Wolf, who, because he was so much bigger and stronger than the other wolves, was called by them by the name of "Lion." The Wolf, however, came to fancy that he really was a lion, so he forsook the wolves and mixed among the lions, and thus, without knowing it, he only made himself ridiculous.



THE DOE AND THE LION;

OR, OUT OF THE FRYING-PAN INTO THE FIRE.

A Doe being hard pressed by the hunters, ran into a Lion's cave for shelter. Just when the Doe thought herself safe, the Lion, whom she had not seen, sprang upon her and tore her to pieces. "Alas!" said the Doe, "I have escaped one evil, but have carelessly rushed into another."

THE FIR-TREE AND BRAMBLE;

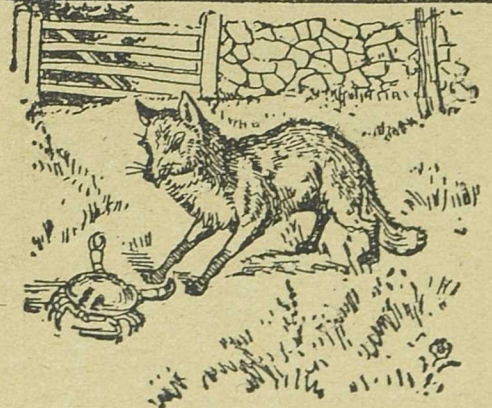
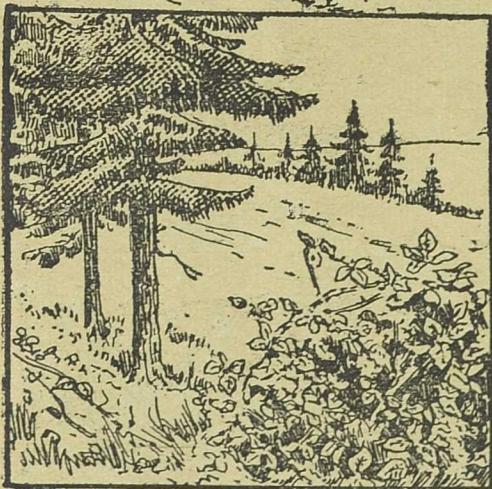
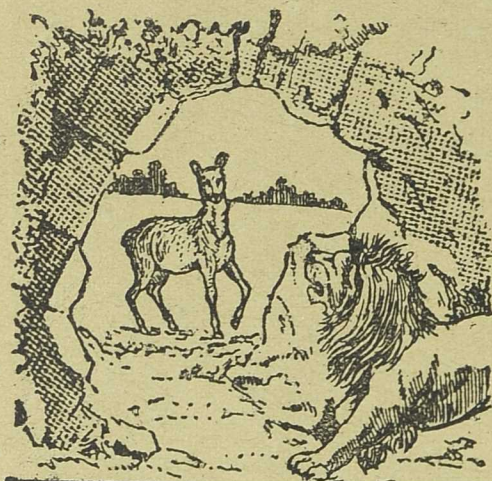
OR, HIGH PLACE, GREAT DANGER.

A TALL, straight Fir-tree was so proud of his dignity that he overlooked the little shrubs which grew beneath him. Said the Fir-tree, "I am the first tree for beauty and rank of any in the forest, while you lie grovelling on the ground, liable to be crushed by every foot that comes near you." "Yes," replied the Bramble, "but when the woodman comes along with his axe, you would be glad to change with the very worst of us."

THE STROLLING CRAB;

OR, STAY IN YOUR OWN STATION.

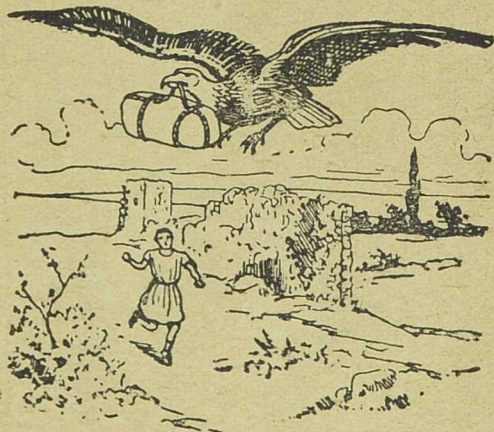
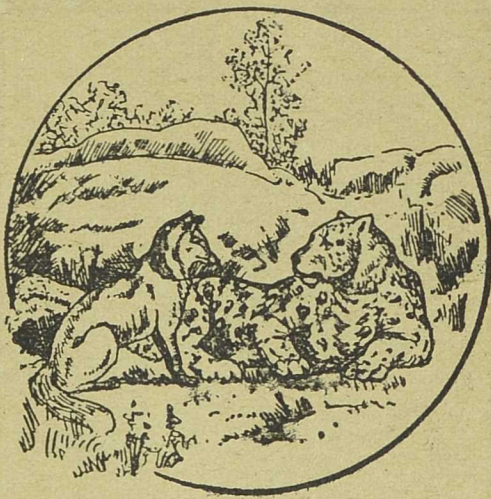
A CRAB once left the seashore and wandered into a green meadow, where a Fox found him and ate him up.



THE LEOPARD AND THE FOX;

OR, BEAUTY'S ONLY SKIN DEEP.

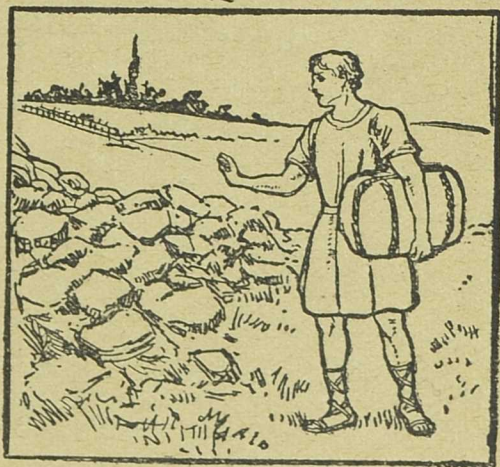
THE Leopard took it into his head to pride himself upon the great variety and beauty of his spots. He said that he saw no reason why the lion should take precedence of him, since he could not show so beautiful a skin. But the Fox went up to him, and told him that he was mistaken in the value he was pleased to set upon himself; people of judgment were not used to form their opinion of merit from an outside appearance, but by considering the qualities with which the mind was stored within.



THE MAN AND THE EAGLE;

OR, ONE GOOD TURN DESERVES ANOTHER.

A MAN having found an Eagle caught in a trap set him free. The Eagle sometime afterwards seeing him under a wall which was not safe, flew towards the Man and snatched a bundle resting on his head. When the Man jumped up and moved away from the wall, the Eagle let the bundle fall again. When next the Man passed the same place, he found the wall under which he had been sitting in ruins.



THE RAVEN AND THE CROW.

A CROW was jealous of the Raven, because the Raven was considered by all men to be a bird of good omen. Seeing some travellers approaching, the Crow flew into a tree, and perching on one of the branches, cawed as loudly as she could. The travellers, however, were not deceived; and it often happens that when folks pretend to be what they are not, they only succeed in making themselves ridiculous.



THE ASS AND THE FROGS;

OR, DON'T PITY YOURSELF
TOO MUCH.

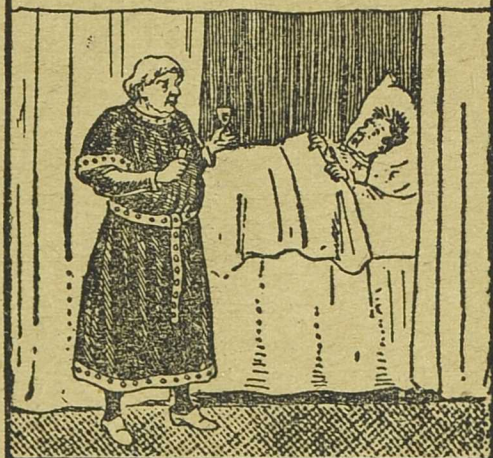
AN Ass, with a load of wood, passed through a pond, and lost his footing, stumbled, and fell. Some Frogs in the pool hearing the Ass lamenting his hard fate, said, "What would you do if you had to live here always as we do, when you make such a fuss about a fall into the water?"



THE SHOEMAKER AS DOCTOR;

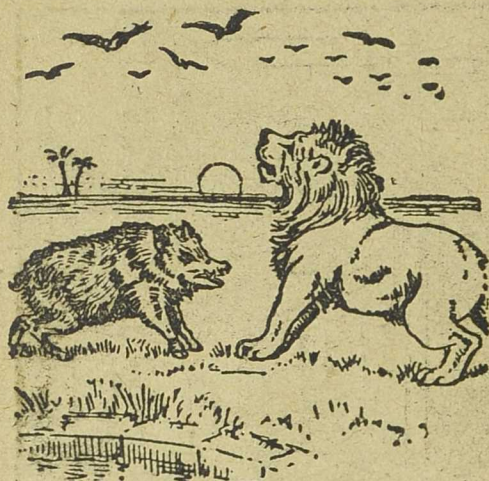
OR, ANY QUACK CAN FOOL THE PUBLIC.

A SHOEMAKER having failed in his own line of business, and being on the verge of starvation, set up as a Doctor, and offered for sale a wonderful drug which was said to be an antidote for all poisons. But one day he fell ill, and the magistrate of the town, being determined to put the sham doctor to the test, mixed—or pretended to mix—some poison with the Shoemaker's much-puffed medicine, and ordered him to drink it. The Shoemaker, however, fearing the result, confessed that he knew nothing of medicine, and only lived by the credulity of other people. "What fools!" exclaimed the magistrate; "they have readily trusted you with their lives, while they would not think of trusting you with their shoes."

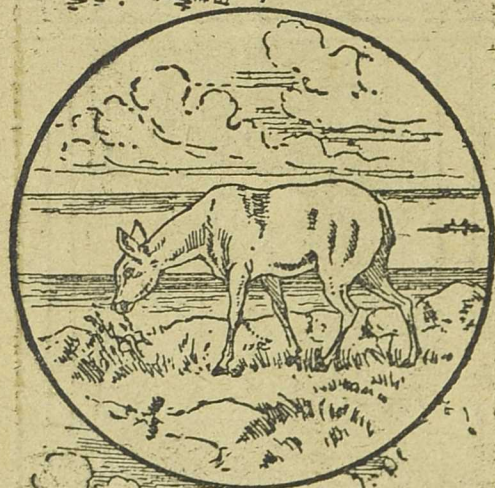


THE LION AND THE BOAR;

OR, SINK ALL LITTLE DIFFERENCES IN FACE OF A COMMON ENEMY.



ON a hot summer's day, when the springs were dried up, a Lion and a Boar came at the same time to a well, but they quarrelled as to who should drink first. While fighting it out, some birds of prey hovered above them, waiting to feast upon the animal which should first be killed. On seeing this, the Lion and the Boar decided to make it up; "For," said they, "it is better to be friends than to become the food of our foes."



THE ONE-EYED DOE;

OR, FALSE CONFIDENCE IS A SNARE.

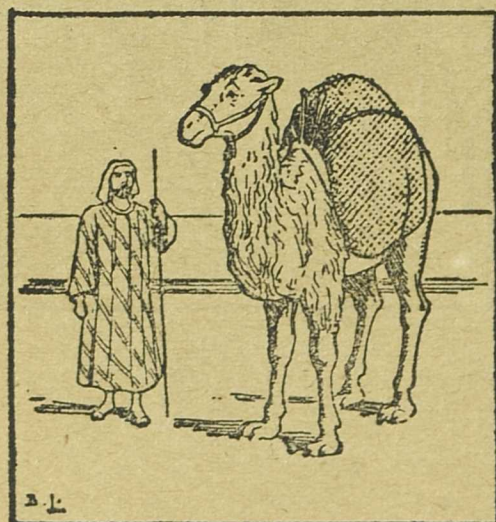
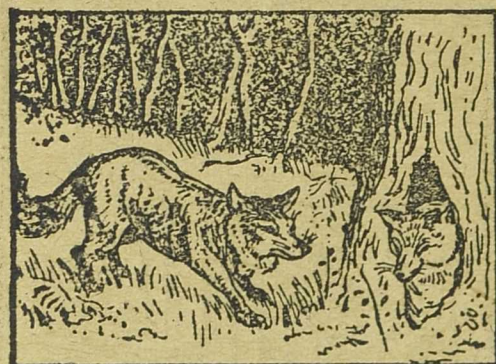


A DOE that had but one eye used to graze near the sea; and that she might be the more secure from harm, she kept her blind side toward the water, and with the other surveyed the country as she fed. By this precaution she thought herself in the utmost security, when two men who had been poaching after her for days to no purpose, took a boat, and came gently down upon her and shot her. "O hard fate!" said the dying Doe, "that I should receive my death's wound from that side whence I expected no ill."

THE STAG IN THE
OX-STALL.

A STAG, driven hard by the hounds, and seeing the door of an ox-stall open, entered and hid himself under the straw. "Ah!" said the Stag to an Ox, who kindly made no objection to this proceeding, "I hope I shall do well enough; I intend to make off again the first opportunity." Well, all the servants of the farm came and went, and suspected nothing. Upon this the Stag, ready to jump out of his skin for joy, began to return thanks to the good-natured Oxen, protesting that they were the most obliging people he had ever met. "Indeed," said one of the Oxen, "we desire nothing more than to get rid of you as soon as possible; but there is a certain person you little think of, who has a hundred eyes; if he should happen to come, I would not give a straw for your life." Presently, home comes the master himself from a neighbour's, where he had been invited to dinner. As he went round the ox-stall, prying into everything, he chanced to look where the Stag's horns lay sticking out of the straw; upon which he raised a hue and cry, called all his people about him, killed the poor Stag, and made a prize of him.





THE DOGS AND THE FOX;

OR, ANY CUR CAN BITE A DEAD LION.

SOME Dogs found the skin of a lion, which they began to tear in pieces, when a Fox, strolling that way, said, "If this lion were alive, you would find out that his claws were stronger than your teeth."

THE OVER-FED FOX.

A Fox, who was starving, seeing some food left by shepherds in the hollow of a tree, crept into the hole and made a big meal. When he finished, he was so full that he was not able to get out through the hole, whereupon, another Fox passing by, inquired what was the matter. On learning what had happened, he said, "Ah, you will have to stay there, my friend, until you become as starved and small as you were when you crept in, and then you will easily get out."

THE CAMEL AND THE ARAB;

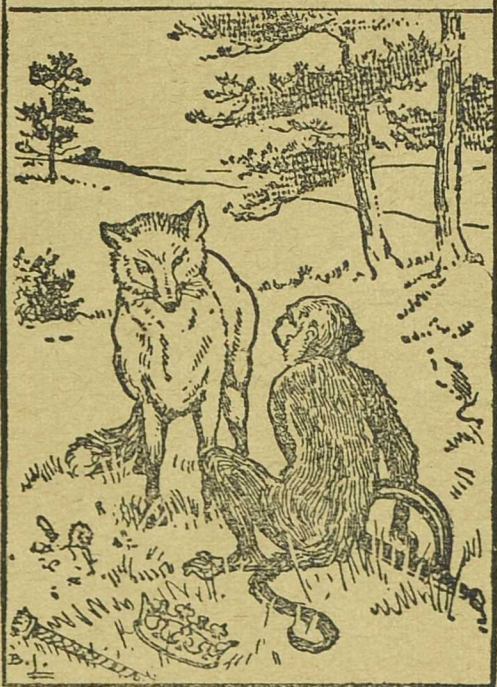
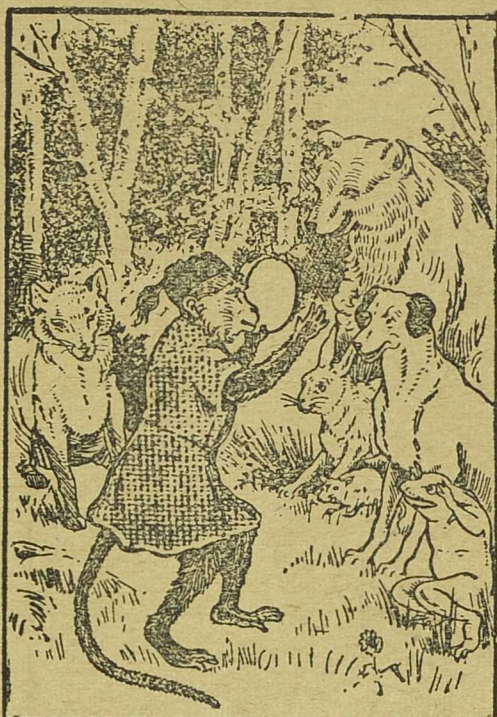
OR, DON'T MEET TROUBLE HALF WAY.

A CAMEL-DRIVER having placed a heavy load on the back of his Camel, asked him which he would like best, to go up hill or down hill. "Why do you ask me?" said the Camel; "is there no longer a flat road through the desert?"

THE FOX AND THE MONKEY;

OR, A CROWNED HEAD MAY
HAVE NO SENSE.

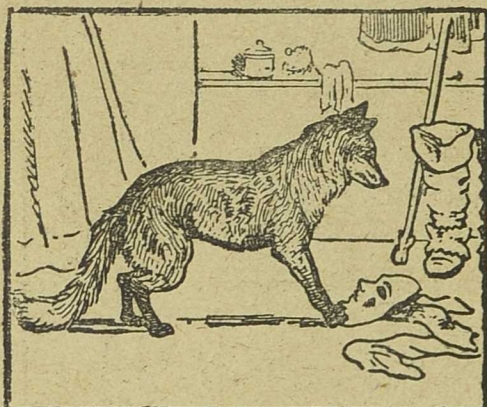
ONCE upon a time the beasts were so silly as to choose a Monkey for their king. He had danced and diverted them with his tricks, and now nothing would serve but they must make him their sovereign. Accordingly, crowned he was, and tried to look very wise. But the Fox, vexed in his heart to see his fellow-brutes act so foolishly, was resolved, on the first opportunity, to convince them of their sorry choice, and punish their jackanapes of a king for his presumption. Soon after, spying a trap in a ditch, which was baited with a piece of flesh, he went and informed the Monkey of it, as a treasure which, being found upon the open land, belonged to his majesty only. The Monkey went very briskly to take possession, but had no sooner laid his paws upon the bait than he was caught in the trap. He began to reproach the Fox, calling him rebel and traitor, and threatening to be revenged of him; but Reynard laughed heartily, and, going off, added, "You a king, and not understand a trap!"



THE FOX AND THE MASK;

OR, BEAUTY AND BRAINS DO
NOT ALWAYS GO TOGETHER.

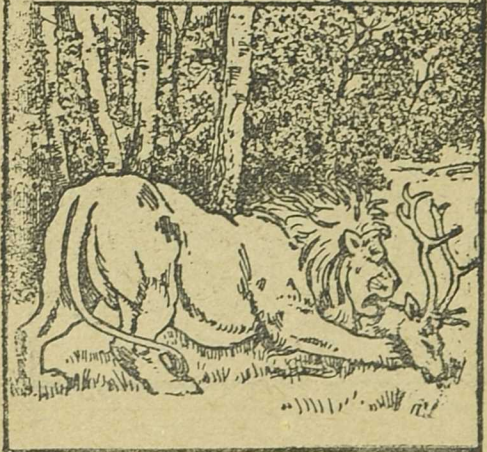
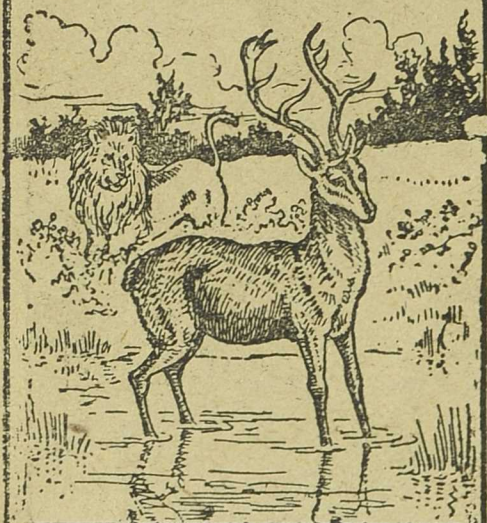
A Fox, being in a shop where masks were sold, laid his foot upon one of them, and considering it awhile attentively, at last broke out into this exclamation: "Bless me!" said he, "what a handsome, goodly figure this makes! What a pity it is that it should want brains!"



THE STAG AT THE SPRING;

OR, WE SELDOM KNOW OUR
BEST FRIENDS.

A STAG that had been drinking at a spring saw himself in the water, and stood for some time admiring himself. "Ah!" said he, "what a glorious pair of branching horns are there! If some other parts of my body were but like them, I would turn my back to nobody! but I have such legs as really makes me ashamed to see them." While he was giving himself these airs a lion's roar was heard. Away he flew nimbly over the plain, leaving the lion a long way behind him. But, taking a very thick copse, he had the ill luck to be entangled by his horns in a thicket, where he was held fast till the lion came in and pulled him down. Thus the horns which he prized so highly were the cause of his death.



THE ARCHER AND THE LION.

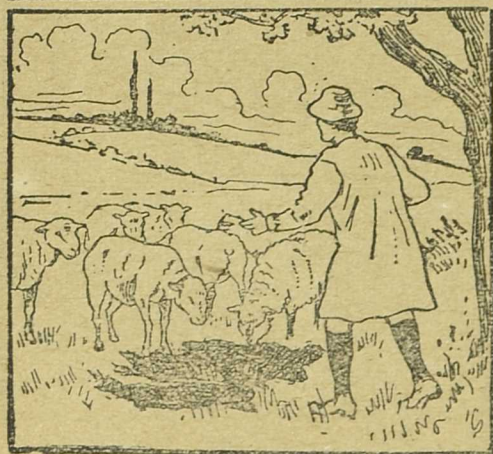
AN Archer who went out in search of game frightened away all the beasts of the forest except the Lion, who challenged him to combat. The Archer shot an arrow, and called out to the Lion, "Here is a messenger that will teach you what I myself shall be when I attack you." The Lion, thus wounded, was running away in great fear, when a fox bid him be of good courage, and not to run away at the first attack. "No, no," said the Lion, "if this Archer sends so terrible a messenger, how shall I stand the attack of the man himself?"

THE HART AND THE VINE;

OR, THE INGRATE PUNISHED.

A HART, being pursued by hunters, hid himself under the leaves of a Vine. When the hunters were gone by, he, thinking himself very secure, began to crop and eat the leaves of the Vine. But the noise drew the eyes of the hunters that way; who, seeing the Vine stir, and fancying some wild beasts had taken cover there, shot their arrows at a venture and killed the Hart, who, before he expired, exclaimed, "Ah! I suffer justly for my ingratitude, who could not forbear doing an injury to the Vine that so kindly concealed me in the time of danger."





THE SHEEP AND THE ACORNS.

ONE day a shepherd was taking his sheep to the pasture, and seeing an oak-tree full of acorns, he first spread his coat on the ground, then climbed up into the tree and shook the acorns down into the coat. But the sheep, in their hurry to eat up the acorns, tore the shepherd's coat, whereupon he reproved them for their ingratitude. "For," said he, "while you provide the wool with which the coats of other men are made, you destroy the coat of the one man who has been careful to feed you."

THE LITTLE FISH;

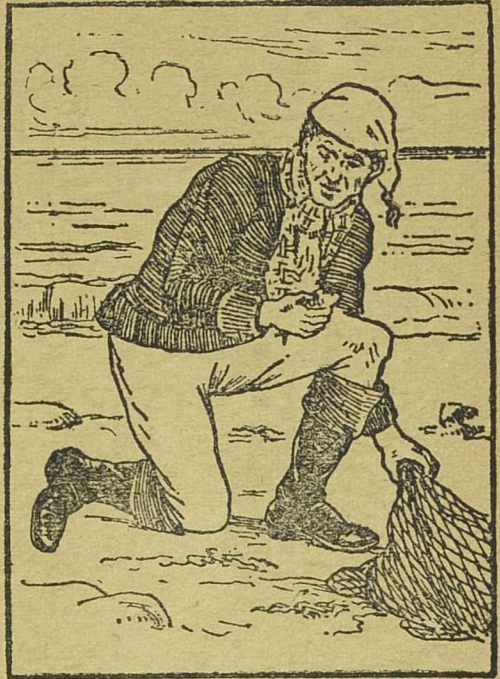
OR, A BIRD IN THE HAND IS WORTH TWO IN THE BUSH.

A FISHERMAN caught a small perch, which implored his pity, begging that he would throw him into the river again. When asked why he expected such a favour, the Fish replied, "Because at present I am but little, and not so well worth your while as I shall be if you take me when I am grown larger." "That may be," replied the man, "but I am not one of those fools who give up a certainty in expectation of an uncertainty."

THE OWL AND THE GRASSHOPPER;

OR, BEWARE OF THE FLATTERER.

AN Owl sat sleeping in a tree, but a Grasshopper would not let her be quiet, abusing her with very uncivil language. The Owl desired her to hold her tongue, but all to no purpose, so the Owl determined to entrap the Grasshopper. "Well," said she, "since one must be kept awake, it is a pleasure to be kept awake by so agreeable a voice, which I must confess is no ways inferior to the finest harp. And now I think of it, I have a bottle of excellent wine, and if you have a mind, I will give you a glass to whet your whistle." The Grasshopper, pleased to be so complimented, skipped up to the place very briskly, when the Owl seized and devoured her, thus securing by the death of her enemy a possession of that quiet which during her lifetime she could not enjoy.





THE HUNTER;

OR, BRAVE WORDS ARE NOT
BRAVE DEEDS.

A HUNTER who made a brave show when no danger was near went up to a Woodman who was cutting down trees in the forest, and inquired if he could put him on the track of a lion, or tell him where the lion's lair was to be found. "Indeed, I can," said the Woodman; "not only so, but I will show you the lion himself." Whereupon the Hunter, now pale and trembling with fear, hustled off in a great hurry, protesting that it was not the lion he wanted, but only the footprints of the animal.

THE BRAGGING APE;

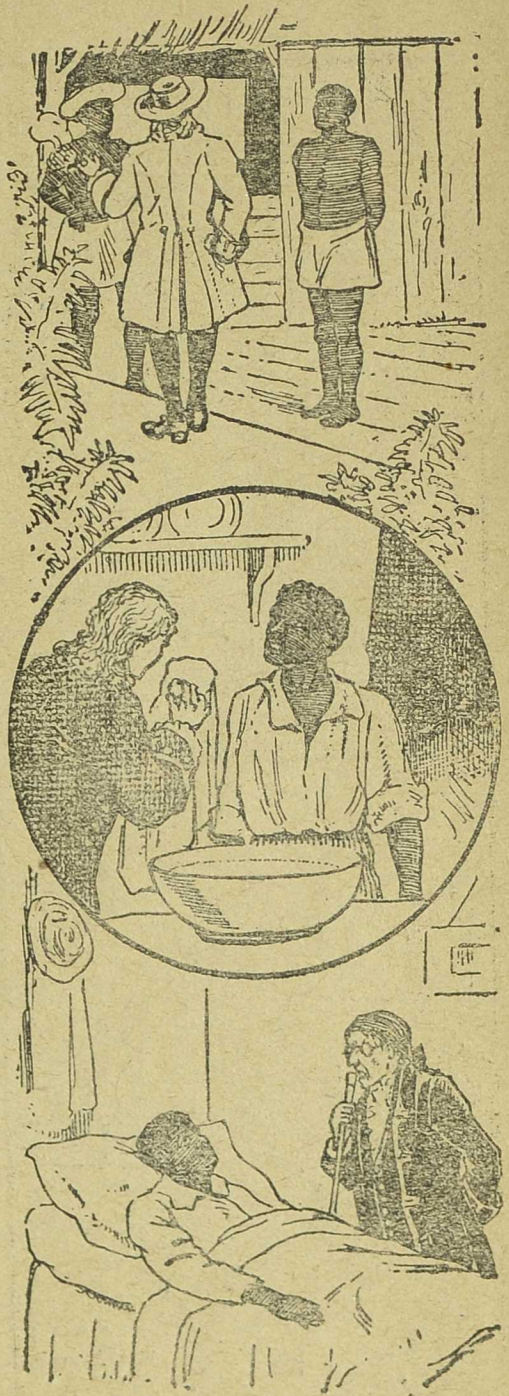
OR, DEAD MEN TELL NO TALES.

AN Ape and a Fox passing together through a graveyard; the Ape pointed to the monuments and said they were erected over the remains of his ancestors, who were all great men in their day. But the Fox only replied, "You could not have chosen a better place in which to lie, for here none of your ancestors are able to contradict you."

THE NEGRO;

OR, YOU MAY KILL THE MAN,
BUT YOU CANNOT CHANGE
HIS SKIN.

A CERTAIN man, having bought a Negro, was so simple as to think that the colour of his skin was only dirt and filth, which he had contracted for want of due care under his former master. This fault, he fancied, might easily be removed. So he ordered the poor black to be put into a tub, and went to considerable expense in providing soap and scrubbing brushes for the operation. To work they went, rubbing and scouring his skin all over, but to no manner of purpose; for when they had repeated their washings several times, and were grown quite weary, all they got by it was that the unhappy Negro caught cold and died.





THE FARMER AND THE FOX;

OR, CRUELTY OFTEN COMES
HOME TO ROOST.

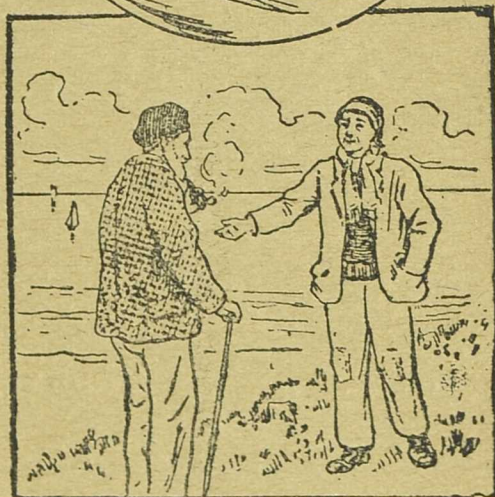
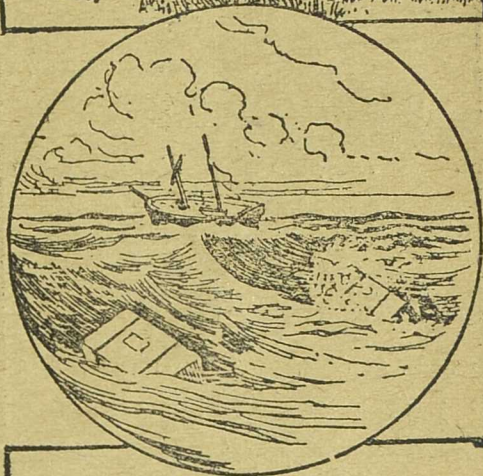
A FARMER, wishing to be revenged upon a Fox for robbing his poultry yard, tied some tow well soaked in oil to his tail, and set it on fire. But the frightened Fox rushed away to the fields of the Farmer who had treated him in this cruel fashion, and as the corn was just ready for the sickle, it was set on fire by the Fox, and utterly destroyed.



THE SHEPHERD TURNED MERCHANT;

OR, ONCE BIT, TWICE SHY.

A SHEPHERD, who kept his sheep near the sea, one clear summer's day sat down upon a rock to enjoy the cool breeze that came from the water. The Shepherd's heart thrilled with pleasure, and he began to wish for the life of a merchant. Away he went with all expedition, sold his flock and all that he had; then he bought a bark, and fitted it out for a voyage: he loaded it with a cargo of dates, and set sail for Asia. He had not long been at sea before the wind began to blow tempestuously and the waves to rage and swell. His ship was in danger of sinking, and he was obliged to lighten her by throwing all his dates overboard; after this his vessel was driven upon a rock and split to pieces, he himself hardly escaping with his life. Poor and destitute, he applied to the man who had bought his flock, and was admitted to tend it as a hireling. He sat in the same place as before, and the ocean again looked calm and smooth. "Ah!" said he, "deceitful, tempting element, my misfortunes have left me too poor to be again deluded, and experience has made me so wise as to resolve, whatever my condition may be, never to trust to thy faithless bosom more."





THE DONKEY AND THE WOLF;

OR, LET THE COBBLER STICK
TO HIS LAST.

A DONKEY once saw a Wolf approaching to eat him, so he pretended to be lame. The Wolf inquired the cause of his lameness, and the Donkey replied that passing through a hedge he trod upon a sharp thorn, which he would be very pleased if the Wolf would pull out, lest when he ate him it should injure his throat. The Wolf consented, and began to look for the thorn, but the Donkey with his heels kicked the Wolf's teeth into his mouth, and galloped away. The Wolf, however, said, "I am rightly served, for why did I attempt the art of healing, when I knew only the trade of a butcher?"

THE SNAKE AND THE WASP;

OR, YOU CAN CARRY TEASING
TOO FAR.

A SNAKE was repeatedly bitten by a Wasp, and being in great pain and yet unable to get rid of its persecuting enemy, placed its head under the wheel of a passing waggon, so that both Snake and Wasp perished together.

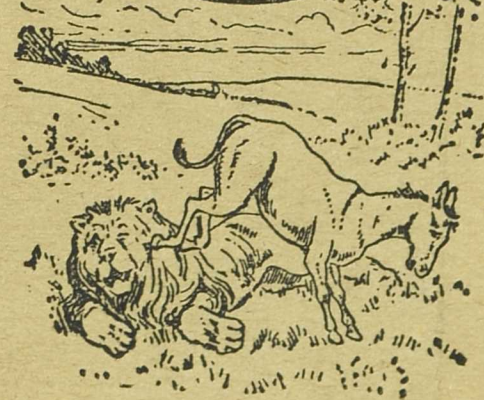
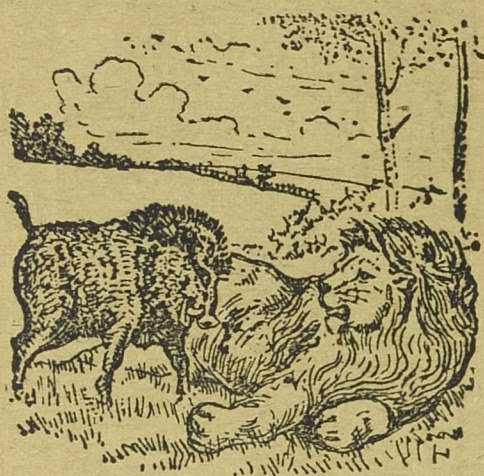


THE SEAGULL;

OR, THE HAWK'S NONSENSE.

A SEAGULL once attempted to swallow a very large fish, but was choked in doing so, whereupon a Hawk said it served her right, since a bird of the air should not look to the sea for its food.





THE OLD LION;

OR, THE COWARD'S KICK.

A LION, worn out with age, lay fetching his last gasp, and agonizing in the convulsive struggles of death; upon which occasion several of the beasts who had formerly been sufferers by him, came and revenged themselves upon him. The boar, with his mighty tusks, drove at him in a stroke that glanced like lightning, and the bull gored him with his violent horns: which, when the ass saw they might do without any danger, he too came up, and threw his heels into the Lion's face; upon which the poor old expiring tyrant uttered these words with his last dying groan: "Alas! how grievous it is to suffer insults, even from the brave and the valiant! but to be spurned by so base a creature as this, who is the disgrace of nature, is worse than dying ten thousand deaths."

THE ASS AND THE PRECIPICE;

OR, VICTORY AT THE COST OF
HIS LIFE.

AN Ass ran away from its master, and leaving the high-road, rushed away to the very edge of a precipice. His master caught him by the tail, and did his best to save the Ass from being dashed to pieces. The animal persisted in his attempt to go forward, whereupon the man, unable to struggle any longer, let go his hold, and the Ass, falling over the precipice, was killed. He conquered in the struggle with his master, but the victory was gained at the expense of his own life.

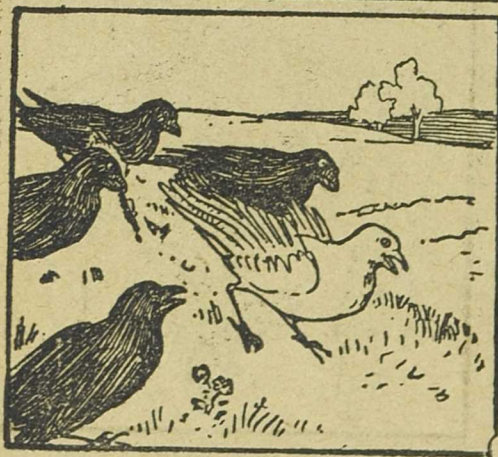
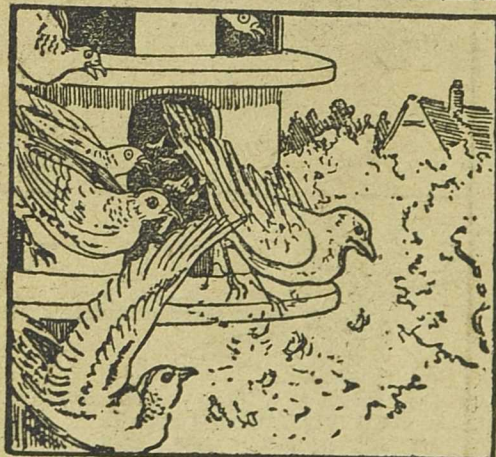




THE JACKDAW AND THE DOVES;

OR, DON'T PRETEND TO BE
WHAT YOU ARE NOT.

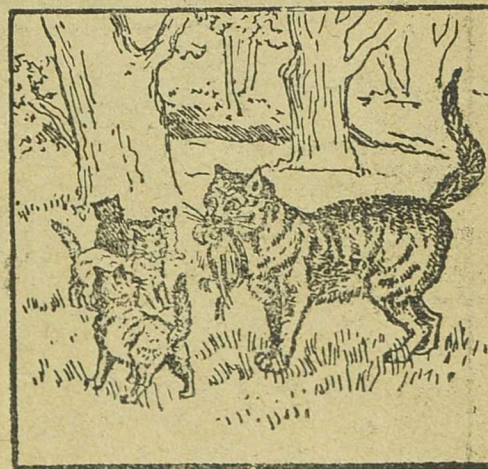
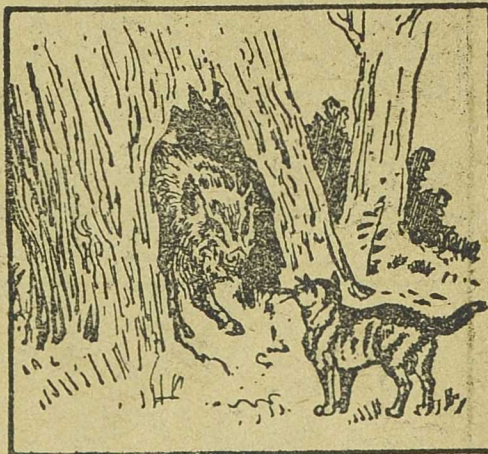
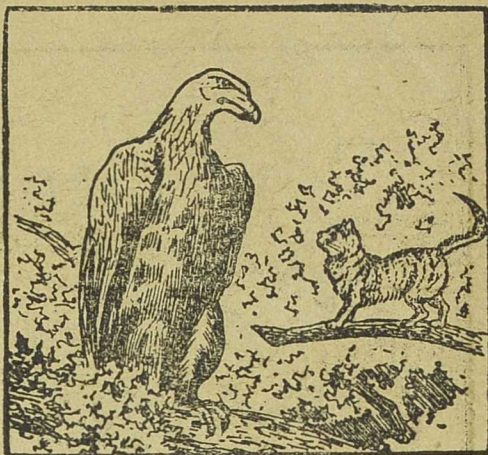
A JACKDAW, observing that the Doves in a certain dove-cote lived well and wanted for nothing, whitewashed his feathers, and endeavouring to look as much like a dove as he could, went and lived among them. The Doves did not distinguish him as long as he kept silent, and so he met with no disturbance. But at last he forgot his character, and began to chatter; by which the Doves, discovering what he was, flew upon him, and beat him away from the meat, so that he was obliged to fly back to the jackdaws again. They, not knowing him in his discoloured feathers, drove him away likewise; so that he who had endeavoured to be more than he had a right to was not permitted to be anything at all.



THE EAGLE, THE CAT,
AND THE SOW;

OR, BEWARE OF TREACHERY.

UPON the top branches of an oak an Eagle had built her nest. A wild Cat inhabited a hole in the middle, and in a hole at the bottom was a Sow with a litter of pigs. One day the Cat crept up to the Eagle. "Good neighbour," said she, "we shall be all undone; that Sow yonder does nothing but lie rooting at the foot of the tree, and, as I suspect, intends to grub it up, that she may the more easily come at our young ones." This put the Eagle into a great fright. Down went the Cat, and made a visit to the Sow at the bottom, and, putting on a sorrowful face, "I hope," said she, "you do not intend to go abroad to-day?" "Why not," said the Sow. "Nay," replied the other, "you may do as you please; but I overheard the Eagle tell her young ones that she would treat them with a pig the first time she saw you go out; and I am not sure but she may take up a kitten in the meantime; so good-morrow to you—I must go and take care of the little folks at home." Away she went accordingly; and by contriving to steal out softly a-nights for her prey, and to stand watching and peeping all day at her hole, she made such an impression upon the Eagle and the Sow, that neither of them dared to venture abroad for fear of the other. The consequence of which was, that they and their young ones were all starved by the treacherous Cat and her kittens.





THE GEESE AND THE CRANES ;

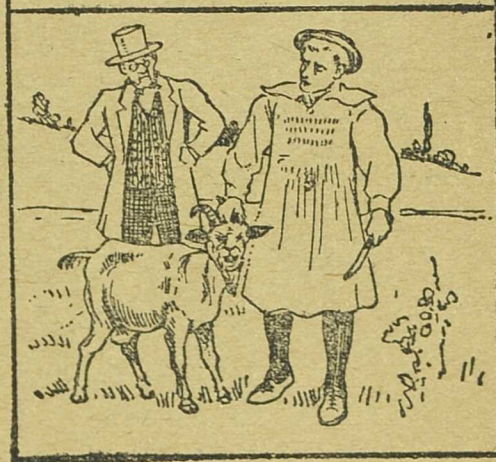
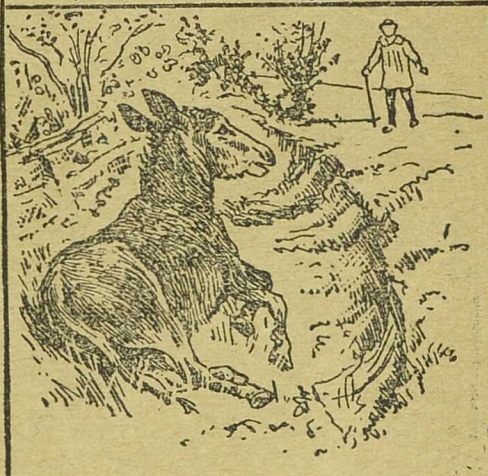
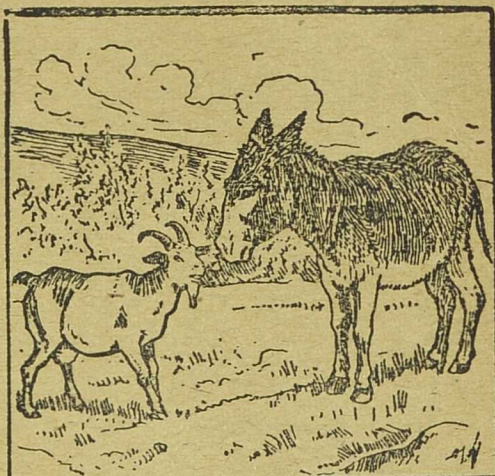
OR, THE FAT MAY BE CAUGHT,
WHILE THE THIN GET AWAY.

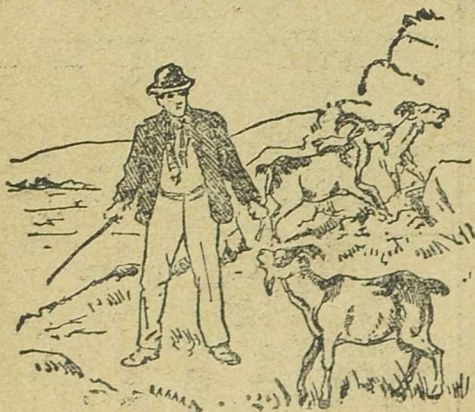
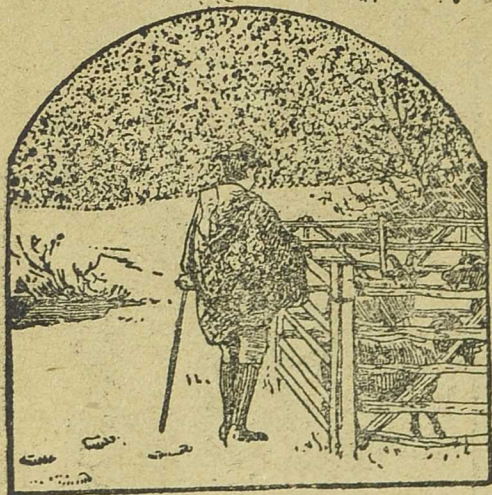
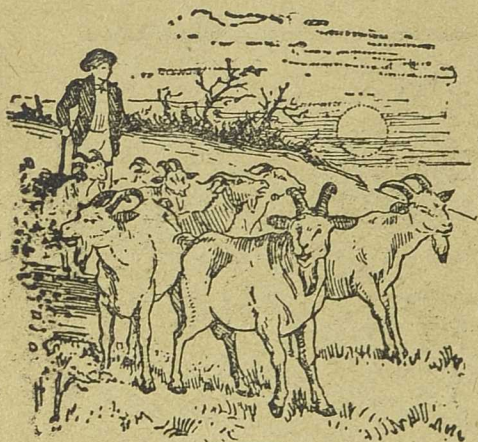
A FLOCK of Geese and some Cranes fed together in a corn-field. At last, the owner of the corn, with his servants, coming upon them of a sudden, surprised them in the very act. The Geese, being heavy, fat, full-bodied creatures, were all taken ; but the Cranes, being thin and light, flew away.

THE GOAT AND THE ASS;

OR, BE CONTENT WITH YOUR
LOT, OR YOU MAY FIND A
WORSE ONE.

A GOAT and an Ass were both kept by the same man, but the Goat became dissatisfied with his lot, because he saw that the Ass had more food than himself, so he began to do his best to make the Ass as discontented as himself. "How abominably you are treated," said he; "one day put to grind corn in the mill, and another called upon to bear heavy burdens on your back. If I were you," continued the Goat, "I would pretend to be ill, and so get rest from my labours." The Ass was only too willing to take this advice, and pretending to be ill, he fell into a ditch, and was sorely bruised. His master sent for a doctor, who declared that the only way to cure the Ass was to pour some of the blood of a goat over the wounds. So they killed the Goat and healed the Ass.





THE WILD GOATS;

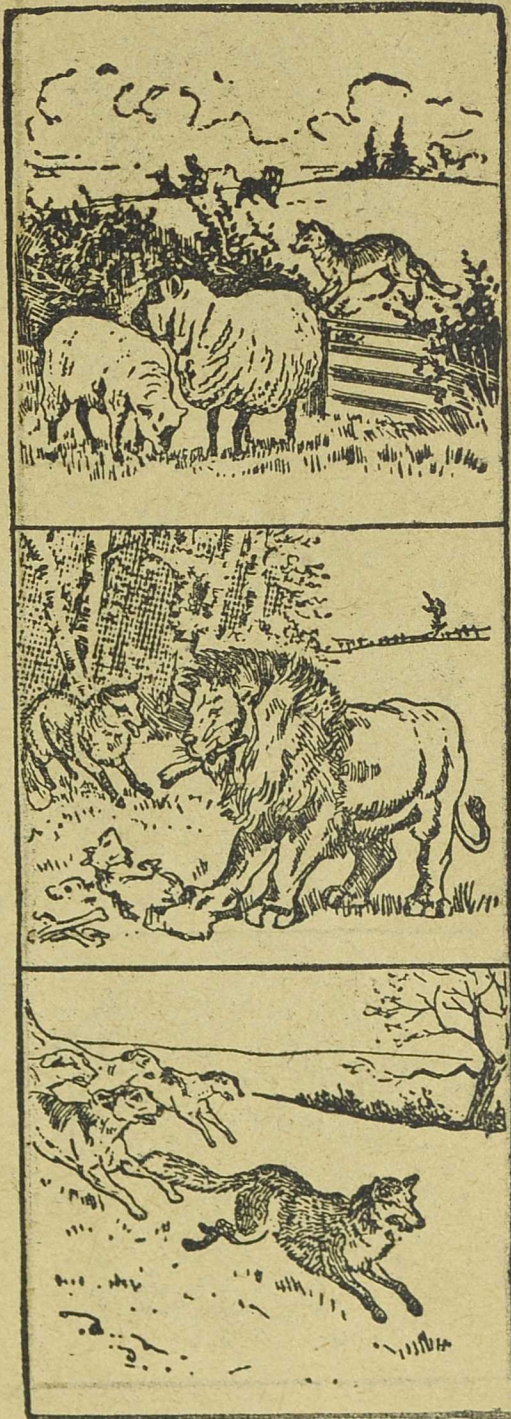
OR, NEVER BE UNJUST TO A
FRIEND IN ORDER TO
WIN OVER A FOE.

SOME wild goats having strayed in among a goatherd's flock, he shut them up for a time together, and fed the wild goats more liberally than the others, in the hope that they might be persuaded to stay with him for good. At the first opportunity, however, the wild goats skipped away to the mountains, and when the goatherd charged them with ingratitude, they plainly told him that as he had once deprived his own goats of their full share of food in order to entrap them, he would doubtless serve them the same when a similar opportunity presented itself in the future.

THE LION AND THE FOX;

OR, TWO ARE SOMETIMES
BETTER THAN ONE.

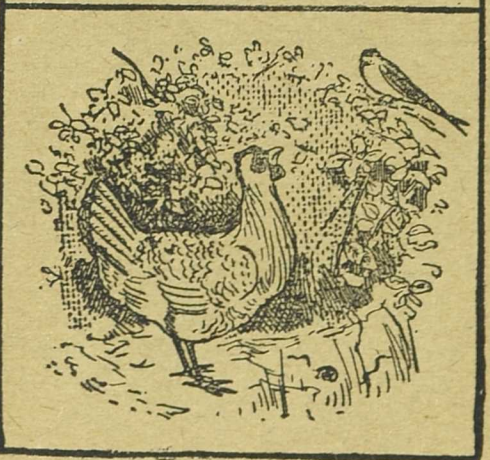
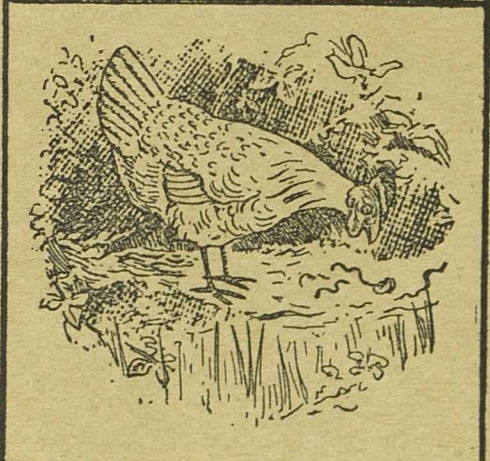
A Fox entered into an agreement with a Lion, by which it was understood that while the Fox should scent out their prey, the Lion should jump upon it and seize it for the food of both. But as the Lion always carried off a bigger share than that of the Fox, the Fox became jealous, and declared that he would no longer find out the prey, but would go forth alone, and take it on his own account. This was all very well for a time, but one day the Fox tried to take a lamb from the fold, and while doing so the huntsmen and hounds came upon him, and he paid the penalty with his life.





THE HEN AND THE SWALLOW;

OR, STICK TO YOUR OWN BUSINESS IN LIFE.



A HEN, finding some serpent's eggs in a dunghill, sat upon them, with a design to hatch them. A Swallow perceiving it, flew towards her, and with some warmth and passion—"Are you mad," said she, "to sit hovering over a brood of such pernicious creatures as you do? Be assured, the moment you bring them to light, you are the first they will attack and wreak their venomous spite upon."

THE FOX AND THE HEDGEHOG;

OR, THERE IS NO TROUBLE SO
BAD BUT THERE MAY BE
A WORSE.

A Fox was swimming across a river, and when he came to the other side he found the bank so steep and slippery that he could not get up it, and while he stood in the water deliberating what to do, he was attacked by a swarm of flies, who, settling upon his head and eyes, stung and plagued him grievously. A Hedgehog who stood upon the shore beheld and pitied his condition, and withal offered to drive away the flies. "Friend," replied the Fox, "I thank you for your kind offer, but must desire you by no means to disturb these honest blood-suckers that are now quartered upon me; for if they should leave me, a fresh swarm would take their places, and I should not have a drop of blood left in my whole body."





THE WOLF AS A PIPER;

OR, USE YOUR WITS WHEN
YOUR ENEMIES HAVE ALL THE
POWER ON THEIR SIDE.

A LAMB having strayed from the fold was caught by a Wolf, who was about to eat him up. The Lamb, however, thus addressed the Wolf: "I know that I must die, but before I die will you do me one favour, and play me a tune on your pipe while I have a dance for the last time?" The Wolf indulged him in this request, but while he was piping the tune a pack of hounds came crashing through a wood, and gave chase to the Wolf, while the Lamb made good his escape.

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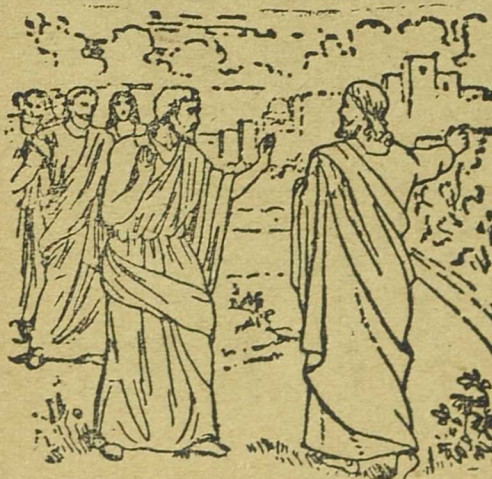
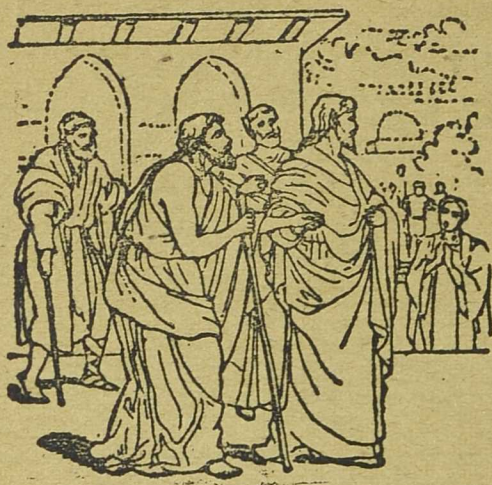
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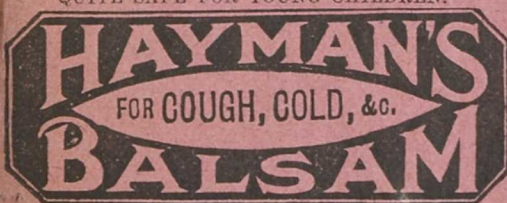
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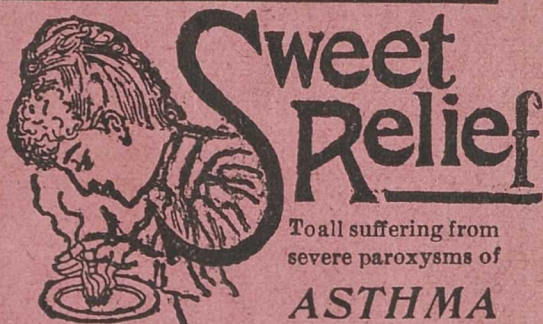
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