

THE DARRYDINGLE DRAGON



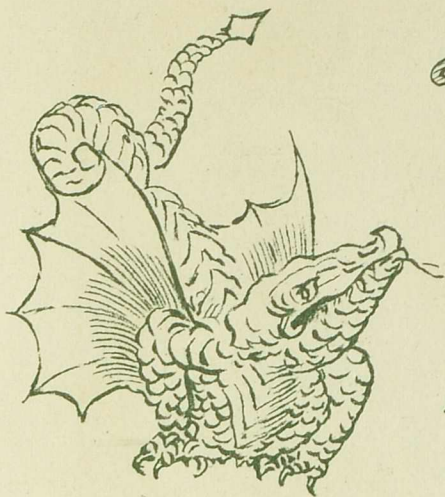
By MABEL INCE.

Dookie with best
love from Rumma -

July 18th 1907 -

(6039W)

THE DARRYDINGLE DRAGON



by
MABEL INCE

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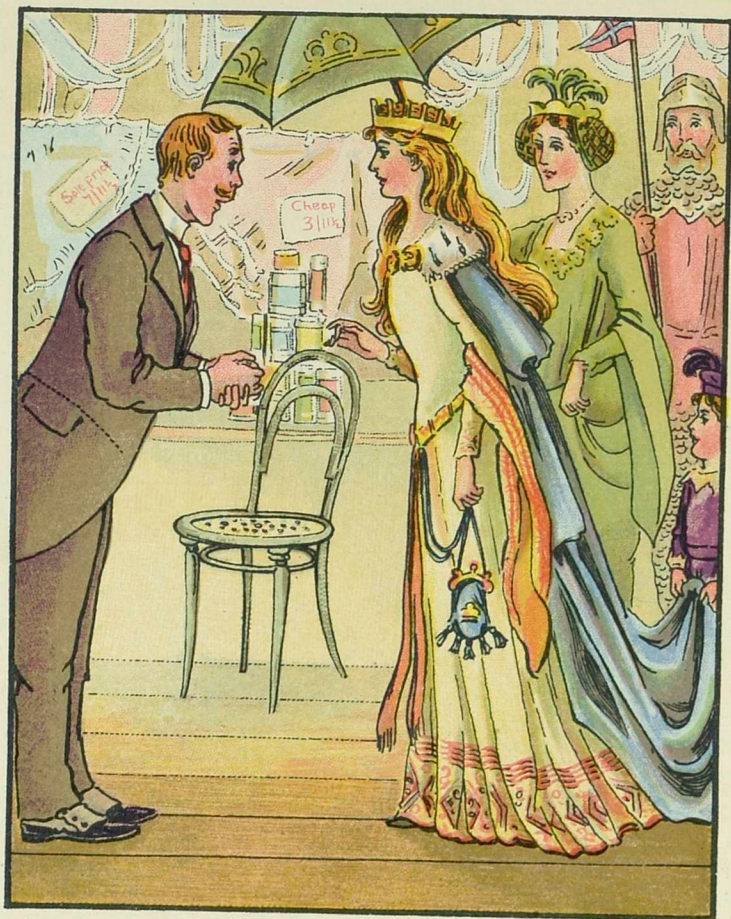


The Darrydingle Dragon.



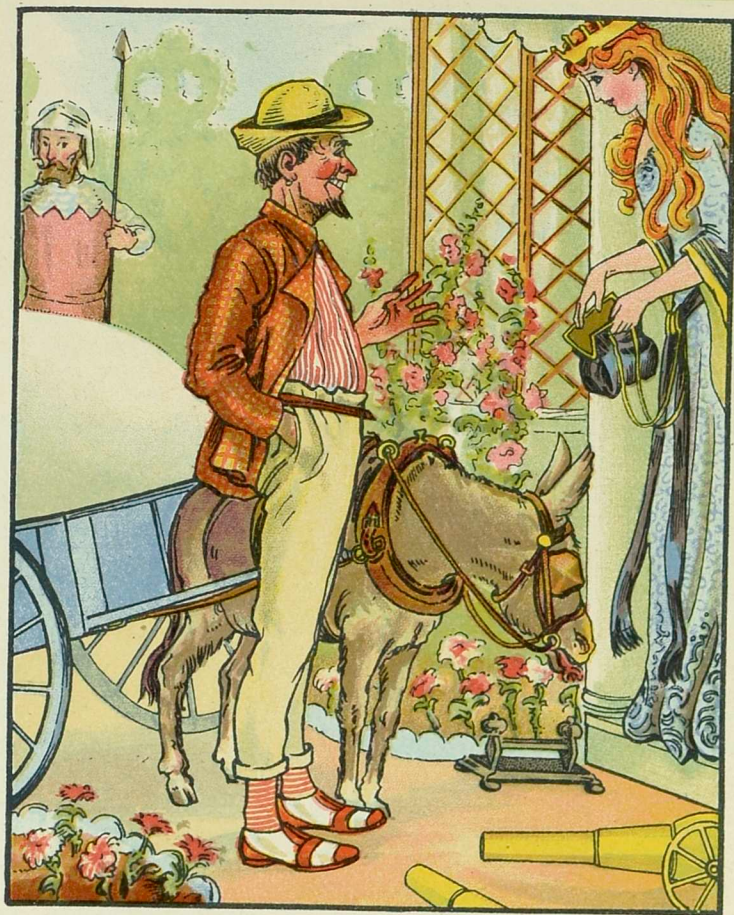
Not long ago there lived a Princess of the well known kingdom of Darrydingle. She was young and lovely and rich and had four and twenty Princes in love with her - as you can see by the picture - and yet she was not happy.

"I want a dragon," said she, "All the Princesses in fairy tales have dragons, I must get a dragon from somewhere."



The bravest and handsomest of the Princes advised her not to, but she would have her own way. She at once sent her soldiers high and low to hunt for a dragon; she even went herself to a Universal Provider to see if she could get one, but they said they never kept dragons in stock.

The Princess went home and was just sitting down to cry in despair, when, strange to say, that very moment,



a pedlar arrived at the palace, who said, "Wal, I've heard that your Highness is enquiring for a dragon.

A dragon's egg is the nearest I can raise, but I guess it will hatch into a dragon all right."

The Princess was delighted, she paid for it then and there, and told her soldiers to make a nest on the lawn and put some hens on to hatch it.



They made a big nest and put the hens on the egg and very soon they saw it begin to swell.

Most of the four and twenty Princes heard of it, and came hurrying to call.

The egg still kept growing bigger and bigger until it presently opened out a tiny chink, just as the Prime Minister and the First Lord of the Admiralty arrived to inspect it.



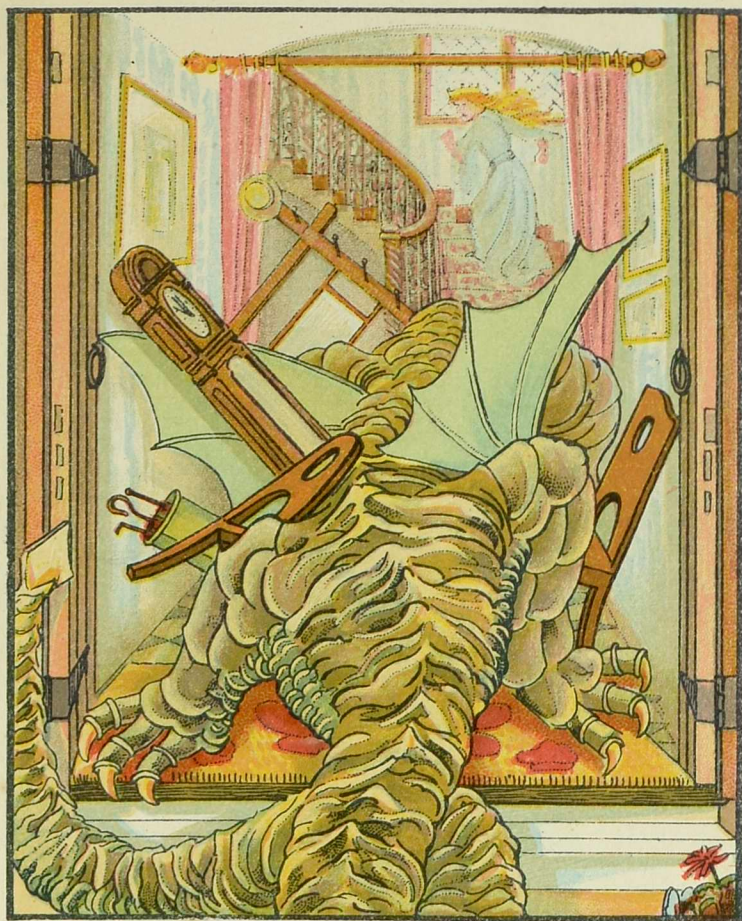
"It is a fine egg, but I trust it may not prove addled," said the Prime Minister, who was a very learned man, when—Crick!Crack!Bang!

The egg burst open, and out came a real, live dragon!

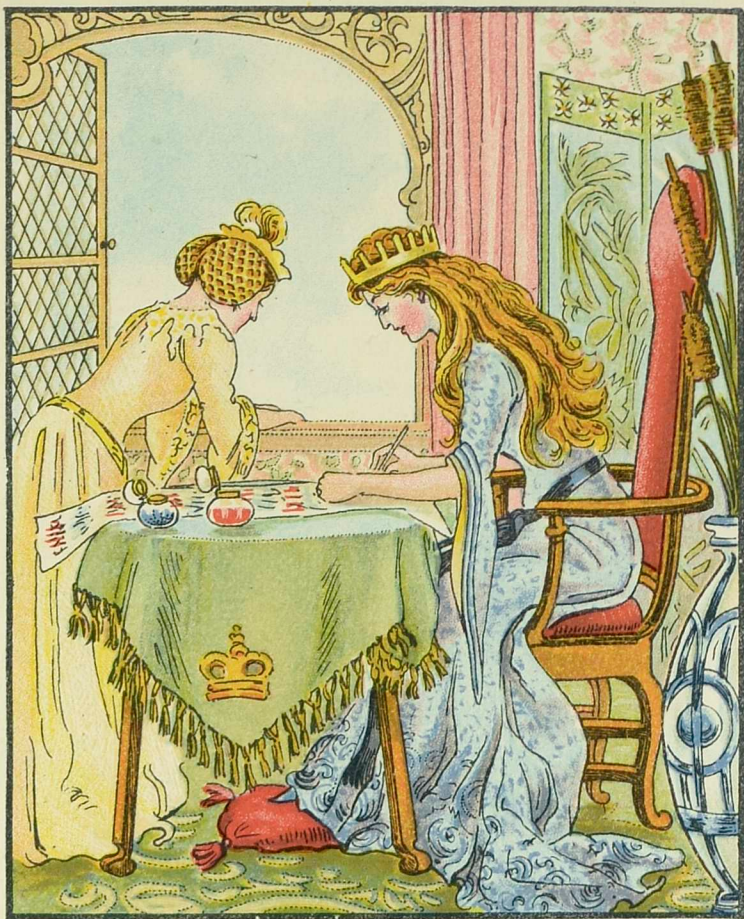
Oh! how everybody ran, and how the dragon chased them!

He even came right into the hall after the Princess, but, very fortunately, he couldn't get his head up the stairs. You'll see it all in the next two pictures.





The poor Princess! How she cried as she watched the dragon, who ate up anything and everything that he could catch. However, the Princess sat down at once, and wrote out a proclamation, in red and blue ink, and her very best handwriting. She and her Maid of Honour put it up outside the window. All the Princes read it through their telescopes from their own palace roofs, and the bravest and handsomest of all came to see her in a balloon.



"I've got a new naval gun," said he, "and I'm going to shoot the dragon from the roof." The dragon's back had grown so hard by now, that the shots flew off it; some broke the drawing-room windows, and the cucumber frames, and one knocked over the First Lord of the Admiralty who was looking over the hedge.

"I must just try and think of some other plan," said the Prince.

The next day he came again,



dragging a great van after
his balloon. Now this van was
full of chocolate-creams, nuts, and
apples. The dragon ran into it at
once; he ate and ate so hard that
he never noticed when the Prince
shut up the doors, (in such a
hurry that the dragon's tail got
pinched) and got some horses,
and dragged him right away
to the Darrydingle Zoo, where
they shut him up in a great
big cage.

Poor old dragon!



The Prince hurried back
to marry the beautiful Princess.

It was a fine wedding!

They had such a monster
cake that it lasted them
for a whole year; although
the other three and twenty
disappointed Princes used
to come in twice every week
to tea, and all had such
very good appetites too.

Before this story is quite
ended, I must tell you, for
I'm sure you will like to know,



that three times every year
the Prince and Princess go
to the Zoo and give the
dragon buns; in fact
the dragon gets bigger
and fatter every year.

If ever you go to stay at
Darrydingle, mind you go
to the Zoo, and see him
for yourself.

He is becoming quite tame
and so gentle

The End 





(SA) dr.
INCE, MABEL
DARRYDINGLE
[1907]



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