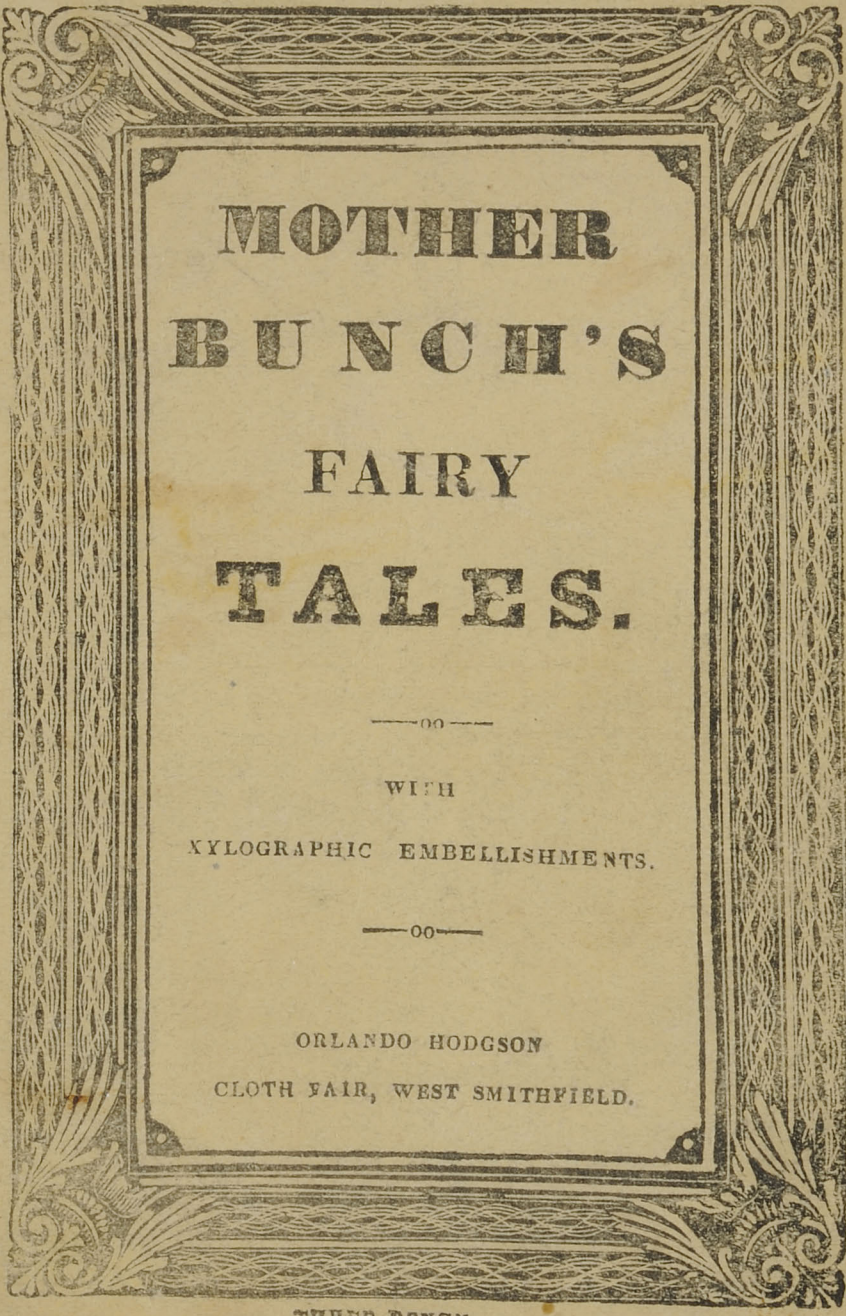


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**MOTHER
BUNCH'S
FAIRY
TALES.**

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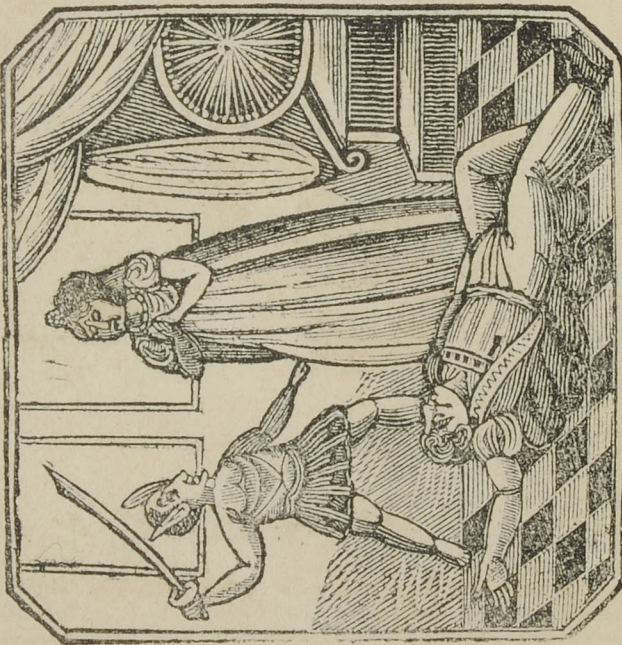
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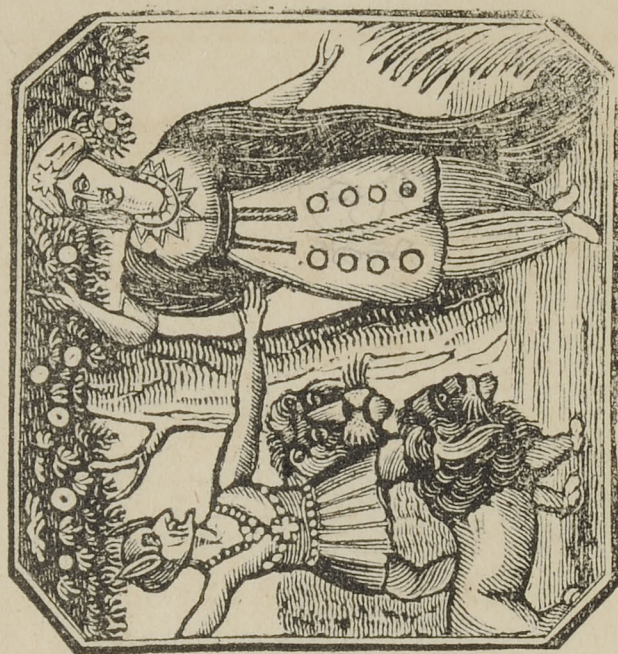
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ORLANDO HODGSON
CLOTH FAIR, WEST SMITHFIELD.

THREE PENCE.



The King murdered by the Yellow Dwarf.



The Princess All-Fair meets the Yellow Dwarf.

MOTHER BUNCH'S

FAIRY TALES:

FOR THE

AMUSEMENT

OF

ALL LITTLE MASTERS AND MISSES.

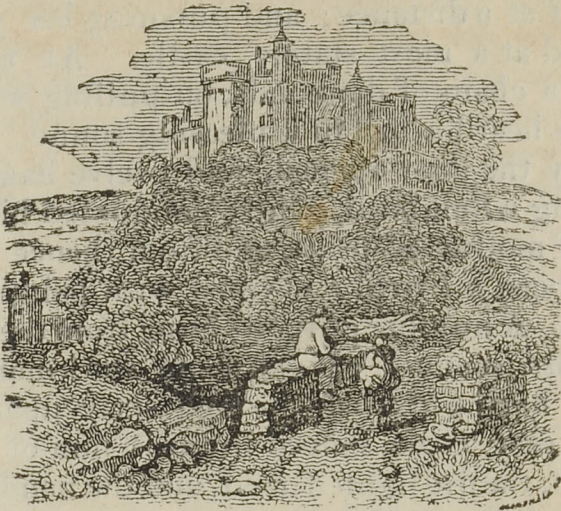


LONDON:

ORLANDO HODGSON, CLOTH FAIR, WEST SMITHFIELD.

THREEPENCE.

FAIRY TALES.



STORY OF PRINCE LUPIN.

A CERTAIN king had three sons; but being mistrustful that they had formed a design to deprive him of his crown, he called them one day into his closet, and spoke to them as follows: "My sons, I am now come to a great age, and therefore intend to resign my crown to one of you; but I require some proof to determine which is the most worthy; and I promise, that he who shall bring me the most beautiful little dog, shall take possession of my throne."

The princes agreed to this proposal, and set out with orders to return that day twelvemonth with their dogs. Each took a different road.

Prince Lupin, as he was much more desirous to show his duty to his father, than to be-

come king, was more fortunate in his undertaking than the others. One night, being overtaken by a storm in a large forrest, he discovered a light at a distance; and pursuing his journey, arrived at a most stately castle. At the door hung a chain of diamonds, on pulling which the prince heard a bell of a pleasing sound. Immediately the door opened, and twelve hands, each holding a flambeau, gently conducted him into a hall of mother-of-pearl, and from thence through chambers, all richly covered with paintings and jewels. A number of lights hung from the ceiling, in glass sconces of exquisite workmanship.— After having passed through sixty apartments, a fine easy chair moved towards him of its own accord, the fire lighted itself, and the hands pulled off his clothes, which had been wetted in the storm, and dressed him in others, extraordinary fine and rich. While the prince was in the utmost astonishment, he saw a multitude of cats enter the room, and seat themselves on a bench; some played on instruments, while one held a music-book, and another beat time. In the midst of this concert, a small figure came forward in a mourning veil, led by two cats in black cloaks, and followed by a long train of cats, some with rats, and others with mice in their mouths. The young prince was so surprised that he had not power to move; when the little figure, lifting up its veil, discovered the prettiest white cat that ever was seen. “Prince,” said she, “be not afraid, give me your company with cheerfulness: it shall be the ambition of me, and all my mewling attendants, to give you pleasure.”

On a signal given, supper was brought in; but the prince at first declined eating, till the White Cat, guessing the reason, assured him, there were no rats nor mice in any thing that was set before him. As the prince was admiring this beautiful cat, he observed a small picture hanging upon her foot, of a charming young man, very much resembling himself. Observing the White Cat to sigh, he endeavoured to divert her by conversation, in which he found her to be extremely sensible; he slept every night on a bed of the most delicious flowers; and every day was spent in some delightful amusement. In this manner almost a year had slip away insensibly, and the prince entirely forgot his native home. But the White Cat knew when he was to return; and one day, as they were walking together in a grove near the palace, "Do you remember, prince," said she, "the promise you made your father? Your brothers have already procured some curious little dogs, and there remaineth but three days for you to find one more beautiful, or lose a kingdom." These words awoke the prince from his dream of pleasure. "Alas!" cried he, "what have I been doing? my honour is lost for ever!" "Do not afflict yourself," said the White Cat: "I will find a horse that shall carry you home in less than twelve hours; and as for the little dog, take this acorn, in which there is one; put it to your ear, and you will hear him bark." The prince did so, and bidding her farewell, he mounted the wooden horse, and arrived at his father's palace just as his brothers entered the court-yard. All three went together to the king.

The two eldest presented their dogs, which were equally beautiful ; but the youngest pulling the acorn out of his pocket, and opening it, they saw a little dog lying on cotton, so small, that he might go through a ring ; he was of a mixture of colours, and his ears reached the ground. The king was convinced that nothing could be met with so beautiful ; but, being unwilling yet to part with his crown, he told his children that he must make further trial of their love and diligence before he performed his promise: they must take another year to find out a web of cloth, fine enough to go through the eye of a small needle.

This request, though unjust, they thought it best to comply with ; and our prince mounted, and returned with speed to his White Cat. As soon as she saw him, she expressed the utmost joy ; while the prince caressed her in the most tender manner, and told her the success of his journey. The White Cat redoubled her efforts to render the prince more happy than he had been before : and the second year rolled away so fast, that the prince would have forgot his orders, had not the White Cat reminded him thereof ; “ but, make yourself perfectly easy concerning the web,” said she : “ take this walnut ; be sure to crack it in your father’s presence, and you will find in it such a web as you want.”

The prince thanked her, and was presently carried, by the wooden horse, to his father’s palace, where his brothers had got before him, and pulled out their webs, which were exceedingly fine, and would go through the eye of a large needle, but could not be made to pass through

the eye of a small one. The king was going to avail himself of this pretext, when the youngest prince unexpectedly entered, and produced a walnut, which he cracked, and, to the utter astonishment of all beholders, drew out a web of cloth four hundred yards long. The needle was brought, and the web was put through the eye of it five or six times, with the greatest ease.

The king fetched a deep sigh, and turning towards his sons, "My children," says he, "go for another year, and he that brings me the most beautiful damsel shall marry her, and be crowned king; and I swear most solemnly, that I will require no other proof of your filial affection and discretion." Our sweet prince heard this tyrannic command without a murmur: and, remounting his courser, flew to his dear White Cat, who was prepared to receive him in golden galleries. "Prince," said she, "the king, I find, has refused you the crown: however, I will provide you with a beautiful damsel, who will gain the prize."

The prince grew more and more fond of her. When this last year was near expired, the White Cat thus addressed him: "If you are sensible of the favours I have conferred upon you, now is the time to make amends. Don't hesitate, but cut off my head and tail, and throw them into the fire." The White Cat insisted upon it so earnestly, that at last, with a trembling hand, he chopped off her head and tail, and threw them into the fire. In an instant the body of the White Cat was changed into a most beautiful lady that ever was seen; and immediately a great number of gentlemen and ladies, holding their

catskins over their shoulders, came and fell prostrate at her feet, crying, "Long live our gracious queen!" The prince was glad beyond description, but could not help expressing an earnest desire to know the cause of this. "Restrain your curiosity," says the lovely queen, "till we arrive at your father's court, where I will relate my unheard-of misfortunes. Come, see the carriage waits." So saying, she gave her hand to the prince, who led her into a chariot. Away they flew, and were presently at the gates of the king's palace, where the two eldest princes were already arrived with their two princesses. The two eldest princes, with their ladies, advanced first, and were graciously received by the monarch, who declared that he knew not to which of them he should give the preference: but the moment the youngest approached with his queen, the king cried out in an ecstasy, "This is the incomparable beauty, whose worth and excellence claims and deserves my crown!"—"I came not to rob you of your crown," answered the discreet queen: "I was born heiress to six kingdoms. Give me leave to present one of them to you, and one to each of your sons; for which I ask no other return than this amiable prince in marriage." The king and all the court were struck with joy, and the nuptials were celebrated with great magnificence. Never was a pair more happy. The lovely bride took the first opportunity to gratify her husband's curiosity to know her adventures; which follow, in her own words, in the next story.



THE STORY OF
 THE PRINCESS FRUTILLA,

AS RELATED BY HERSELF.

MY father was king of six kingdoms. A little while before I was born, my mother was so indiscreet, as to venture close to a garden belonging to some powerful fairies, where she saw and longed for some delicious fruit that grew against a high wall. Finding it impossible to reach it, she fell into the utmost despair; when a little ugly old woman appeared, and thus accocted her: "I will give you my kingdoms," answered the longing queen, "rather than not taste your fruit." "You must give us your daughter," replied the fairy, "soon as she is born, and you must never see her again till after she is married." "It is a hard condition," returned the queen; "but rather than die, I accept it."

My mother devoured vast quantities of the fruit, and the fairy likewise gave her a basket full to carry home. At length the queen was brought to bed of me, and began to be very melancholy at the promise she had made the fairies. The king, my father, loaded her with reproaches; the unhappy queen, unable to bear her husband's anger, and the reflection of her own imprudence, soon after died with grief. The fairies sent to demand me of my father; and on his refusal, let loose a terrible dragon, that poisoned every place wherever he came, devoured men, women, and children, and killed all the trees with the breath of his nostrils. The king at length delivered me up, on the fairies promising to take care of me. When I was grown up, they conducted me to a tower, that stood on the side of a road, with orders never to look out at any one that passed by; and they gave me a parrot and a dog to keep me company. One morning hearing a noise, I was so frightened as to run to the window, where I perceived a gentleman of most enchanting aspect, who entreated me to hear a few words, for on my consent his life depended. I was going to reply, when the fairy Violence entered with my breakfast. The first words she spoke, were "I smell the voice of man!" Luckily my lover quitted the place as soon as she spoke; and I endeavoured to appease her as well as I could. "Well, child," said she, "I intend you shall never speak to any man till you are married to a little king, whom I will bring in a few days to be your husband;" so saying she left me. Soon after my lover, who was a king's son, came a second time, and made

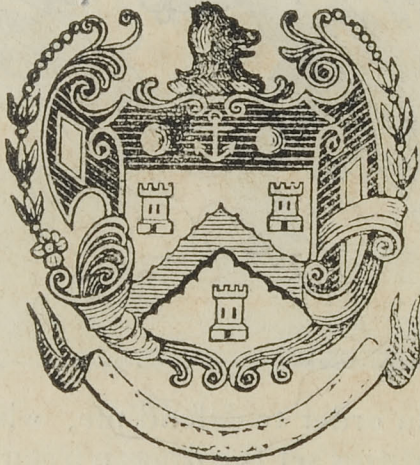
so many protestations of his affection, that I determined never to marry any other.

The next day he came again; and while we were discoursing together, all on a sudden the fairies entered upon their frightful dragon, followed by Merlin, in his fiery chariot. The prince, not at all daunted, clapped his hand to



his sword, in order to defend me, when the barbarous creatures set the dragon upon him, which devoured him before my face. In all the horrors of despair, I threw myself into the mouth of this dreadful creature, but the fairies would not permit me so quick a death, but changed me into a White Cat, and carried me to the palace which belonged to my father, and turned all the lords and ladies into cats, never to be released from that

miserable condition, but by a prince exactly resembling my late lover. You, sir, having that resemblance, was reserved to restore me to my former figure, to liberty, and to six kingdoms. These obligations it shall be my study to repay, by being to you a fond and faithful wife.





THE STORY OF
THE YELLOW DWARF.

THERE was a queen, who had but one daughter left alive, and she was indulged in all her wishes. This princess was exceeding beautiful, so that she was called All-Fair, and had twenty kings courting her at one time. Her mother, being advanced in years, would fain have had her married; but no entreaties could prevail, whereupon she determined to go to the Desert Fairy, to ask advice concerning her stubborn daughter.

Now, this fairy being guarded by two fierce lions, the queen made a cake, in order to appease their fury; and being thus provided, she set out. After travelling some time, she found herself weary; and lying down under a tree fell asleep. When she awoke, she heard the lions roaring, and looking for her cake, found it gone. This threw her into the utmost agony, when, hearing

somebody cry, "Hem! hem!" she lifted up her eyes, and beheld a little yellow man under the tree. "Ah! queen," said he, "how will you escape the lions? There is but one way: promise me your daughter in marriage, and I will save you." The queen being so frightened was forced to consent; whereupon she instantly found herself in her own palace.

The young princess seeing her dejected, resolved to go and enquire of the Desert Fairy; and, having prepared a cake for the lions, she



also set off for her abode. Coming to the fatal orange-tree, she had a mind to pick some; therefore, setting down her cake, she plentifully indulged herself. The lions now began to roar,

when All-Fair looking for her cake, found it gone; and, as she was lamenting her deplorable situation, the Yellow Dwarf presented himself to her, with these words: "Lovely princess, you need not proceed to the Desert Fairy to know the reason of your mother's indisposition: she is ungenerous enough to repent of having promised me to you in marriage!"—"You! such a fright as you!" "Nay, none of your scoffs," returned the Yellow Dwarf, "I wish you not to stir up my anger. If you will promise to marry me, I will be the tenderest and most loving husband in the world; if not, save yourself from the lions if you can." In short, the princess was forced to give her word that she would have him, but with such agony of mind, that she fell into a swoon; out of which when she recovered, she found herself in her own bed, finely adorned with ribbands, with a ring of a single red hair so fastened round her finger, that it could not be got off.

This adventure had the same effect upon All-Fair, as the former had upon her mother; she grew melancholy, which was remarked and wondered at by the whole court. The best way to divert her, they thought, would be to urge her to marry, which the princess, now become less obstinate on that score than formerly, consented to: and thinking that such a pigmy as the Yellow Dwarf would not dare contend with so gallant a person as the King of the Golden Mines, she fixed upon this king for her husband, who was exceeding rich and powerful, and loved her to distraction. The happy day was fixed;

when, as they were proceeding to the ceremony, they saw moving towards them a box, whereupon sat an old ugly woman. "Hold, queen and princess," cried she; "remember the promises you both made to the Yellow Dwarf. I am the Desert Fairy; and if All-Fair does not marry him, I swear by my coif, I will burn my crutch." The queen and princess were struck almost motionless; but the Prince of the Golden Mines holding his sword to her throat, "Fly, wretch!" said he, "or thy malice shall cost thee thy life." No sooner had he uttered these words, than the top of the box flying off, out came the Yellow Dwarf, mounted on a large Spanish cat: clapping spurs to his cat, and drawing a large cutlass, he defied the king to combat.

The king behaved with such undaunted courage as to give the dwarf great perplexity; but was dismayed, when he saw the Desert Fairy strike the princess so hard with a lance, that she fell into the queen's arms all over blood. He left the combat to go to her relief; but the dwarf was too quick for him, and flying to the balcony, took her from her mother's arms, leapt with her upon the top of the palace, and immediately disappeared.

As the king stood confused, he suddenly found himself lifted up in the air by some extraordinary power; for the Desert Fairy had fallen in love with him. She carried him to a frightful cavern, hoping he would there forget All-Fair, and tried many artifices to complete her designs; but, finding this scheme ineffectual, she resolved to carry him to a place altogether

as pleasant as the other was terrible, and accordingly seated him by herself in a chariot drawn by swans. In passing through the air, he had the unspeakable surprise to see his adored princess in a castle of polished steel, leaning her head on one hand, and wiping away her tears with the other. At last they came to a stately palace, fenced on one side by walls of emeralds, and on the other by a boisterous sea.



The king, walking by himself on the shore one day, heard a voice, and presently after was surprised with the appearance of a mermaid, which coming up, with a pleasing smile, spoke these words: "O, King of the Golden Mines, I well know all that has passed

in regard to you and the fair princess; if you will have confidence in me, I will lend you my assistance to procure the release, not only of yourself, but of All-Fair also!" The overjoyed king promised to do whatever the mermaid bid him; whereupon, setting him upon her fish's tail, they sailed away in a rolling sea.

When they had sailed some time, "Now, said the mermaid to the king, we draw near to the place where your princess is kept by the Yellow Dwarf. Take, therefore, this sword, with which you may overcome every thing, provided you



never let it go out of your hand." The mermaid landed, and took leave of him, promising her farther assistance when necessary

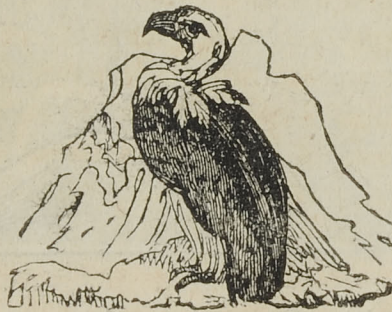
The king boldly advanced: meeting with two terrible sphinxes, he laid them dead at his feet; next he attacked six dragons that opposed him, and dispatched them also; then he met with four-and twenty nymphs, with garlands of flowers, at sight of whom he stopped, being loth to destroy so much beauty: when he heard a voice say, "Strike! strike! or you lose your princess for ever!" upon which he threw himself into the midst of them, and soon dispersed them. He now came in view of All-Fair, and hastening to her, exclaimed, O my princess, behold your



faithful lover!" So saying, he cast himself at her feet, and catching hold of her gown, unfortunately let go the magic sword; which the

Yellow Dwarf no sooner discovered, than leaping from behind a shrub, where he had been concealed, he ran and seized it. By two cabalistical words, he then conjured up a couple of giants, who laid the king in irons. "Now," said the dwarf, "my rival's fate is in my own hands; however, if he consent to my marriage, he shall have his life and liberty." "No," said the king, "I scorn thy favour on such terms;" which so provoked the dwarf, that he instantly stabbed him to the heart. The disconsolate princess, aggravated to the last degree at such barbarity, sunk down upon the body, and expired with a sigh.

Thus ended the fate of these two faithful lovers, which the mermaid very much regretted; but (all her power lying in the sword) she could only change them into two palm-trees, which preserving a constant mutual affection for each other, caress and unite their branches together.





THE
PIGEON AND DOVE.

THE queen of the country of Deserts, having lost the king her husband, and finding herself to draw nigh her end, with grief entreated her old friend, the Sovereign Fairy, to take under her care her only child. The fairy undertook the charge, and the queen died in peace.

The fairy foresaw, that great misfortunes would happen to the princess, if seen by a certain giant before she was sixteen years of age; and therefore carried her to a solitary place, where she might live concealed. The fairy informed Constantia of the reason, and ordered her never to stray from home.

To amuse herself, the princess had bred up a ram, named Rusion, and she became extravagantly fond of him. One day, hearing the ram make the most pitiable bleatings, she ran out

to know what was the matter, and saw a wolf running off with poor Ruson, a dog, cock, yarro, and cat.

It happened that the giant was obliged to go and fight a duel with another giant, and the princess taking out her scissars, cut the bag, and let out all but the wolf. These creatures did her all the service in their power; for, it being night-time, the cat's glaring eyes served as a light, the dog as a sentinel, the cock's crowing to frighten the lions, and the parrot prevented her being attacked by thieves. When morning came, Constantia found herself by a river's side, but suddenly deserted by all her attendants, except Ruson.

Here she laid herself down to rest; but she had not slept long before Ruson awoke her, and looking round, beheld a youth, uncommonly handsome, and magnificently dressed. This stranger was a prince, and was so stricken with Constantia's beauty, that he desired to know if he could render her any service. She expressed her wishes of having a flock of sheep to take care of. This he promised to procure for her.

Constantio (for that was the prince's name) obtained the care of a flock for Constantia; and became so passionately in love with her, that he was for ever going to see her, under pretence of visiting the flock.

Constantia was conscious of being the cause of his illness, and after some time informed one of his attendants that she knew of a preparation of simples that would cure him. Accordingly she was introduced into the palace, and was

conducted into the prince's apartment. No sooner was she entered than he found himself relieved: not from any effect of the herbs, but from the sight of his charming shepherdess; he grew better every hour, and quickly recovered.

Constantia was then introduced to the king and queen; but the queen was so struck with her appearance, that she gave a violent shriek; however, she thanked her for the cure of her son, and appointed her to take care of the flowers in her garden.

The queen had dreamt that the prince her son was married to a shepherdess, whose person exactly corresponded with that of Constantia, and this was the reason of her shrieking. In consequence of this dream, she determined to watch them, and a short observation convinced her, that the prince was in love with Constantia, and she with him: whereupon she resolved to break off their acquaintance. With this view, therefore, she told the prince he must go to a neighbouring king's court, in order to marry his daughter; with which the prince, after many excuses, promised to comply. Full of sorrow, he made haste to acquaint his dear Constantia with it, who was overwhelmed with grief at the news. However, she told him that she was born a princess, which was an inexpressible pleasure to the prince; and they parted, after vowing the most constant fidelity towards each other.

The queen also tried several stratagems to take Constantia off, but in vain; at last she resolved to send her on board some ship bound for foreign parts, and sold her as a slave to the

master of a vessel that was then going to sail. The princess could make no resistance, and she was hurried on board by three ruffians.

The Prince Constantio's behaviour, (as had been agreed on between him and Constantia) was rather disgusting than otherwise at the court where he was sent; and the queen pretending, by a letter to him, that Constantia was at the point of death, he set off in great agony of mind, and returned home. When he arrived, the first thing he heard was, that Constantia was dead and buried; which threw him into such grief, that he shut himself up in his room. At last he resolved to go to her grave, where he drew his sword, and was going to fall on its point, when the queen, who was with him, interposed, and, in order to make him desist, was obliged to confess the vile deed she had been guilty of.

The prince was thunderstruck, and loaded his mother with reproaches; but, as he found his dear princess was not dead, he resolved to go in quest of her, and embarked on board a vessel next day. He left no means untried to discover the object of his pursuit. One night, the ship coming to an anchor behind a large rock, he landed: and, perceiving a great light, made up to it, where thirty Cyclops were making arms. Presently he heard most delightful music; and looking towards a furnace, he saw a beautiful child coming out of it, whom he soon knew to be Cupid. "Gentle Constantio, the Sovereign Fairy and myself have engaged to protect Constantia; but, before we inform you where she is, give some proof of the purity of your flame, by

casting yourself into this furnace. If you love faithfully, you will be saved, but, if not, you will be lost." "So be it," returned Constantio, and immediately threw himself into the furnace,



where having lost all sense for thirty hours, he at last seemed to awake as from sleep, and found himself changed into a beautiful pigeon, and lying on a bed of roses. Nothing could equal his surprise at this; but he had lost the use of his speech, and this made him disconsolate, so that he determined to put an end to his life. With this intent he cast himself from a high rock, but was kept up by his feathers; whereupon he plucked every one off, and was going to make a second attempt, when he was surprised and

caught by two young damsels, who belonged to the Sovereign Fairy. As soon as she saw him, she knew who he was, and said, "Prince, I love you for my Constantia's sake, of whom I will now give you some account. The ship, on board which she embarked, being overtaken by a storm, was forced to make for the first haven that could be got at; it happened to be in the territories of a giant, who had formerly fallen in love with her, and from whence she had escaped. He carried her to a great high tower, where he has kept her a prisoner ever since.

'Twelve months,' said he, 'I will allow you for consideration; and, if you will not marry me, I will force you.' There is only one day of these twelve months to come: and the only way to save the princess is for you to fly to her with this little ring, which, being put on her finger, will change her into a dove, and so you may fly away together."

The overjoyed prince bowed his head in token of thanks; and the fairy having given him the ring in his mouth, and rubbed him with an essence, that instantly replumed him with feathers, he flew to the place where Constantia was confined. He soon saw her come into the garden, and flying upon her shoulders, put the ring in her bosom. At this moment the giant had come into the garden, to know her last resolution; when the princess, trembling at his approach, had the good luck to slip the ring on her finger, and being immediately changed into a dove, flew away with her faithful pigeon, to the inexpressible confusion of the monster.

After a long flight they alighted in a shady wood: and the prince suddenly finding his tongue loosed, "See," said he, "my adorable Constantia, see your devoted prince, that has suffered so many anxieties on your account." "Ah," returned the princess, "am I then so happy as once more to be with you! you, for whom only I have wished to live!" These words were no sooner uttered than the Sovereign Fairy and Cupid appeared before them; and the fairy promised always to be their friend, and offered to restore them to their former shapes. They thanked her, but declined her offer, saying, "That being now free from the cares of crowned heads, they could live for each other, the one a pigeon, and the other a dove, in peaceful enjoyment of a constant and virtuous love." The fairy approved of their choice; and having adorned the wood with every delight, she and Cupid kindly bade farewell to them; and ever since that time, the pigeon and dove have been represented as true emblems of love and constancy.

THE END.

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