

## VII.

## The tiger

The tiger *is* smaller than the lion. It *is* a very beautiful animal, both in form and color.

Its coat *is* of a bright orange color, white underneath, and *marked* with broad black stripes. Its hair *is* soft and rich, and every movement of the creature *is* full of grace.

But it *is* fierce, and very cunning too. It *will lie* in wait a long time for its prey, and *spring* upon it without warning.

There *are* few animals prettier than tiger-cubs.

In India they *are* sometimes *kept* as pets, and so long as they *are fed* upon milk alone they *are* harmless; but if they once *taste* blood, they *are* not to be trusted.

An officer in India *was* one day sitting in his arm-chair *reading*, while his pet tiger-cub *lay* near him. His left arm *was hanging* down by his side.

All at once he *felt* an odd sensation in his hand, and, *looking* down, he *saw* that the cub *HAD been* licking it until he *HAD drawn* blood, and *NOW WAS sucking* the place eagerly, and *licking* it for more.

What *was* the gentleman to *do*? If he *drew* his hand away, the tiger *would spring* at him; and it *was* a large, strong creature now.

Its master *HAD not observed* before how fast it *HAD grown*. It *could* hardly be *called* a cub any longer; it *was* a young tiger. Carefully *keeping* his left hand quite still, the gentleman *looked* around for help.

How glad he *was* to *see* his pistol within reach! The tiger *was* busy with the bleeding hand. The gentleman *grasped* the pistol, *aimed* it at the tiger's head, and *fired*. The creature *fell* dead, and he *was* safe.

## Sentences.

- Nº 1. The tiger is smaller than the lion.  
 „ 2. It will lie in wait a long time for its prey.  
 „ 3. There are few animals prettier than tiger-cubs.  
 „ 4. An officer, in India, was, one day, sitting in his arm chair.

- „ 5. All at once, he felt an odd sensation.  
 „ 6. What was the gentleman to do?  
 „ 7. It could hardly be called a cub any longer,  
 it was a young tiger.  
 „ 8. The gentleman grasped the pistol, aimed  
 it at the tiger's head and fired.

### Questions.

What is this lesson about? What color is the tiger? What are tiger-cubs fed upon? What did the officer have for a pet? Did it cause him any trouble? State what occurred. Was there any danger for the officer? Did he conjure it? How?

### VIII.

## The courageous boy.

In England, one day, a farmer at work in his fields *saw* a party of huntsmen *riding* over his farm. He *had* a field in which the wheat *was* just *coming* up, and he *was* anxious that the gentlemen *should* not *go* into that, as the trampling of the horses and dogs *would* *spoil* the crop.

So he *sent* one of his farm hands, a bright young boy, to *shut* the gate of that field and to *keep* guard over it. He *told* him that he *must*, on no account, *permit* the gate to *be* *opened*.

Scarcely *had* the boy *reached* the field and *closed* the gate when the huntsmen *came galloping* up and *ordered* him to *open* it. This the boy *declined* to *do*.

“Master,” *said* he, “*has* *ordered* me to *permit* no one to *pass* through this gate, and I *can* neither *open* it myself nor *allow* any one else to *do* so.”

First one gentleman *threatened* to *thrash* him if he *did* not *open* it; then another *offered* him a sovereign; but all to no effect.

The brave boy *was* neither to *be* *frightened* nor *bribed*.

Then a grand and stately gentleman *came* forward and *said*: “My boy, do you not *know* me? I *am* the Duke of Wellington—one not *accustomed* to *be* *disobeyed*; and I *command* you to *open* that gate, that I and my friends *may* *pass*.”

The boy *took* off his hat to the great man whom all England *delighted* to *honor* and *answered*:

"I am sure the Duke of Wellington would not wish me to disobey orders. I must keep this gate shut, and permit no one to pass without my master's express permission."

The brave old warrior was greatly pleased at the boy's answer, and lifting his own hat, he said:

"I honor the man or the boy who can neither be bribed nor frightened into doing wrong. With an army of such soldiers I could conquer, not only the french, but the whole world."

As the party galloped away, the boy ran off to his work, shouting at the top of his voice, "Hurrah! Hurrah for the Duke of Wellington!"

### Sentences.

- N<sup>o</sup> 1. A farmer, at work in his fields, saw a party of huntsmen riding.  
 " 2. He sent one of his farm hands to shut the gate of that field.  
 " 3. The huntsmen came galloping up and ordered him to open it.  
 " 4. I can neither open it myself nor allow anybody else to do so.  
 " 5. The brave boy was neither to be frightened nor bribed.

- " 6. I am sure the Duke of Wellington would not wish me to disobey orders.  
 " 7. The brave old warrior was greatly pleased.

### Questions.

Where did this incident occur? What was the farmer's anxiety? Whom did he send to shut the gate? Did he give him any instructions? Which? What was his answer to the huntsmen? What did he say to the boy? What was the boy's answer? Recite Wellington's last words.

### IX.

### The covetous porter.

A nobleman who lived in a fine mansion near Pisa, in Italy, was about to celebrate his marriage feast. He had obtained every kind of dainty but fish. The sea had been so stormy for some days that no boats had ventured to leave the shore. On the very morning of the feast, however, a poor fisherman made his appearance with a large fish.

The nobleman greatly *pleased*, *told* him to name any price he *thought* proper for the fish, and it *SHOULD BE* instantly *paid*.

"Well," *said* the fisherman, "what I *wish* to *have* as the price of my fish *is*, one hundred lashes on my bare back, and I *WILL NOT* *bate* one stroke on the bargain."

The nobleman and his guests *were* astonished at the oddity of the request, and *thinking* the fisherman *was* only in jest, they *offered* him a handsome sum of money, which he *refused*, and *said* they *COULD have* the fish only on the conditions he *HAD stated*.

"Well, well," *said* the nobleman, "the fellow *MUST* be foolish, but the fish we *MUST have*; so *lay on* lightly, and *LET* the price *BE paid* in our presence."

After he *HAD received* fifty lashes, "*Hold, hold,*" *exclaimed* the fisherman; "I *have* a partner in this business, and it *is* right that he *SHOULD receive* his due share."

"What," *cried* the nobleman, "are there two such madcaps in the world? *Name* him, and he *SHALL* be *sent* for immediately."

You *need not go* far for him," *said* the fisherman; "you *WILL find* him at your gate, in the shape of your porter, who *WOULD* not

*let* me in until I *HAD promised* that he *SHOULD have* half of whatever I *received* for my fish."

"Oh! ho!" *said* the nobleman, "*bring* him up, then, and he *SHALL receive* the other fifty lashes with the strictest justice."

*HAVING whipped* the porter, he *dismissed* him from his service, and amply *rewarded* the fisherman.

### Sentences.

- Nº 1. A nobleman lived in a fine mansion.  
 " 2. A poor fisherman made his appearance with a large fish.  
 " 3. What I wish to have as the price of my fish is one hundred lashes.  
 " 4. He was offered a fine sum of money.  
 " 5. Lay on lightly and let the price be paid in our presence.  
 " 6. I have a partner in this business.  
 " 7. Are there two such mad-caps in the world?  
 " 8. You will find him at your gate, in the shape of your porter.  
 " 9. He shall receive the other fifty lashes with the strictest justice.

### Questions.

Where did the nobleman live? What feast was he preparing? Did he need anything? What? Who