

The genie disappeared,¹ and in an instant returned with a large silver basin on his head, and with twelve silver plates, all containing² food, with silver cups to drink from; these he placed upon the table and was gone.

Then Aladdin dashed some water into his mother's face and restored³ her, and when she arose said, "Do not be frightened, mother, but come with me and eat; this food will strengthen you." She could not understand how the food came to be there, but, after eating, Aladdin told her about the genie of the lamp.

On this food they lived for many days; and when it was gone Aladdin took the silver dishes, one by one, and sold them to a pawnbroker; and although he was cheated, and got much less than they were worth, they still had enough to live on for a long time.

When this money was all spent, Aladdin again rubbed the lamp and called upon his genie, who again supplied them with silver dishes and food; and he and his mother might have gone on living in that way until this time had not something happened which Aladdin did not expect.

He had never seen any woman's face but his mother's, — for the women of that country cover their

¹ dis-ap-peared', went out of sight. ² con-tain'-ing, holding.

³ re-stored', brought to her senses.

faces with veils when they go out, — but one day he chanced¹ to see the King's daughter, the Princess Badroulboudour, with the veil removed from her face. She was very beautiful, and Aladdin loved her at once.

After a time he said to his mother that he had seen a beautiful princess and loved her, and that she must go and ask the King to give her to him in marriage.

You may well imagine that the poor woman was astonished at this request. How could she ask the King to give his daughter in marriage to her son? "Child," said she, "you are beside yourself." But he urged her and urged her.

Finally she said, "I cannot go, because we have no present fine enough to give the King." But Aladdin was wiser than when he was taken by the magician to the cave. He had talked to a jeweler when he was selling his silver plate, and he had found that the fruit which he had picked from the underground garden was not made of colored glass, but that each piece was a precious stone of the most wonderful value. So he said to his mother, "Take these to the King, and I am sure he will listen;" and he filled a large porcelain dish with the wonderful jewels.

Aladdin's mother did not know the value of the

¹ chanced, happened.

gift, but still consented¹ to go, though she did not believe that she could possibly succeed; at which I do not wonder, do you? But Aladdin encouraged her, and said that the lamp upon which they had lived so long would help them. "But be sure," he said, "not to tell any one the secret of the lamp."

The first day she went to the King's palace she waited a long time, but was not able to present her gift; and so for several days, until both she and Aladdin began to lose heart.

But one day after the council had gone, and the King had retired to his rooms, he said to the Grand Vizier,² who was his chief adviser, "I have noticed for several days a woman carrying something wrapped up in a napkin, who has stood in the throng³ before the council. If she comes again call her, that I may hear what she has to say."

So the next day when the council was called, the Vizier took Aladdin's mother the very first of all, and led her to the King. She had watched others salute the King, so she knew what to do. She bowed her head down to the carpet that covered the steps before the throne, and did not move until the King bade her rise. Then he said to her, "Good woman, what brings you here?"

At these words Aladdin's mother bowed to the

¹ con-sent'-ed, yielded; agreed.

² viz'-i-er (yer), an officer of the king.

³ throng, crowd.

ground a second time, and then said, "Monarch of monarchs, before I tell your awful Majesty the strange business that brings me here before your royal throne, I beg that you will pardon the boldness of the request that I am about to make."

The King then ordered every one to go out except the Grand Vizier. He then assured¹ the poor woman of his pardon, whatever she might ask, and told her to speak. She then told him of her son's love for the royal princess, Badroulboudour, and his request for her in marriage. The King was indeed astonished, but showed no anger, and asked her what she had in her napkin.

She took the porcelain dish, untied the napkin from around it, and gave it to the King. No words can express his astonishment² when he saw so many jewels, the finest that his eyes had ever rested upon, and he cried out, "How rich and beautiful!" and turning to the Grand Vizier he said, "Look upon these, and confess that your eyes have never beheld anything so rich and beautiful. Is not this present worthy of the Princess, my daughter? Ought I not to give her to the one who values her so highly?"

At these words the Vizier became very unhappy, for he had hoped that his own son would marry

¹ as-sured', promised; gave encouragement.

² as-ton'-ish-ment, wonder; surprise.

the Princess; so he said, "I cannot deny that the present is worthy of the Princess, but I beg you to grant me three months' time, in which I hope to procure¹ for you a present equally rich for my son."

The King granted him the request, and turning to Aladdin's mother said, "Good woman, go home and tell your son that I must think this matter over. After three months come to me again, and I will give you my answer."

CHAPTER V.

ON the first day of the fourth month Aladdin said to his mother, "I pray you, go to the King and ask him once more for his daughter's hand."

As soon as the King saw Aladdin's mother standing in the throng before the council,² he said to the Vizier, "I see the good woman who made me the noble present of precious stones some months ago; let her come before my presence at once."

When Aladdin's mother came before the royal throne, she bowed herself to the ground. When she arose she said, "Your Majesty, I have come in the name of my son Aladdin, to remind you that the three months have passed, and to ask you for the hand of the beautiful Princess Badroulboudour."

¹ pro-cure', get.

² coun'cil, company of advisers.

At this the King was greatly troubled, for as Aladdin's mother was very meanly dressed and not at all attractive,¹ he could not believe that her son could be such a person as the fair and radiant² Princess would be willing to marry; so he asked the Vizier how he might avoid³ this marriage without giving offense. The Vizier replied, "There is one way, your Majesty. Make such a demand upon him as a price for your daughter's hand that he will be unable to meet it."

This advice pleased the King, and, turning to Aladdin's mother, he said, "My good woman, upon one condition will I give the Princess to your son in marriage. You know that the custom of our land requires that he who would lead in marriage a damsel must bring a present worthy of her. Now my daughter is a princess; and, besides, I love her very dearly, and think her worthy of a nobler gift than was ever given to any bride before, and only he can have her who brings such a gift.

"What I require is this: he must bring me forty basins of solid gold, full of such gems as you brought me at first, carried by forty black slaves who shall be led by forty young and handsome white slaves,—all in the richest dress. If he brings me this gift, I will bestow my daughter's hand upon him."

¹ at-tract'-ive, pleasant to look at. ² ra'-di-ant, shining; beautiful.

³ a-void', escape; get rid of.

Aladdin's mother bowed to the ground before the King, and hurried home to her son, and at once told him the story of her visit. Then she said, "The King wants your answer at once, but I think he may wait a long time."

"Not so long as you think, mother," said Aladdin. "Does his demand seem large? It is very easy for me. Let us have dinner."

While Aladdin's mother was getting dinner, he went into his own room, took down his wonderful lamp and rubbed it. The genie appeared as usual. Aladdin told him of the King's demand, and said to him, "Go, fetch me this present as soon as possible."

The genie at once disappeared, and almost before Aladdin knew that he was gone he was back again, and with all that the King asked. There were the forty white slaves, each leading a black slave, who carried on his head a basin of gold full of pearls, diamonds, rubies, and other precious stones, all richer and more beautiful than those which Aladdin had picked in the magician's garden.

Aladdin at once asked his mother to take this gift to the King. As the procession¹ went through the streets, all looked at it with wonder. The slaves were so richly dressed that they were taken for princes themselves, and the porter² at the King's palace was

¹ pro-ces'-sion (shun), company marching in order.

² por'-ter, gatekeeper.

about to kiss the hem of the leader's robe, but he said, "We are only slaves ourselves; our master will come later." Then they all went before the King, bowed to the ground, and touched the carpet with their foreheads; and then the black slaves uncovered the basins, and stood humbly before the King.

Aladdin's mother now stepped forward to the foot of the throne, and said, "Your Majesty, my son Aladdin sends this gift, conscious¹ that it is below the worth of the Princess Badroulboudour."

The King was greatly moved at these gifts, and by the modesty of Aladdin's words, and at once sent Aladdin's mother back to him with these words: "Good woman, go and tell your son that I wait to receive him with open arms, and will bestow on him without delay my daughter's hand."

She hastened home to tell Aladdin the joyful news. He then called the genie, who dressed him in beautiful raiment,² that he might appear well before the King, and added to him beauty and dignity of person. The King received him with delight, embraced him, and placed him by his side on the royal throne.

Then he made a great feast, and after it the marriage contract was drawn up. Then Aladdin asked if he might build a palace for the Princess before the marriage; the King gave him leave, whereupon he

¹ con'-scious (shus), aware; knowing.

² rai'-ment, clothes.

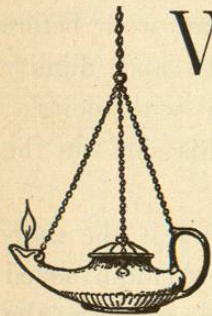
mounted a beautiful horse that the genie had brought, and went away.

He called the genie and told him to build for him the most beautiful palace that the world had ever seen. No sooner was it said than done; and in the morning when the King arose, there was this wonderful palace standing next to his own, with a carpet laid between them for the Princess to walk on.

That day the marriage took place, and when the Princess Badroulboudour was unveiled and saw Aladdin for the first time, she was charmed with his beauty and dignity, and loved him at once.

Then they went to live in the wonderful new palace, where they were very happy, and the King made Aladdin his chief counselor.¹

CHAPTER VI.



WHEN the wicked magician saw the wonderful palace, and Aladdin married to the beautiful princess, he was mad with envy, and determined² to get the lamp for himself. So he dressed himself up as an old man selling lamps, and went crying through the streets, "Who will trade old lamps for new ones?"

¹ coun'-sel-or, adviser.

² de-ter'mined, made up his mind.

One day when Aladdin was out, the magician came beneath the window of Princess Badroulboudour, crying this strange cry. She could not tell what he was saying, and sent out a slave to listen. The slave came back laughing, and said, "He wants to give new lamps for old ones." Another slave, hearing this, said to the Princess, "I have noticed an old lamp upon a shelf in the Prince's room. I am sure he would be glad to trade it for a new one." This was Aladdin's wonderful lamp which he kept upon a shelf in his own chamber.

The Princess knew nothing about the lamp or its powers, and so told the slave to take it to the old man and get a new one. As soon as the magician had the lamp you may be very sure that he was glad, and he seized it quickly and hurried away.

At night he took it out and rubbed it, whereupon the genie appeared, saying, "What wilt thou? I am ready to obey thee as thy slave."

"I command you, then," said the magician, "to carry me and Aladdin's palace and all the people in it to the middle of Africa."

You may imagine the feelings of the Princess Badroulboudour when she awoke in the morning! When the King arose the next day and looked out of his window for his daughter's palace, he could not believe his eyes.

"Certainly," he said to himself, "I am not mis-

taken. It stood there yesterday. If it had fallen down, the stones and timbers would be lying there. What can have happened? Is it all a dream?"

He sent in haste for the Vizier, who was really pleased at this strange misfortune, for he had never liked Aladdin.

"Your Majesty," he said, "you remember I told you this was all the work of magic. This Aladdin is a sorcerer,¹ and should not be allowed to live a minute."

The King was so enraged that he sent at once to have Aladdin brought before him.

Aladdin was arrested and taken before the King, who ordered him to be put to death; but the people of the city had come to love Aladdin, because he had been very generous with them, and had given many gifts to the poor.

As soon as they learned that his life was in danger, they gathered in such an angry throng about the palace that the King did not dare to have Aladdin killed. But he cried out to him in his rage: "What have you done with my daughter? Where is the beautiful Badroulboudour, and where is her palace?"

Aladdin had not heard of his terrible loss, so he replied: "I know not, your Majesty. Are they not here?"

"Here! you wretch!" said the King; "here!

¹ sor'cer-er, a magician.

You know very well they are not here! Where have you taken them?" Aladdin insisted that he knew nothing of this strange event. "But," said he to the King, "I entreat your Majesty, grant me forty days to make my search, and if in that time I find not my beloved wife, your daughter, the beautiful Princess Badroulboudour, I will return and offer my head to satisfy your anger." The King consented.

Aladdin at once went out from the royal presence, and began his search; but nothing could he find. He went from place to place, crying, "Where is my palace? Where is my wife?"

The people thought him mad; indeed, he had almost become so when, one day, a strange accident befell¹ him. He had almost resolved² to give up his search in despair,³ and had gone down to the river to throw himself in. But the banks were slippery and he fell down. Now he still had on the wonderful ring which the magician had put on his finger, but he had forgotten this ring's wonderful power.

As he fell, however, the ring was rubbed hard on the ground. At once the genie who had appeared to him in the cave stood before him, saying "What wilt thou have? I am thy slave, and there are many other slaves of the ring, and of him who holds the ring."

¹ be-fell', happened to.

² re-solved', decided.

³ de-spair', hopelessness.

Aladdin, astonished and delighted, said, "The palace which I built for my princess is lost. I command you to take me to it, and set me down under the Princess Badroulboudour's window."

No sooner had he spoken the words than he found himself beneath the windows of his palace. In the morning, while the Princess was dressing, a maid looking from the window saw Aladdin, and told the good news to her mistress, who at once went to the window and opened it. What was her joy at seeing her husband, and his relief at seeing her well and safe!

She immediately sent down and opened a private door, by which he entered and came up to her apartment. Then she told him of all the strange things that had happened to her, beginning with her sale of the lamp to the old peddler. He at once understood that the old peddler was none other than the African magician, who now had the wonderful lamp.

Aladdin immediately formed a plan. He went out, and finding a peasant offered to change clothes with him. As Aladdin's clothes were very beautiful, the peasant was willing enough to trade. Aladdin then went to a druggist, and asked for a certain powder. After this he returned to the palace, and told the Princess what to do.

"When the magician comes," said Aladdin, "treat

him well, and invite him to dine with you. During the dinner put this powder into his cup, and see what will follow."

She did as he told her, and sent word to the magician that she would be glad to have him call upon her. When he came, she invited him to dine in her apartment. He was delighted with this change in her manner, for she had hitherto¹ treated him with scorn.

At dinner, when he was not looking, she dropped the powder into his cup of wine. Then she proposed a health. He quickly raised his cup that he might drink to her, but scarcely had he drunk when he fell backward senseless.

Aladdin, who had been hidden outside the room, rushed in, tore open the robe of the magician, and took possession of his lamp; then he rubbed it, and when the genie appeared, Aladdin commanded him to transport² them all, at once, to their own far country.

The next morning when the King arose, he looked sadly out of his window toward the place where Aladdin's palace had stood, expecting to see nothing but the vacant ground, when what was his surprise to behold the palace in all its beauty where it had been before!

So once more they were happy together, — the

¹ hith-er-to', up to this time.

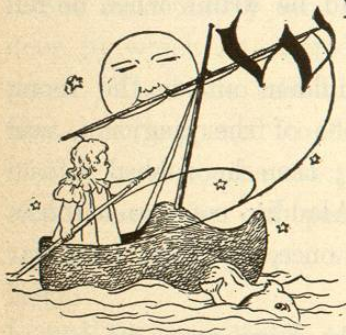
² trans-port', carry.

King, the beautiful Princess, and Aladdin, — and lived in peace and joy for many years, until the King died.

Then Aladdin became King, and lived to a great old age, enjoying the love of Badroulboudour, and doing good to his people.

XIX. A DUTCH LULLABY.

BY EUGENE FIELD.



YNKEN, Blynken, and Nod,
 one night,
 Sailed off in a wooden
 shoe, —
 Sailed on a river of misty
 light
 Into a sea of dew.
 “Where are you going, and
 what do you wish?”

The old moon asked the three.

“We have come to fish for the herring fish
 That live in this beautiful sea;
 Nets of silver and gold have we,”
 Said Wynken,
 Blynken,
 And Nod.

The old moon laughed and sung a song,
 As they rocked in the wooden shoe;
 And the wind that sped them all night long
 Ruffled the waves of dew;
 The little stars were the herring fish
 That lived in the beautiful sea.
 “Now cast your nets wherever you wish,
 But never afeard are we!”
 So cried the stars to the fishermen three, —
 Wynken,
 Blynken,
 And Nod.

All night long their nets they threw
 For the fish in the twinkling foam,
 Then down from the sky came the wooden shoe,
 Bringing the fishermen home;
 ’Twas all so pretty a sail, it seemed
 As if it could not be;
 And some folks thought ’twas a dream they’d
 dreamed,
 Of sailing that beautiful sea;
 But I shall name you the fishermen three, —
 Wynken,
 Blynken,
 And Nod.

Wynken and Blynken are two little eyes,
 And Nod is a little head,