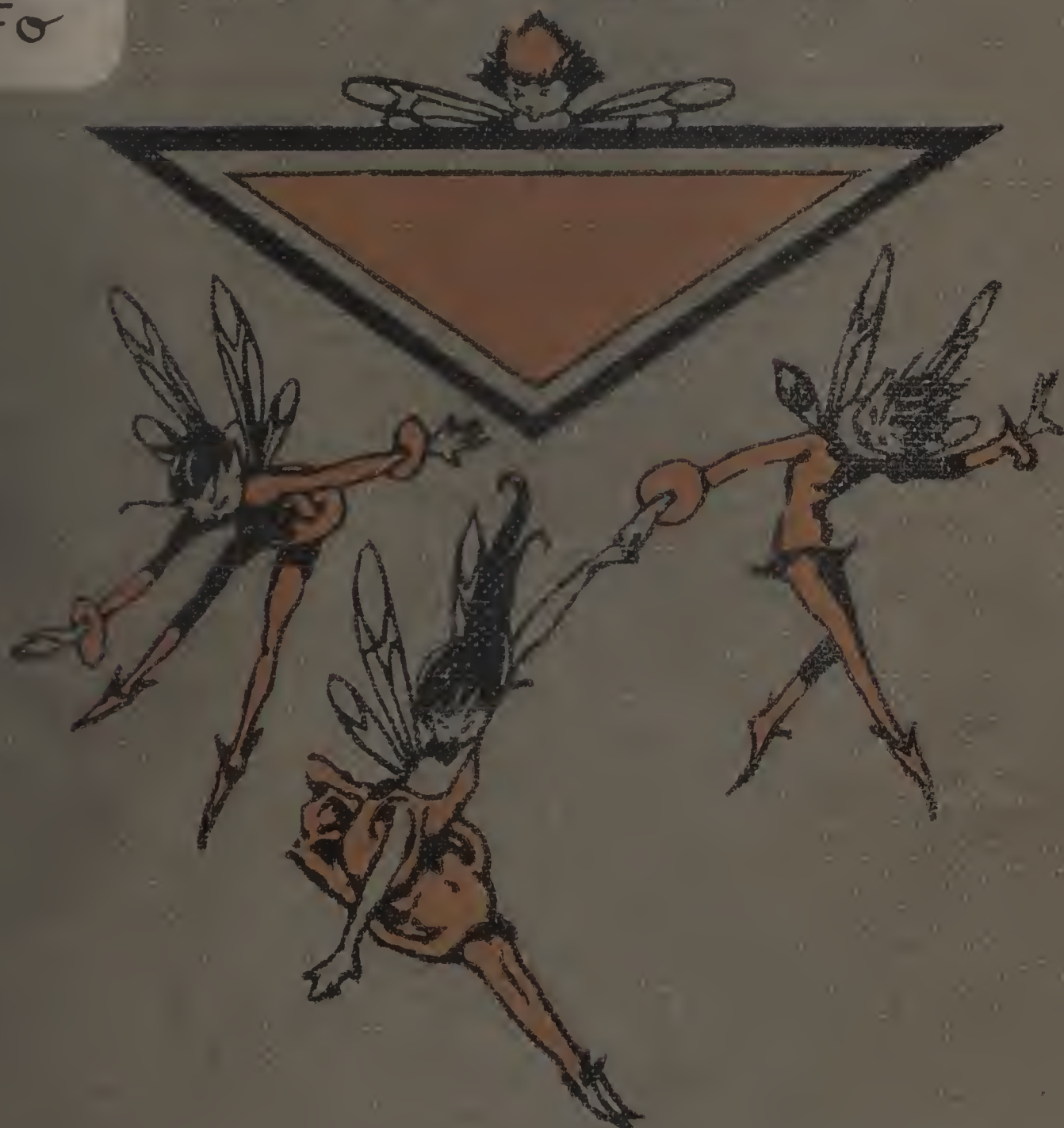


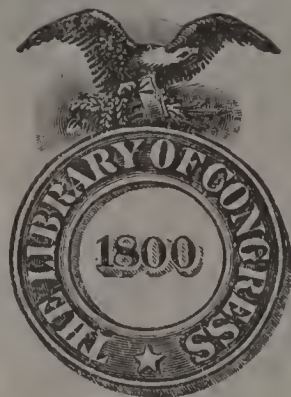
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FOUR-and-FORTY FAIRIES



BY N. MOORE BANTA



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FOUR-AND-FORTY FAIRIES



“They danced in and out among the trees” (Page 104)

Four-and-Forty Fairies

Nathaniel
BY
N. MOORE BANTA
and
ALPHA BANTA BENSON

ILLUSTRATED BY
DOROTHY DULIN

1923
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CHICAGO

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PREFACE

One of the aims of the authors in the preparation of this little fairy book is to present a portion of Fairy Mythology in a manner to be easily comprehended by small children. In giving the habits, customs, and characteristics of the various fairies herein described, the best authorities upon the subject of Fairy Mythology have been carefully consulted, and the presentation has been made to conform with those authorities.

Besides presenting Fairy Mythology to children, the authors have another very vital object in writing this book: that is, to assist children to learn to read, and to like to read.

The reason the best teachers make much use of the fairy story in teaching reading in the primary grades is because the fairy story directs, cultivates, and stimulates the child's imagination just at the age when this kind of mental gymnastics gives him so much pleasure. As the fairy story is full of action it accords with the child's own feelings, and makes learning to read easy, because he loves the story.

The vocabulary of this book is founded upon the vocabularies of the preceding books of the series, namely, "*The Fairy Primer*" and "*Fairies of the Nine Hills*," and is very small and simple considering the large amount of reading matter the book contains. Only a few new words are introduced on each page, and none are used but what the child will readily comprehend.

"*Four-and-Forty Fairies*" is intended for use in supplementary reading in the Third and Fourth Grades, being equivalent in reading matter to any average basic Third Reader.

The authors hope that this little story of a portion of popular fairy lore is told in a manner connected and interesting enough to appeal to the child mind in such a way as to make him desire to finish it when he has once begun it; and they feel sure that the lessons herein taught in politeness, friendship, good-fellowship, and usefulness will as unconsciously become a part of the young reader as the perfume is a part of the flower.

Books by
N. MOORE BANTA AND
ALPHA BANTA BENSON

The Brownie Primer
Ten Little Brownie Men
The Brownies and the Goblins
Busy Little Brownies
The Fairy Primer
Fairies of the Nine Hills
Four-and Forty Fairies
Once Upon a Time Stories
Really Truly Fairy Tales
Three Popular Stories
Stories from Grimm
Daffydowndilly and the Golden
Touch
The Golden Bird and Seven
Ravens
The Little Brown Man
The Little Brown Pitcher
Bluest of Blue Birds
The Chickadee Book
The Jenny Wren Book
The Bluebird Book
The Robin Redbreast Book

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“King Olin came and sat down by her” (Page 17)

FOUR-AND-FORTY FAIRIES

CHAPTER I

THE ELVES PLAN A JOURNEY



“They danced under the trees”

A band of Elves once lived among the leaves of a beautiful old Linden Tree which stood on the side of a hill. Near the hill was a shady glen through which ran a crystal stream.



“Ran over the leaves”

All day long these little fairies ran over the leaves from one tree to another, or traveled about up in the air. When they were tired sleeping or playing among the leaves, they climbed up and slid down the sunbeams. This was one of their favorite sports in the daytime.

As soon as night came they climbed down from the tree and ran out into the glen. Here on moonlight nights they danced under the trees, or rowed up and down the stream in their fairy boats. They



“Playing among the leaves”

often climbed up and slid down the moonbeams. This was a favorite sport on moonlight nights.

Sometimes, when the moon did not shine, the glen would be very dark. Then the Elves would leave the woods and dance in the grass on the open hillside.



“Toadstools upon which the Elves liked to dance”

On this hillside there were many toadstools and mushrooms upon which this band of Elves liked to dance. When the people found mushrooms with ragged or broken edges, the Elves were blamed for it; and if anyone chanced to find a circle on



“Dancing there the night before”

the dewy grass, he knew well that this band of fairies had been dancing there the night before.

Now there were exactly four-and-forty of these little Elves—two-and-twenty Elf-women and two-and-twenty Elf-men. They were little White Elves. They were called White Elves on account of the color of their clothes.

They always dressed in white and gold. Each Elf was always very careful to be dressed partly in white. They spun and wove white cloth from the moonbeams. From the sunbeams they spun and wove yellow or gold cloth.



“White and gold threads”

Sometimes they mixed the white and gold threads when they were weaving. This gave them beautiful white and gold cloth. Out of this cloth they made fine clothes.

The Elf-women were very beautiful. They had blue eyes and long golden hair, and the fine clothes they wore enhanced their beauty. Also very gal-

lant and handsome were the Elf-men in their beautiful gold and white suits.

These fairies were very tiny, too—so tiny that you and I might walk right over them and never see them, unless we should wear our fairy spectacles.

These Elves had a king named Olin, and a queen named Tita. King Olin was dressed just like the other Elf-men, only instead of a cap he wore a crown of gold. Queen Tita wore a crown of gold set with jewels, and her dress was of silver gauze.

King Olin and Queen Tita were very kind to their little Elfin band, and you may be sure all these little Elves most dearly loved their king and queen.

Now these tiny little Elves did not dance and play all the time. No, indeed, they had much work to do. And what kind of work



“They made fine clothes”



“They sent sweet and rosy dreams”

do you think they did? It would take you a long time to guess.

They were the Good Thought and Rosy Dream Fairies. In the daytime they sent good and happy thoughts sliding down the sunbeams. On moonlight nights they sent sweet and rosy dreams sliding down the moonbeams. These good and happy thoughts and sweet and rosy dreams were sent to



“King Olin”

all good and pleasant children and honest, good-natured grown-up people.

One night after the Elves had been dancing a long time, Queen Tita sat down on a toadstool to rest. By and by King Olin came and sat down by her. The other fairies went right on dancing. Queen Tita sat watching them for a long time.

Then she said, “Oh dear! I’m tired of dancing

and playing the same games so much, and doing the same work over and over. I wish we might play something new, and find some new work to do.”

“I have been thinking the same thing,” replied King Olin. “I have a plan and have just been waiting for a good chance to tell you about it.”

“How very fine!” cried Queen Tita, clapping her tiny hands. “Do tell me at once. Please don’t keep me waiting another minute.”

“How should you like to go on a long journey?” asked the king.

“A journey!” exclaimed the queen. “I should like it more than anything else. But where could we go?”

“To visit our fairy friends. I have been thinking for a long time that we ought to get better acquainted with the other fairies. I want to know more about their homes and what they do to pass the time. I should like to know what they do to make themselves and others happy. You have just been saying that we dance and play too much, and that you are tired of it. Perhaps if we visit some of the other fairies we may learn to play something new and do new work.”



“Queen Tita”

Queen Tita sprang up from her toadstool.

“Oh, how delightful!” she cried. “Let us start at once.”

“Hold!” said King Olin, laughing. “Not quite so fast, my queen! We can’t start at once for two reasons. We can’t go alone and we can’t go on such a journey without something to travel in.”

“Oh, how tiresome!” pouted the little queen,

sitting down once more. "How long must we wait?"

"Not long, I hope," said King Olin. "When I first thought of this journey, I sent my faithful Ariel to the Dwarfs asking them to send the swiftest and best flying-machine they could make. I expect him back any time. So get ready as soon as you can."

"A flying machine! How exciting! But who is to go with us?" asked Queen Tita. "I believe you said we were not to travel alone."

"Yes, that is what I said," replied the king. "And I have decided to take all our people with us. Not one shall be left behind."

"All of us!" cried Queen Tita. "Why, how can we all go? There are four-and-forty of us, all told. And in a flying-machine, too! We never can do it."

"But this is to be a magic flying-machine, my dear," replied the king. "And you must know that in a magic flying-machine there is always room for one more. So, as soon as the dancing is over, we'll get ready for the journey."

In a short time the other Elves grew tired and came crowding about their king and queen, like bees around a honeycomb. Then King Olin told



“Crowding about their king and queen”

them of the wonderful journey they were to take. They listened quietly till he had finished. Then they gave him three times three cheers.

After that there were three times three more for Queen Tita, and then the Elves all scampered away to the big tree to get ready for their journey.

And such a hurrying and scurrying as there was, for fear they should not be ready when Ariel returned! But so well and swiftly did they work, that their home was in apple-pie order and each little fairy in perfect readiness; and still no Ariel was in sight.

At last King Olin sent Kappi out into the glen to watch for Ariel, while all the other fairies rested. They had scarcely had time for four-and-forty winks when Kappi came rushing up a moonbeam into the big tree, all out of breath, and shouted, "He's coming! He's coming!"

"Who's coming?" cried the Elves in a chorus, rubbing their eyes. They were hardly awake yet.

"Why, Ariel, of course, with the new flying-machine," said Kappi.

Down from the tree they all ran, pell-mell, as fast as their little legs could carry them. Sure enough, there was Ariel just getting out of the



"Ariel just getting out of the new machine"

new machine. And what a beauty it was!

"It's a wonder, I assure you," said Ariel. "Light as the down of a thistle, but as strong as the strongest steel. Its name is Thistledown. It's the first of the kind the Dwarfs ever made. Just think! It starts, guides, and stops itself! All you have to do is to think where you want to go, and almost before you know it you're there!"

Now there was one little Elf-maid by the name of Mab who could write songs and sing them very sweetly. She was much interested in this journey.

She asked King Olin all about where they were going. As soon as he had told her, she wrote a song which the Elfin Band played while she sang. All the Elves soon learned this song and began singing together. Here is what they sang:



“Elf-maid by the name of Mab”

“This is the day
We will journey away
To the land where our fairy friends dwell;
Let us visit the Gnomes
In their underground homes,
And list to the stories they tell.

“Let us journey away
By night and by day,
In our new magic flying-machine;
O’er hill and o’er vale,



“With the jolly old Troll”

On and on we will sail,
Till each fairy friend we have seen.

“We will pause by the streams,
Where by silver moonbeams,
The Nixes and Necks may be seen;
With the jolly old Troll,
We will pause for a stroll,
And teach him to dance on the green.



“With the Brownies we’ll play”

“With the Goblins we’ll roam
Through their fine woodland home;
With the Kobolds and Brownies we’ll play;
The Wood-nymphs we’ll see,
Each guarding a tree,
And then to the Dwarfs we’ll away.”

CHAPTER II

THE HIDDEN TREASURES

That evening the Man-in-the-Moon put his thumb in his eye and looked down upon a pleasing sight---four-and-forty fairies seated in their wonderful machine ready for a long journey.

They all sat very, very still and waited. Each little fairy held his breath; but the machine didn't move even the least little bit. They looked at each other in dismay.

“What's the matter? Why don't we go?” they began to ask each other.

All at once Ariel remembered and he laughed so hard he fell out of the machine backward. When he had climbed to his seat again and had stopped laughing, he said, “Why, don't you know, some one must first think where we want to go!”

Then all the other little Elves joined in a good hearty laugh. What a good joke it was!

“Then who is to do the thinking?” said Ariel.

“You, of course. You brought the machine home,” said Kappi.



“Put his thumb in his eye”

“It seems to me,” replied Ariel, “that this is a game all of us can play. Why not take turns thinking of some place to go?”

“Good! That will be great fun!” shouted the other fairies. “You think first, Ariel.”

“All right,” said Ariel and, closing his eyes, he said:



“ ‘Sail, Thistledown, sail’ ”

“Sail, Thistledown, sail,
O’er hill and o’er vale,
Till we reach the spot
I have in my thought.”

The wonderful flying-machine rose at once from the ground and sailed away in the moonlight like some beautiful night bird. They traveled along in this way for some time. Then suddenly the air about them was filled with sweet music. It sounded like the chiming of hundreds of little silver bells.

“What is it? Where does it come from?” whispered the Elves, looking about them on all sides.

Ariel smiled a knowing smile and looked very wise.

“That is fairy music,” he said.

“But where does it come from?” asked Queen Tita.

“Can’t you guess?” said Ariel; then he laughed at their puzzled faces.

“That is a wonderful part of our machine that I didn’t tell you about. I wanted to surprise you. The music you heard comes from a number of tiny silver pipes inside the machine. When they are open the wind blows through them and makes the music you now hear.”

“How do you open them?” asked King Olin.

“By pressing this little button,” replied Ariel.

“Well, let’s have some more music,” said Queen Tita.

But just then the flying-machine paused in its great flight and sank gently to the ground.

The Elves sprang from their seats and looked about them. They found themselves in a wild, mountainous region, very different from any place in which they had ever been before.

“Is this the place?” they asked, turning to Ariel.

“I think it must be, else we shouldn’t have stopped,” replied Ariel.

“But where are your fairies?”

“I don’t know,” said Ariel, “but we’ll wait awhile and perhaps they’ll come.”

Ten or fifteen minutes passed, and still not a fairy appeared.

Then all at once the whole mountain side seemed alive with Gnomes. They appeared to come right out of the earth, as no opening of any kind could be seen. They were very queer-looking little men with short bodies, short legs, and very long arms reaching almost to the ground.

They were dressed in grayish brown with shoes and stockings and funny pointed caps of the same color. Indeed, they were so much like the earth out of which they came that at first the Elves could hardly tell the difference.

On seeing the Elves and their strange-looking machine, the Gnomes were very much frightened; and you may be sure they were not very slow in getting back into their mountain again. Indeed, some didn’t even take time to turn around, but ran backwards right into the mountain side.

This looked so very funny to the Elves that they all burst out laughing. When the Gnomes heard this they came back, but they were afraid to come up to the Elves.

Then King Olin and Queen Tita stood up in front of the other Elves. All of the Elves looked very friendly and pleasant. The Gnomes began to look pleased.

They looked at the Elves a few moments longer. Then out walked the king of the Gnomes. He looked very much like the others, only he had a very long beard and was dressed in a robe that came almost to the ground. His name was Guru.

When King Guru came out the other Gnomes followed. The king then welcomed the Elves and invited them to the Gnomes' underground palace.

"But how do you go in?" asked King Olin. "We saw you come out but we didn't see any door."

"We don't need doors," said King Guru. "We Gnomes can move through the earth as easily as a fish can swim through the water."

"But we can't do that," replied King Olin. "How, then, can we visit your home?"

"Of course you can't do that as you are, but when you have swallowed the brown berries I shall give



“King Olin and Queen Tita stood up in front”

you, you will be like us and can go where we go. You need not be afraid, for we trust you and will do you no harm.”

Here King Guru beckoned to one of the Gnomes and whispered something in his ear. The queer little man hurried away and soon returned with a boxful of little berries. These very wonderful magic

berries looked and smelled like fresh, moist earth.

The Gnome-king took them and gave one to each of the four-and-forty Elves. As soon as the Elves had swallowed the berries, they began to feel queer. They looked at each other and saw that they were turning to Gnomes. Only their faces stayed the same.

Just then the Gnome-king beckoned to them and they followed him to the mountain side. When they reached it they went on without stopping and found they could go through the earth as easily as through the air.

They went on in this way for some time. By and by they came out into a large cave-like opening, which led into a long hall beyond.

Here the Gnomes halted and the king said, "This is our home. Welcome to it, Elfin friends."

He then led the way into the hall, which was the most beautiful place the Elves had ever seen. The walls, ceiling, and floor were all of rock crystal, thickly set with diamonds of all shapes and sizes. These diamonds made the hall so bright that no other light was needed.

At one end of the hall was King Guru's throne. It was made of a large brilliant diamond and

was hung from the ceiling by fine gold chains.

When they entered the hall a wonderful thing happened. The clothing of both Elves and Gnomes was changed to pure white. Even King Guru's beard was as white as snow.

King Guru seated himself on his throne. He then motioned for the Elves and Gnomes to be seated, too. How grand the king looked in his long white robe and snowy beard! The Gnomes were very proud of him.

When they were all seated, King Guru said, "Welcome again to the home of the Gnomes. We will rest here awhile and get better acquainted."

King Guru then came down from his throne, and began introducing the Elves and Gnomes; and they immediately began to talk and get better acquainted with each other.

How happy and delighted they were! It was all so interesting for each to learn what the others liked best, how they lived, and where they had been. Indeed, it was a great chatter they all set up, talking about four-and-forty things at once.

In about an hour, a Gnome servant appeared and whispered something to the king.

His Majesty at once arose and led the way into

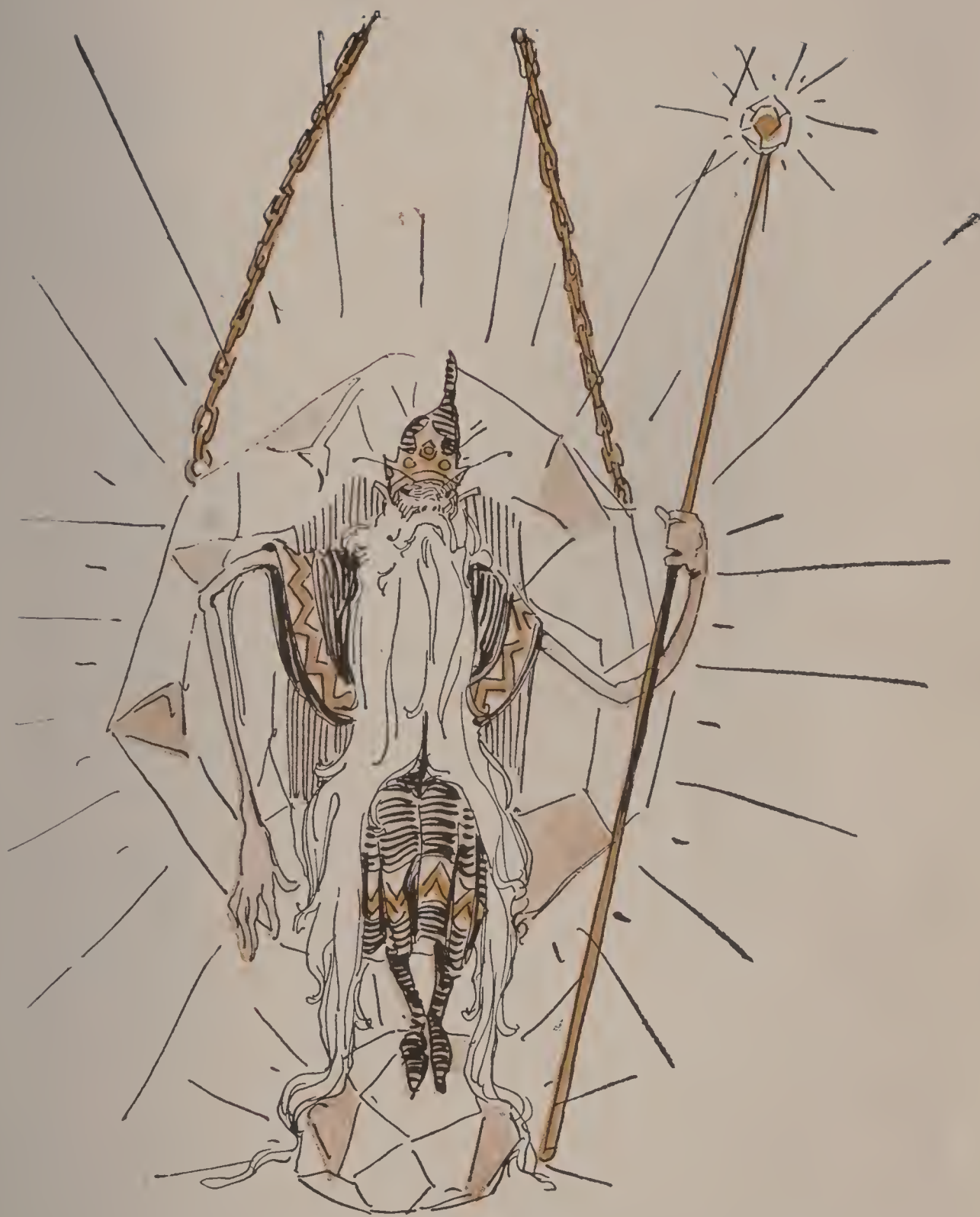
another hall, also made of rock crystal. The walls and ceiling of this hall were set with rubies. Again the garments of the fairies were changed, this time to a soft rose color.

In this second hall was a long table loaded with all sorts of fairy dainties. How good it looked to the hungry Elves! King Guru seated himself at the head of the table. Queen Tita sat at his right. At his left sat King Olin and next to him was the Gnome Prince Loto.

What a feast that was! There were toasts, stories, and songs from both Elves and Gnomes. When the feast was over, the king arose and led the way into another and larger hall. Like the first two, it was of rock crystal. Its walls and ceiling were set with emeralds.

Here the Elves saw that their clothing changed to a beautiful shade of green. These changes were very wonderful to the Elves. They had never seen the like before. At last Queen Tita made up her mind to ask Prince Loto how these changes were produced.

“Oh, that is easily explained,” replied the prince politely. “These diamonds, rubies, and emeralds are magic stones. They have the power to change



“King Guru seated himself on the throne”

the color of any object they shine upon. So you see we are dressed in brown only when we go to the mines. We don't like brown. These colors are much prettier."

In the emerald hall the Elves and Gnomes played games, ran races, and danced, till they were tired out.

The Gnomes did not know any games. They had never been where there were boys and girls, so they hadn't learned how to play. But the Elves taught them how. And what fun they did have!

When they ran races the Elf-men always beat, for the Gnomes had such short legs they couldn't run very fast. But when it came to leapfrog and turning handsprings, the Gnomes usually came out ahead.

At last they were all too tired to play any more, so King Guru sent a servant to show the Elves where they were to sleep. Now you must know that in the land of the Gnomes, they have no day and night as we have.

They do not know anything about the sun and moon. They sleep when they are tired and get up when they are rested. So it may have been morning with us when these little fairies went to bed.

And what a bedroom that was! It was smaller than the other rooms the Elves had seen. In the center of the ceiling there was one large moonstone. It gave just enough light for the Elves to see how to go to bed and not enough to keep them awake. And how they did sleep!

When they awoke they found that the Gnomes were all up and had breakfast ready.

After breakfast King Guru said, "We are going to show you the rest of the palace. Then we'll take you to the mines and tell you about our work."

You may be sure the Elves were ready for whatever the Gnomes wished to do. Our travelers wanted to learn all they could about the fairies they visited.

When all were ready, the king led the way to that part of the palace which the Elves had not yet seen. There were several rooms, all of rock crystal, like those they had seen before. The first was set with wonderful topazes. They filled the room with a beautiful golden light like sunshine.

The next one was blue, like the sky at night. This was caused by the sapphires of all shapes and sizes.

Another one set with amethysts was like the

summer sky at sunset. As they went from room to room, the Elves noticed that their clothing changed from yellow to blue and from blue to purple and so on, according to the color of the precious stones in the room. How wonderful it all was!

“Now,” said the king, “we will show you our treasure room. Then you may see where we work.”

He then led the way into a great hall of gray stone. Here were a vast number of chests of the same material all filled with gold, silver, and precious stones.

“Part of our work is to guard these treasures,” said the king.

“But why do you keep them here?” asked the Elf-king. “Why not leave them in the mines?”

“My dear friend,” said King Guru, “if this gold and silver and these precious stones were left in the mines, they would soon be dug out. Then there would be nothing left. It is our business to guard the mines as well as the treasure house. We allow the miners to have only a certain amount each year. Then, too, we keep the precious stones and metals pure and see that nothing destroys them. Now if you are ready we’ll show you the mines.”



“These are magic torches”

The party followed the king from the treasure house into a long hall, or passageway. Here the Elves noticed that each Gnome carried a torch. A Gnome servant also brought one for each of the Elves.

“These are magic torches,” said Prince Loto. “With them we can see through the deepest mine.

We are also able to find new mines with the aid of these magic torches.”

The Elves then noticed that the light of each torch came from a large crystal set in silver. The handle was also of silver.

Torches in hand, the Elves and Gnomes started down the passageway. They did not go far, however, before they left the passageway and walked straight into the earth. On they went without any trouble whatever.

Soon a wonderful sight met the eyes of the little Elf-men and Elf-women. On all sides were vast mines of gold, silver, and precious stones. The Elves stopped and gazed with their mouths open. They had not dreamed there could be so much gold and silver and so many precious stones in all the world.

“This is only a small part of what we have to guard,” said Prince Loto. “So you see we have plenty of work to do.”

After visiting several mines they returned to the palace. The rest of their stay was spent in feasting and merrymaking. When the Elves were ready to go, the Gnomes went with them to their flying-machine. When they came out of the earth,

King Guru gave a little white berry to each Elf.

“These will make you as you were before,” he said.

The Elves swallowed the berries quickly. And how glad they were to be just Elves once more!

With many good-byes and promises to come again soon, they climbed into their machine.

“Now, Kappi, it is your turn to think,” said Ariel.

“Must I say a rhyme?” asked Kappi.

“Yes, that is part of the game.”

“All right. Here goes:

“Fly, Thistledown, fly,
Like a bird in the sky,
Till a place you find
That I have in mind.”

The flying-machine began to rock from side to side. Then it rocked backward and forward. But it didn't leave the ground. The Elves did not know what to do. The Gnomes were waiting to see them go up in their wonderful machine; and it wouldn't go. Ariel got out and looked it over.

“It seems to be all right,” he said.



“Each little Gnome answered by throwing up his cap”

“Then why doesn’t it go?” asked little Elf Hitto. “The Gnomes will have a good joke on us if it doesn’t start pretty soon.”

“Are you sure you thought right, Kappi?” asked Ariel.

“Why—why, no, I don’t believe I did,” stammered Kappi. “I was thinking so hard about my rhyme that I forgot to think of the place.”

How the Elves did laugh when they found out what was the matter!—all but poor Kappi. He couldn’t see anything very funny about it.

At last Ariel said, “Never mind, Kappi. We all make mistakes sometimes. Just say your rhyme again and don’t forget to think of the place.”

Little Elf Kappi did as he was told and at once the magic machine began to move. The little Elf-women waved their tiny handkerchiefs and the Elf-men took off their caps and waved a last good-bye to the Gnomes.

Each little Gnome answered by throwing up his cap and shouting at the top of his voice. The Gnomes kept this up till their little friends were carried out of sight. Then they went back to their palace, and for days and days they talked of the Elves and the wonderful flying-machine.



“They slid down the moonbeams”

CHAPTER III

THE LITTLE MEN UNDER THE HILLS

In only a few moments the Elves were a long distance from the land of the Gnomes.

On and on the airship flew,
Over hill and valley, too,
Sometimes high and sometimes low,
Sometimes fast and sometimes slow;
How the fairy pipes did play
For the tiny Elves so gay!

What a wonderful ride that was! All day long they sailed. Then the sun went down, one by one the stars came out, and at last the moon came up. Still they sailed, and at last they began to get sleepy.

“If this journey is going to last much longer,” said Queen Tita, “we might as well take a nap.”

But just then the flying-machine sailed over a very high hill and sank into the valley beyond.



“At last the moon came up”

The Elves tumbled out and looked around, and what do you think they saw?

No, I'm sure you never could guess no matter how hard you might try, for it was a very, very queer sight. Now what would you think if you should all at once come upon a number of hills, each one raised upon great red pillars? You would rub your eyes and think you must be dreaming, wouldn't you? Yes, I'm sure you would. Yet that's exactly what the Elves saw.

These hills were almost as large as the one they had just passed over. But the most wonderful sight of all was a lot of funny little men singing, dancing, and making merry under one of the hills.

They were not at all pretty, these little fairy men,



“Funny little men, singing and dancing”

for they had great humps on their backs and very long crooked noses. But their eyes were merry and their faces kind. So after all, their looks didn't matter much.

These little men were dressed in gray jackets and trousers and wore red slippers and funny pointed red caps. Each of these caps was shaped like a bonnet or hood. These fairies are called Trolls. They belong to the Dwarf family. Indeed, we may call them first cousins to the Dwarfs.

Now when they saw the Elves, the Trolls came running out to welcome the visitors and invite them to the Troll merrymaking. You see, these cousins to the Dwarfs knew who the Elves were, although they and the Elves had never visited each other.

"You are just in time," said the Troll-king, whose name was Skynd. "This is Prince Skotte's birthday and we are feasting and making merry in his honor. Welcome, thrice welcome, to the home of the Trolls."

King Skynd then led the way to one of the hills, and the music and dancing went on as before. And how the Elves did enjoy it, and how glad they were that they had arrived in time for the birthday party!



“How the Elves did enjoy it”

The Trolls had never seen such beautiful dancing as the little Elf-women and Elf-men did. King Skynd and the Queen of the Elves led the dance. Then came King Olin and the Queen of the Trolls. The Troll-women were much delighted with the beauty and grace of the Elf-women. Before the evening had passed, the Trolls could dance almost as well as the Elves.

“We never had so much fun before,” said the Elves. “And just think, we might have missed it all, if it hadn’t been for Kappi! You’re all right.



“The Trolls had never seen such beautiful dancing”

Kappi, even if you did make a mistake at first.”

That made Kappi feel happier than ever.

When each little Elf and each little Troll had danced as long as he wished, King Skynd led the



“Danced as long as they wished”

way to another hill. In this hill there was a table reaching from one end of the long hall to the other. All the dishes on this table were of gold, silver, and crystal, and the cloth was of the finest linen.

The furniture and hangings were very rich and

splendid. Everywhere were beautiful flowers and plants of every kind.

On the table were all the fairy dainties ever seen or heard of. And how our hungry little Elves enjoyed each dish set before them! Everything was so good and everyone was so happy, that each wanted to say something nice about the other.

King Skynd acted as toastmaster. He proposed a toast to the Elves. Prince Skotte then rose and said:

“Here’s to the Elf band,
Very jolly and clever!
The best of all dancers,
They’re a joy forever.”

When the Trolls and the Elves were through cheering, Ariel was called upon to answer the toast. He rose and said:

“Here’s to King Skynd
And Prince Skotte, his son,
And to every small Troll
Living under the sun.”

“That won’t do,” said Kappi.

“Why not?” asked Ariel, somewhat confused.

“Because the Trolls don’t live under the sun; they live under a hill.”

“Well,” said Ariel, “isn’t the hill under the sun?”

At this there was such laughing, shouting, and clapping of hands that Kappi hid his head under the table.

Here King Skynd proposed a toast to King Olin. A little Troll named Orm arose and said:

“Here’s to King Olin,
An Elf wise and merry;
His friends all well know
He’s a kind-hearted fairy.”

The Trolls clapped their hands and shouted, “That’s so! That’s so!”

King Olin rose and thanked them, saying, “A toast to Prince Skotte. Hitto may give this toast.”

Hitto rose and said:

“Here’s to Prince Skotte,
Whom we honor to-day;
May he dance many bright
Happy birthdays away!”

“The best toast of all—to King Skynd!” shouted the Elves.

Then Kappi stood up and gave this rhyme:

“Here’s to King Skynd,
A right jolly Troll,
He’s fully as merry
As good old King Cole.”

“How happy all this makes me!” said King Skynd. “My Elfin friends, it is hard for me to tell you how much we enjoy your visit.

“My Four-and-Forty Fairies,
I extend to you my hand;
The truest friends we’ll ever be
In all this Fairyland.”

Then followed a number of toasts. King Olin gave one to Queen Gwainie of the Trolls. King Skynd gave one to Queen Tita of the Elves. Then came fine toasts to all the Elf-women and all the Troll-women. Finally little Mab, the poet of the Elves, was called on. She gave a beautiful toast to all Fairyland.



“The poet of the Elves”

This ended the feast, for each little fairy had eaten so much he felt as if he should never be hungry again. So they all made their way to a large hall, where they played games and did tricks till they were all tired out. In most of these games and contests the Elves were the winners, but there

was one thing the Trolls could do that the Elves couldn't learn. It was done in this way:

Prince Skotte walked to the middle of the hall.

"We're going to play a new game," said he. "We'll call it, 'Catch me if you can.' King Olin may try it, or he may choose any one of his men in his stead. Or you may all try it if you wish. We'll not go out of this hall, and we'll give you as much time as you like."

The Elf-men winked at each other and laughed to think of an Elf not being able to catch a Troll.

"This will be easy," they said to each other. "We won all the other races. We're sure to win this one."

Now you must know that the Trolls have very wonderful power to change themselves into any form they choose. They do it so quickly that no one can see how it is done. Of course, the Elves didn't know this, or they wouldn't have been so sure of winning.

King Olin was chosen to take part in this game with Prince Skotte. The Elves all thought His Majesty ought to have the honor of winning since he was their king.

King Olin took his place in the center of the

hall, with Prince Skotte ten steps in the lead. The king looked at the hump on the Troll's back, and felt that the race was as good as won. Of course, the prince couldn't run! Who could with such a back as that?

King Skynd acted as starter. Taking off his cap, he said, "When I drop this cap, go."

Down went the cap and away went the prince with King Olin following very closely. Once around the hall they went. Then King Olin began to gain. Soon only a step lay between them. The Elves began to cheer. Then just as King Olin was about to take hold of the prince, there was no prince there!

King Olin stopped and looked about him. What could have happened? Was he dreaming? He didn't see the little gray mouse that scampered across the floor into a corner. Neither did the other Elves see it. They didn't know what to make of the prince's disappearance. Then all at once, there was Prince Skotte at the other end of the hall crying, "Catch me if you can!"

Away went King Olin like the wind. "He won't get away from me this time," he said.

But just when he thought he had the prince, this

cunning Troll was gone; and oh horrors! there stood a great hungry lion in his place! Poor King Olin gave one wild yell and turned a somersault backwards.

When he came up again the lion was gone, and there was Prince Skotte laughing and calling out, "Catch me if you can."

King Olin shot across the hall and made another grab for the prince. But again the prince vanished and King Olin saw a beautiful big cat go bounding across the hall.

"Catch him! Catch him!" shouted the Elves. "That's the prince. Why don't you catch him?"

They all saw now what the trick was.

"All of you may try it," said King Skynd.

Away went the two and twenty Elf-men, sure that one of them at least could outwit the Troll. Round and round the hall they chased the big cat. At last they got him into a corner; but before they could get him he had vanished.

The next instant they saw him in the opposite corner, crying, "Catch me if you can!"

Again the Elves gave chase and soon had him surrounded. They were sure they had him this time.



“Poor King Olin turned a somersault”

“He can’t get away now, no matter what he becomes!” they said.

They closed in on him and King Olin was just ready to grab him, when lo! there was a flutter of wings and a great white bird flew up and circled about the room.

Then how the Trolls did cheer! By and by the Elves joined in.

“We shall have to give it up,” said King Olin.
“We’re surely beaten this time.”

The Elves were very fond of winning, but when they saw they were beaten they said so quickly.

Prince Skotte now became a Troll again, and the Elves all shook hands with him and told him he was wonderful.

By this time, everyone was ready for a good rest. So after every little Elf and every little Troll had said goodnight to each other, they scampered away to their beds. And how they did sleep! The Elves were so tired and their beds were so soft that they slept very late the next morning. They didn't wake up till the hills had been let down, everything had been put to rights, and breakfast was ready.

When breakfast was over, King Skynd said, "Now if you are ready we will show you the rest of our home."

The Elves said they were ready for anything, so they all started out. What a merry party they were, and how the Elves enjoyed learning about the home life of these wonderful little long-nosed, humpbacked Trolls!

All the rooms our travelers visited were as rich and grand as the ones they had seen the night before. Like the Gnomes, the Trolls had a treasure room in which there were great chests filled with



"The Trolls had a treasure room"

gold and silver and a very great number of jewels.

“These were all buried or hidden treasures which we have discovered and dug up,” said King Skynd. “We bring them here and use them in helping the poor. We are always looking for people who need our help and we find a great many of them.”

“I think that is fine,” said King Olin. “I like that. We Elves should like to do something for the poor, too, but our help would be mostly work, as we have no gold and silver to give. We give good people happy thoughts by day and pleasant dreams by night.”

“It’s all the same,” said the Troll-king. “We are all doing what we can to make things better, and it comes to the same thing in the end. Indeed, kind words and kind deeds do more good than gold and silver.”

When they had seen all the hills, they returned to the one they had first seen the night before. The Trolls then showed their guests how they raised their hills at night.

“You see it gives us more air and more room,” said the king.

While they were still talking, a poor farmer drove by with a load of vegetables. King Skynd hurried

out and stopped him. The old man looked very much surprised and somewhat frightened.

“Turn your horse around and drive into this hill,” said the king. “I’ll buy your vegetables and give you a good price for them.”

At first the poor old man looked as if he’d rather drive any place else. But he was afraid not to do as the Troll-king told him, so he turned and drove into the hill where the Trolls kept their vegetables.

The wagon was soon unloaded. The king then beckoned to several of the Trolls, who scampered away as fast as their crooked backs would allow them. In a twinkling they were back carrying a big chest filled with shining gold pieces. This they lifted into the farmer’s wagon.

When the farmer saw how much gold was in the chest, he was so amazed he came near falling out of the wagon. He couldn’t believe the Trolls meant to give it to him for his load of vegetables. When the Trolls told him that was just what they wanted to do, he said it was a great deal more than the vegetables were worth.

“Why, all the vegetables I ever raised in my life would not bring half that much!” said he.

“They’re worth that to us,” said King Skynd,



"Came near falling out of the wagon"

"and it's worth that many times over to know a man as good and honest as we know you to be. So take it along, my friend, and welcome. All we ask of you is not to say anything about this to anyone, and to do all the good you can with the money. We feel sure you will do this, so we are not afraid to trust you."

The farmer was so overcome with gratitude to these kind little fairy men that he could hardly thank them for their kindness.

After he had driven away, the king said, "That's the best old man I ever saw. We have watched him a long time and we know all about him. He has spent all his life doing for others, and has hardly ever received even thanks for his trouble. That's the kind of people I like to help."

The Elves all agreed with him.

As it was almost noon some of the Trolls went to prepare the dinner, while the others, with King Skynd and Prince Skotte, entertained their guests.

When dinner was over, King Olin proposed that the Trolls come for a ride in the magic flying-machine. Of course the Trolls thought this would be great fun. They didn't know the first thing about a flying-machine, or they wouldn't have been so eager to go.

"We won't go very high or very far," said King Olin. "A flying-machine is something you have to get used to."

The Elves gave the Trolls the best places in the flying-machine. They then found seats for themselves wherever they could.

When all were ready, King Olin said, "Trip, you may take charge this time."

Now Trip was not expecting to be thus honored, and it made him so proud he hardly knew what he was about. His brain was in a whirl but he managed to say:

"Up, Thistledown, to the sky so blue,
And show our friends what you can do."

The flying-machine shot up like a skyrocket. Then it began to go round and round like a merry-go-round. When the Trolls could get their breath they howled with fear.

Both Elves and Trolls began to get dizzy.

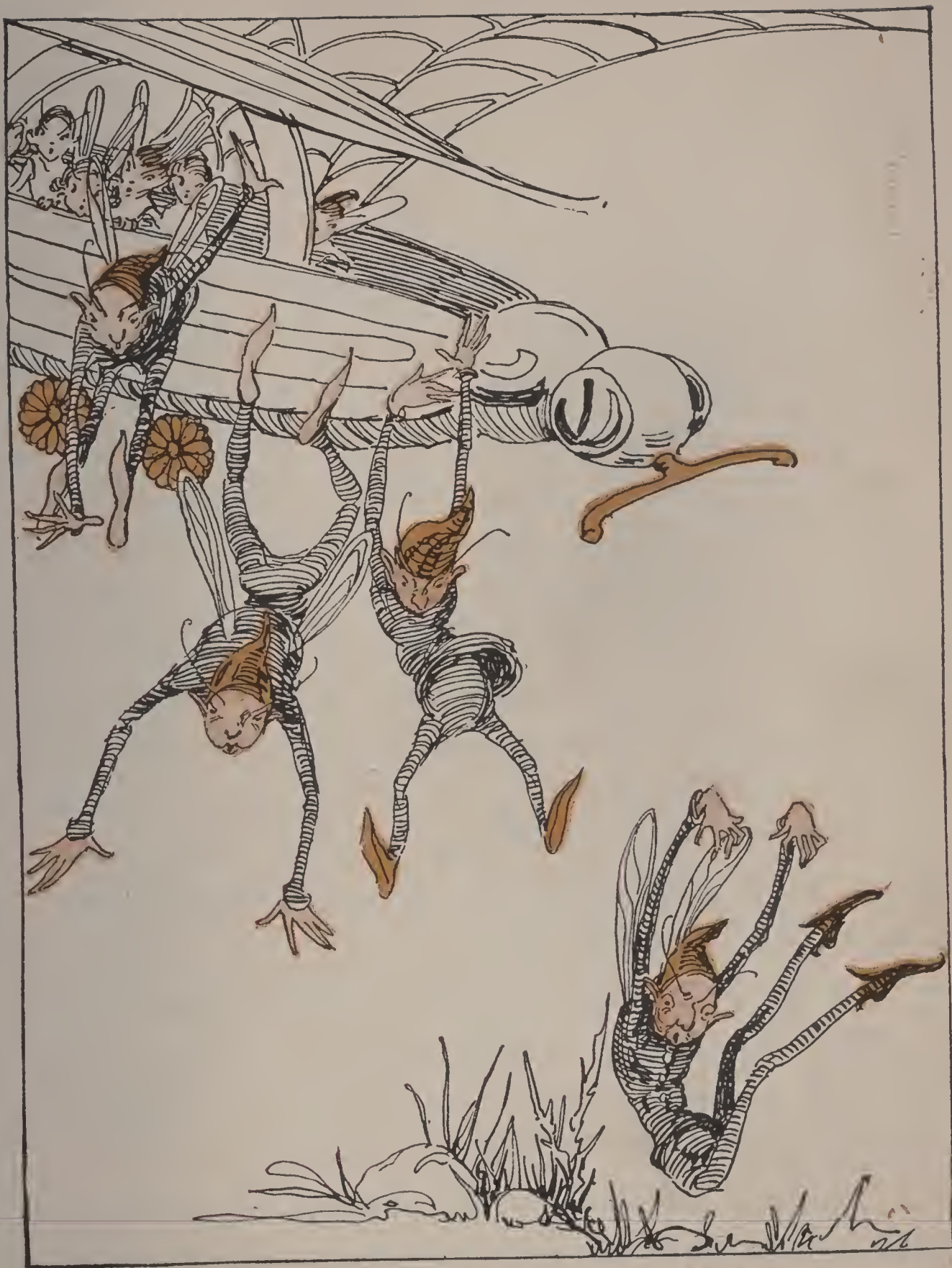
"Stop it! Stop it!" cried Queen Tita. "We're getting air-sick."

And all the Elf-women began screaming at the top of their voices.

"I can't stop it," shouted Trip.

"Yes, you can," said Ariel. "Just think straight. You're thinking in a circle. Your brain must be in a whirl."

"Maybe you're right," said Trip. "Which way do you want to go? Straight up or down?"



"Some left feet first, some headfirst"

“Down! Down!” screamed the Trolls loudly.

They had no sooner said it than down went the flying-machine like a flash. It struck the ground so hard that it bounced back like a rubber ball. By the time it came down again the Trolls were all out. They were not at all polite about it, either. Some left the machine feet first, some headfirst—any way to get out.

Then they stood off and looked at the queer machine. They would not go near it again. They did not know what it might do next.

“The machine is all right,” said King Olin. “It was Trip’s thinking that was wrong.”

“That may be true,” said King Skynd, “but I’d rather not try it again.”

While they stood talking about it there was a sharp flash of lightning. It was followed by a terrible crash of thunder.

Now there is nothing these little Trolls fear so much as thunder. If they happen to be out when a storm comes up they always run to their hills as fast as they can.

They had been so taken up with the flying-machine they had not seen the black clouds in the sky. So when it thundered it frightened them so

they could hardly get home fast enough. They even forgot to ask the Elves to go with them. But the Elves went anyway.

They knew the Trolls were very much frightened and they wished to help these little Dwarf-people if they could. The Elves were not at all afraid of storms. They loved to be out in a storm and watch the rain and the lightning.

They told the Trolls there was nothing to fear. They told what made the thunder and why it couldn't hurt any fairy. The Trolls were glad to hear this, but they didn't think they should ever like to be out in a storm.

When the storm was over, the Elves said they must be going. The Trolls begged them to stay longer.

But King Olin said, "We must not think of it, as we have a number of other places to visit before going home. We thank you so much for the good times you have given us!"

And they once more climbed into their machine.

The Trolls came out to see their friends off. But these little Dwarf-people did not again go very near the flying-machine. They were afraid it might suddenly go up and carry them with it.

CHAPTER IV

THE GUARDIANS OF THE RIVER

When each little Elf had found a good seat, King Olin said, "Hopo, you come next on the list."

At this, twenty little Elves, including Queen Tita, scrambled out of the flying-machine.

"Hold on there!" cried King Olin. "Where are you going?"

"We're going to walk," said Kappi.

"Nonsense! What's that for?"

"Well, you see, we'd rather stay out than be spilled out; and that's what will happen if Hopo does the thinking. He can't think right. His brain is topsy-turvy."

Of course these little Elves were only joking. They liked to tease Hopo. Now Hopo was a very good-natured little Elf, and he didn't mind their teasing a bit. But he thought it would be such fun to turn the joke on them.

So he said, "All right! You're welcome to walk."



"They waved their caps and handkerchiefs"

The next moment the flying-machine bounded into the air and was soon lost to view over the hilltops.

The little Elves looked at each other in amazement. They didn't know what to think or what to say. By and by Queen Tita found her voice.

"That's what we get for joking," she said. "Hopo thought we were in earnest and he's gone and left us. Now the question is, what are we to do? We can't walk, for we don't know where they're going. And we can't go home, for it's too far to walk. If they don't return we will climb up the sunbeams and slide down to our home."

"Let us stay here until they come back," said Mab. "They'll be sure to come. See if they don't! They'll be too lonesome to stay away very long."

So the little Elves sat down to wait. And sure enough, it wasn't long until they saw Thistledown sailing toward them like a beautiful white bird.

Oh, how glad those little Elves were to see their companions once more! They waved their caps and handkerchiefs and shouted like little wild people.

They were in their seats almost before the flying-machine had touched the ground. When all were ready, Hopo said, "Are you willing now for me to



“Climb up the sunbcairs and slide down”

do the thinking to guide us to more fairies?"

"Yes! Yes!" they all shouted.

"All right!

Sit tight!

And you shall see a pretty sight.

"Ready, now. Here goes.

"Sail, Thistledown, o'er mountain high,

On and on till by and by,

The place I'm thinking of is found;

Then drop us gently to the ground."

The flying-machine shot up so quickly it almost took away their breath. It kept going straight up until they were as high as the highest mountains. Then it suddenly turned a somersault.

The Elves were frightened almost to death. They thought the end had come. And no wonder! Think of falling five miles! But it was done so quickly, they didn't have time to fall out.

"There!" said Lob, when he could get his breath. "Didn't I tell you Hopo's brain was topsy-turvy? He's thinking upside down."

“Now don’t get scared!” said Hopo. “Thistle-down and I know what we’re about. We were just turning around, that’s all. You see we were headed the wrong way.”

The Elves couldn’t quite see how turning a somersault could be the same as turning around, but thought it best not to say anything.

From this time on, Thistledown behaved pretty well, which showed that Hopo could think all right when he wished to do so. When the Elves saw everything was going well, they grew quite cheerful. They told stories and sang songs.

In this way the time passed very quickly, and before they dreamed of being at their journey’s end, Hopo said, “Shut your eyes and don’t open them until I tell you to.”

At once three-and-forty pairs of Elfin eyes were shut very tight. The flying-machine soared up over a very high mountain. Then it came gently down to the ground.

“Ready! Look!” cried Hopo.

Three-and-forty pairs of eyes flew open; and what a beautiful sight they beheld! They had alighted upon the green, mossy banks of a beautiful river. Its crystal waters rippled over pearly peb-

bles and sands of gold. Its mossy banks were like green velvet. And what wonderful trees grew upon those banks! No such trees are ever seen outside of Fairyland. No, indeed!

While the Elves looked, ten beautiful fairy maidens came up out of the river. Their dresses were gray with golden girdles about their waists.

Each maiden carried a comb of gold with which to comb her long golden hair. They always combed their hair with golden combs.

These beautiful fairy maidens were called Nixes. They were the guardians of this fairy river. As the Elves sat watching the Nixes, up came ten handsome fairy youths with blue eyes and golden curls.

These youths were called Necks. They, too, were dressed in gray and wore red slippers and red caps.

Each Neck carried a golden harp. They all sat down on the water and began to play.

What wonderful music they made! When the fairy maidens heard it they at once began to dance on the top of the water.

The Elves, too, found that they were not able to keep their feet still. So they jumped out of their flying-machine and began to keep time to this



“They at once began to dance on the top of the waves”

strange music. As they danced it seemed to them that the river danced, too.

Thistledown bobbed merrily up and down, and the shells and pebbles and even the leaves on the trees seemed all to be keeping time to this magic music.

Faster and faster flew the fairy fingers over the golden strings. All at once the music stopped and as suddenly everyone and everything stopped dancing.

Just then the Necks and Nixes discovered the Elves. Oh, how excited they were! They all ran across to the other side of the river. They pointed toward the Elves and all began talking at once.

At last they motioned for the Elves to come across. Of course the Elves were glad to go. They at once climbed into their flying-machine.

Then Hopo said:

“Sail, Thistledown, o’er the river wide,
And land us safe on the other side.”

Almost as soon as the words were spoken the Elves were across the river. The Necks and Nixes crowded about them and gave them a hearty welcome. This made the Elves feel very happy. They

had never seen anything quite so pretty as those Nixes and Necks.

How different they were from the Gnomes and Trolls our travelers had just visited! To be sure, the Elves liked the Trolls and Gnomes very much. But these little Elf-men and Elf-women loved beautiful things. It did their eyes good to look at these Necks and Nixes.

Now the Nixes were ruled by a princess whose name was Dewdrop. She wore a crown of gold, set with diamonds which sparkled like drops of dew. The ruler of the Necks was a prince named Rain-drop. He wore a red cap. About this cap was a gold band set with stones that sparkled with every color of the rainbow. He also wore a red sash with gold-fringed ends.

After bidding the Elves welcome, Princess Dewdrop invited both Elves and Necks to her palace under the river.

“But how can we go there?” asked Queen Tita. “We can’t swim and dive nor can we stay under the water. We shall be drowned if we go.”

“But you can do as we do after you drink of the magic liquid I shall give you,” said the princess.

She then told one of her maidens to bring this

wonderful drink. The Nix went down into the river and soon returned with a crystal pitcher and tiny golden cup. Each little Elf-woman and each little Elf-man was given a cupful of the sparkling liquid.

Never had they tasted anything quite so delicious. No sooner had they drunk it than they could hardly wait until they got into the water. They had never even learned to swim. But now they felt as if they wanted to live in the water always.

They followed Princess Dewdrop down, down into the clear, cool water, far below the surface. At last they came to a beautiful palace, all of crystal and gold.



“They learned to mount and ride a fish”

The Elves had never seen anything so splendid. The Gnomes and Trolls had fine homes, but those homes were not so grand as this river palace. The Elves fairly feasted their sharp little eyes on the splendors of these vast palace halls.

In fact, it was all so beautiful and they gazed so much at these gorgeous colors that it made their eyes ache. They had to go up to the top of the water and look at the sun to give their eyes a rest.

They were never tired, however, of playing about in the water. Since drinking the magic liquid, each little Elf felt as much at home there as a fish. What fun it was to swim here and there, and now and then to take a ride on the back of a turtle or fish!

Now you must know that it isn't an easy thing to ride a fish. But the Elves liked to do things that were hard to do. So they soon learned to mount and ride a fish as easily as you would mount and ride your pony.

The Elves soon found that they could walk and even dance on top of the water just as the Nixes and Necks did. And they enjoyed it just as much, too.

CHAPTER V

A RIDE UNDER THE OCEAN

One night when the moon shone very bright they all made their way to the top of the water. They danced and played and even ran races on the surface of the river. All at once there was a stir in the water about them, and up came a number of beautiful black horses.

“The Kelpies! The Kelpies!” cried the Necks and Nixes. “Give us a ride, Kelpies. Give us a ride!”

Now Kelpies are water fairies that appear sometimes as old men, sometimes as pretty boys, but oftener in the form of beautiful black ponies. The Necks and Nixes liked best to see them come in this form, for then these pretty little fairies were always sure of a jolly ride.

“Give us a ride!” shouted the Necks and Nixes again, as they crowded about the Kelpies. The Kelpies arched their glossy necks and pranced gaily about.



“So each little fairy mounted on the back of a Kelpie”

All at once they stopped. Then what a scramble there was! Soon every little fairy was mounted on the back of a Kelpie.

“Take us to the ocean to visit the Mermaids and Sea-nymphs,” said Princess Dewdrop.

“Yes, yes! Let us go to the ocean,” cried the other fairies.

Away went the Kelpies like the wind. Sometimes they rode on top of the water, sometimes at the bottom of the river. Oh, what a ride that was! At last they came to the ocean. Down, down, down they went, thousands of feet below the surface.

Far above them they could hear the booming of the great ocean waves. After going down about five miles they reached the deepest place in the ocean. The Kelpies carried them first to the Mermaids’ palace. Like the Nixes’ palace it was of crystal and gold, but much larger and finer.

The Mermaids greeted their fairy cousins, the Necks and Nixes. They were then introduced to the little Elf-men and Elf-women, whom they welcomed warmly.

After a short stay in the Mermaids’ palace, all the river fairies and their guests went to visit the beautiful Sea-nymphs. They, too, were cousins of the Necks and Nixes.

These Sea-nymphs lived in a palace of coral and pearl. It was not so grand as the palace of the Mermaids, but the Elves liked it better. It was more restful.

The Mermaids were dressed in white, with girdles of gold about their waists. They had wonderful blue eyes and long golden hair. The Sea-nymphs had beautiful black hair and eyes, and wore dresses of pearl-gray with pink girdles.

The Necks, Nixes, and Elves stayed two whole days and nights with the Sea-nymphs and the Mermaids, and they all enjoyed every minute of the time. The last night of their stay, there was a terrible storm at sea.

Of course, none of these fairies thought of being afraid in a storm. They really enjoyed being out at such times. The harder it stormed the better they liked it. When they heard the roaring of the wind and the thundering of the waves, they all hurried up to the surface as soon as possible.

And what a time they had playing about in the water! The wind and waves tossed them about like a lot of corks. Sometimes a great wave would come and carry them thirty-five or forty feet into the air. Then down they would plunge, only to be carried up again on the next wave.

It was like riding on a giant seesaw. Up and down, up and down they rode, laughing and shouting with glee. All at once they heard human voices.

They stopped laughing and listened. The voices came again, louder than before. It sounded like men shouting for help. Then they heard the screams of women and children.

“A shipwreck! A shipwreck!” cried the Sea-nymphs. “Let’s go and help them.”

Now the Elves did not know just what should be done. They had never seen a shipwreck before; but when help of any kind was needed, the Elves were always on hand.

The Sea-nymphs were very kind fairies, too. They had saved many a poor sailor from drowning by guiding his ship safely to land. So they called on all the fairies to help save the people.

The Sea-nymphs hurried away as fast as they could. All the other fairies followed. An old Sea-nymph took command of the life-saving party. When the fairies reached the ship it was just going down. The men were all in the water.

The women and children had been put into life-boats. The old Sea-nymph told the other fairies to tow all these boats to shore as quickly as they could. She then called to the Kelpies to help with the men who were in the water.

The Kelpies came and the Elves placed the



“Soon every man, woman and child was saved”

drowning men on their backs. Soon every man, woman, and child was saved. Of course, they didn't know the fairies had saved them. They thought the waves had carried them ashore. And oh, how thankful they were!

By this time every little fairy was tired enough to want a rest. So back to the Mermaids' palace they went as fast as the Kelpies could carry them.

The next day the Elves, Necks, and Nixes returned to the river palace; and that night the Elves bade good-bye to the river fairies and once more started on their travels.

CHAPTER VI

SIX LITTLE FAIRY COUSINS

When each of the four-and-forty fairies had found a seat in the flying-machine, King Olin said, "Pip, you may try your luck this time."

Now Pip was a very queer little Elf. He was very anxious to do just the right thing but, as Queen Tita said, he always seemed to get everything wrong-end-to. So when King Olin gave him command of the flying-machine, each little Elf began to wonder what would happen.

Pip looked very much flustered at first. However, he resolved to show his fairy companions that for once he could do as the other fairies did. So he said:

"Go, Thistledown, go
Not too fast nor too slow,
To a place far away,
Reaching there at break of day."

Obediently Thistledown rose in the air and sailed swiftly away. The Elves looked at each other in amazement. What was going to happen? Would Pip really break the record by once doing something in the right way? They could hardly believe their senses.

Pip saw their surprise and it made him so proud that he forgot to think right. In a twinkling the flying-machine stopped. For a moment it hung poised in mid-air. Then it began swaying dizzily from side to side. Suddenly it shot backwards so quickly that the Elves very nearly lost their balance.

“He’s thinking backwards,” shouted Ariel.

Straight back over the way they had come went the flying-machine so fast that before Pip had time to get his thoughts turned round, they were once more on the fairy river. How the Elves did laugh! Pip joined in, for he was used to being laughed at.

When they had all quieted down, King Olin told Pip he might try it again. So Pip said his rhyme once more, resolved not to think of anything but Thistledown and the place he wished to reach.

Again Thistledown rose in the air and sailed away, as well-behaved as anyone could wish. For

a time the Elves looked for something to go wrong, but when nothing did they settled down to enjoy the ride.

When Pip saw that they had begun to trust him his confidence in himself grew greater than ever. Just think! He, Pip, was able at last to give his fairy companions a little pleasure.

Then came the thought, "Why not increase their pleasure by giving them some music?"

Now Pip's plan might have worked all right if he hadn't had his mind so full of himself. As it was, he was so puffed up over his success that he opened the wrong end of the magic pipes and of course the music was played backwards.

At first the Elves could not understand what was wrong. But when at last it became clear to them they laughed so hard that they almost fell out of the machine. As for Pip, he was so flustered he couldn't think of anything for a little while. At last Thistledown stopped altogether.

Then someone managed to say, "Open the other end of the pipes, and then say your rhyme again."

Pip did as he was told. Thistledown sailed away, the fairy pipes played their sweetest and merriest, and Pip began to feel happy again. The rest of the



"An interesting sight met their eyes"

journey he thought of the other fairies instead of himself, and everything went well.

Just before the sun arose they came to a grand old forest. Here Thistledown paused a moment and then sank slowly to the ground. Immediately the little Elves sprang out and looked about them.

At first they could see nothing but trees. Finally, however, they noticed what seemed to be a great room or hall. This hall appeared to be formed merely of great trees growing very close together with their thick branches meeting overhead to form a roof. Within this hall they could hear shouts of laughter and merrymaking.

At a sign from King Olin, Pip led the way to an opening between the trees which served for a doorway. Here an interesting sight met their eyes. Within this beautiful woodland hall, a number of fairies were feasting and making merry.

At the first glance these fairies appeared to belong to one family. But the Elves soon saw that although they resembled one another in some ways, they were quite different in other respects. The Elves finally discovered that there were six distinct families of fairies present.

They afterwards learned that these families were

Brownies, Goblins, Kobolds, Tomtes, Nisses, and Lutins. Now these fairies were indeed very much alike, not only in appearance but in their habits as well. In fact, they were cousins, which, of course, accounted for their resemblance.

Everglad was the leader of the Brownies. He felt very proud of being the head of the Brownie band. The Brownies all liked to please him, so they called him Captain Everglad.

The Goblins had a king instead of a captain. This king's name was Bogle. The Kobolds also had a king whose name was Goldemar. The leader of the Tomtes was called Captain Claas. The name of the Nis king was Orm, and Captain Drac was the leader of this band of Lutins.

There were ten Brownies, ten Goblins, six Kobolds, six Tomtes, six Lutins, and six Nisses, making just four-and-forty in all. And what a merry crowd they were!

They were having such a happy time, singing, dancing, and playing games that it was several minutes before they discovered the Elves. And then how excited they were!

King Bogle was the first to greet these fairy visitors. He knew at once who the Elves were.

“Welcome, Elfin friends, thrice welcome to the home of the Gray Goblins,” said he. “These are our cousins, the Brownies, Kobolds, Tomtes, Nisses, and Lutins. I think you must have heard of them. They have come at our invitation to spend a few days with us and, as you see, we have been making merry in their honor. Right glad will we be to have you join us and share in our good times.”

He then introduced King Goldemar, King Orm, and Captains Everglad, Claas, and Drac.

When King Bogle had finished speaking, King Olin led Queen Tita forward and answered him as follows:

“We thank you, King Bogle, for your kind invitation, which we gladly accept. We greet you and all the Gray Goblins, also King Goldemar, King Orm, Captain Claas, Captain Drac, and Captain Everglad, together with all the Kobolds, Tomtes, Lutins, Nisses, and Brownies. Glad, indeed, are we to make your acquaintance. Four-and-forty fairies are we from Elfland. We are journeying through Fairyland in our magic flying-machine, visiting all our fairy friends, as we wish to become better acquainted with them. This is Queen Tita; and these are the Elf-men and Elf-women of our court.”



“Bowed low before the King and Queen of the Elves”

The Goblins, Brownies, Kobolds, Tomtes, Lutins, and Nisses bowed low before the King and Queen of the Elves. They then warmly welcomed the Elf-men and Elf-women and bade them all be seated, after which they went on with their games and contests.

The Elves were highly entertained by all they saw. When the Goblins and their cousins had

finished their part of the program, they asked the Elves to sing and dance for them. This the Elves readily consented to do.

Now the Goblins, Kobolds, Brownies, Tomtes, Lutins, and Nisses had never seen the Elves dance, and they were much delighted with their visitors' grace and beauty. The Goblins and their cousins were also greatly pleased with the Elves' singing, which was much sweeter than their own, though not so cheerful.

When the Elves were tired of singing and dancing, King Olin talked to the Brownies and Goblins and their cousins.

Said he:

“Our home is in a large Linden Tree, which stands near a beautiful river. In the daytime we play and sing, and dance among the leaves of the trees. We climb up and slide down the sunbeams.

“We send pleasant thoughts sliding down the sunbeams to all good and happy people.

“At night we climb down from the Linden Tree and sing and dance and play under the trees. We like to dance in a circle upon the toadstools. When it is dark, we dance and play out in the open meadows.

“When the moon shines bright, we take our fairy boats and row up and down the beautiful river. Then we climb up and slide down the moonbeams.

“We send sweet and rosy dreams sliding down the moonbeams to all good and pleasant people.”

When the Elf-king had finished, King Bogle said, “We thank you for telling us these things. We are very glad to learn more of our Elf friends. I will now ask Captain Everglad Brownie to tell you of our homes and how we work and play.”

Everglad came running forward and, bowing to the Elf-king and Elf-queen, spoke as follows:

“As you have already been told, the Goblins, Kobolds, Lutins, Tomtes, Nisses, and Brownies are cousins. We are often called house fairies, because we live most of the time in houses and barns. We have other homes, it is true. This hollow tree, as you see, is the home of the Goblins. The Kobolds and Lutins live in mountain caverns. The Tomtes and Nisses live on a farm, while we Brownies make our home in a hillside cave.

“Most of our time is spent, however, in the homes of people who need us. Wherever the sick or needy are, there you will find Goblins, Kobolds,



“Helping some-
one”

Tomtes, Lutins, Nisses, or Brownies. We have our times of feasting and merrymaking; but we have learned that we are much happier when we spend part of our time helping someone who is sick or poor.”

The Elves were very much interested in what Everglad told them. They had heard the Trolls tell of helping the poor, and now here were these other fairies telling of how they spent most of their time helping the sick and needy. It made them want to return home and work harder at sending out good thoughts and good dreams.

When Everglad had finished speaking, the Goblins, who had prepared a feast for the guests, invited them to partake of it, and how every little fairy did enjoy each dainty dish!

The Elves spent several days with these queer little fairy men, enjoying their good times. At last, however, our travelers felt they could not stay longer. So after inviting the new fairy friends to visit them, and promising to return some time, they bade all the little fairy men a merry good-bye.

CHAPTER VII
THE GUARDIANS OF THE FOREST



“Can you think straight?”

When everything was ready, Queen Tita asked to be allowed to take charge of the flying-machine.

“I know some fairy friends I wish very much to see and I am afraid they will be forgotten.”

“Can you think straight?” asked King Olin with a twinkle in his eye.

“Just try me and see,” retorted Queen Tita with a toss of her dainty head.

“Very well,” replied King Olin.

So when all were ready, Queen Tita closed her eyes and said:

“Away, Thistledown, away, away,
Travel, if need be, night and day;
Down to earth you must not sink,
Till we reach the place of which I think.”

Now Queen Tita thought she knew exactly where she wished to go; but there were really two fairy homes she wished to visit, and she could not quite make up her mind which to choose. So when the flying-machine left the ground it went zigzagging through the air exactly as if it were following a worm rail fence. The Elves became so dizzy they could scarcely keep their seats. Queen Tita began to feel very much frightened. She could not imagine what was wrong.

“Your brain must be full of angles,” laughed King Olin. “Where do you want to go?”

“Why—why—I haven’t quite made up my mind,” stammered the Queen. “There are two

places I wish very much to see, and I can't decide between them."

"Well, no wonder we're zigzagging," remarked the king with a hearty laugh. "Just stop the machine till you have decided; then say your rhyme again and you'll be all right."

"I'll say a new rhyme," said Queen Tita. So she stopped the flying-machine, thought for a moment or two, and then said:

"Sail, Thistledown, on the evening breeze,
To a forest dim, where 'neath the trees,
A band of fairy maidens dwell,
Whose names I know but must not tell."

Thistledown immediately flew swiftly away, and soon the woodland home of the Gray Goblins was left far behind. On went our travelers over mountains and valleys, over lakes and rivers, till they reached another forest, not so large, but far more beautiful than the one in which the Goblins lived.

The Elves had never imagined a place so wonderful. Surely there were never in all the world such trees as these. Even those which grew on the banks of the fairy river where the Necks and Nixes lived were not so grand.

Then, too, there was something about this wonderful forest that made these little fairy folk feel rested at once, though they had traveled a very long way. Indeed, they felt as if they had never been tired and they wished they might stay here always. Then they remembered that this must be the home of some fairy friends, else Thistledown would not have stopped.

But where were the fairies? They looked at Queen Tita for an answer, but she seemed as puzzled as the rest of them. They waited patiently; still no fairies came. Then just as the sun went down, there was a faint rustling sound all over the forest. It was as if a soft breeze was gently stirring the leaves; but not a leaf seemed to be moving.

Suddenly from each tree came a beautiful fairy maiden, or Nymph. The maidens were dressed in brown and wore garlands of flowers in their long, dark hair. Joining hands they danced in and out among the trees.

What a beautiful sight it was! The Elves waited quietly for the dancers to discover them. At last the dance brought the Nymphs quite near the flying-machine and they saw the Elves.

At first the dancers were very much frightened and lost no time in getting as far away as possible. Before long, however, they returned and finding that the Elves meant them no harm, they bade their visitors welcome.

They also invited the Elves to join in their dance. This our travelers were glad to do, and a merry time followed. When the dance was ended, the Nymph-queen, whose name was Calypso, led the way to a forest bower where they held their councils. Here Calypso sat upon a mossy throne, decorated with garlands of flowers.

The queen bade the fairies be seated and when they had done so, she said:

“Elf-friends, again we welcome you to the home of the Forest-nymphs. Let us make the most of our time together, for soon we Nymphs must return, each to her own tree. You must know that we are the guardians of the forest. During the day each Nymph must stay in the tree she is guarding. While she is there, she is as much a part of the tree as the bark, sap, leaves, or branches.

“If the tree is injured the Nymph dies. Now there is nothing that can harm a tree guarded by a Nymph, if the Nymph is careful. But she must be

always on the watch. If she forgets or is careless in any way, she loses her power. Then the tree as well as herself is in danger. At sunset we Nymphs may come out, but only for a short time, as we cannot live long in the open air."

The Elves noticed that Queen Calypso's voice had been growing more and more faint. They knew that this meant the Nymphs could not stay with them much longer. They were sorry about this; but what was to be done?

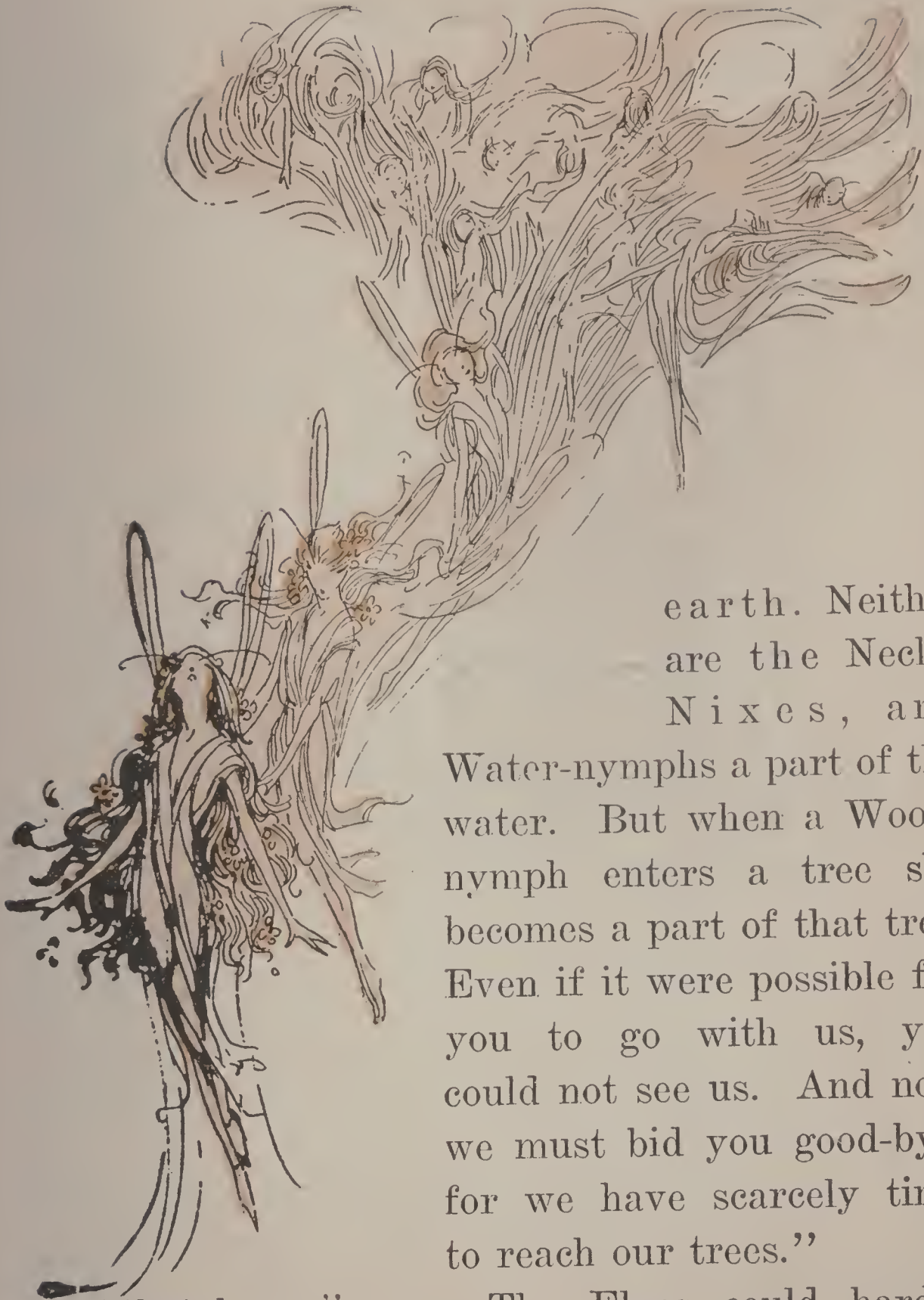
At last Queen Tita said, "When you and your Nymphs return to your trees, may we not go with you?"

"I fear not," answered Calypso. "To do that, you would have to become a part of the tree, and I know of no way it can be done."

"Can you not give us something that will make us the same as you are?" asked Queen Tita. "The Gnomes gave us brown berries to eat, so that we might be able to stay in the earth as they did. When we visited the Necks and Nixes, we drank a crystal liquid and we could live in the water as well as they."

"But we are quite different from the Gnomes, Necks, and Nixes. The Gnomes are not part of the

•



"Floated away"

earth. Neither are the Necks, Nixes, and Water-nymphs a part of the water. But when a Wood-nymph enters a tree she becomes a part of that tree. Even if it were possible for you to go with us, you could not see us. And now we must bid you good-bye, for we have scarcely time to reach our trees."

The Elves could hardly

hear the last words of the Nymph-queen, nor could they see the Nymphs very distinctly. They rose and floated away into the forest like a mist. Again came the faint rustling sound the Elves had heard when the Nymphs had first appeared; then all was perfectly still.

“How beautiful they are!” said Queen Tita. “And yet I am disappointed.”

“And why?” asked King Olin.

“Because I wished to see more of them. Can we not stay until they appear again?”

“I do not think it would be best. You must remember that they cannot come out again until tomorrow at sunset. That would be a long time to wait, as it is not yet midnight.”

“Then let us go quickly,” said Queen Tita, “for it is so lonely here. I do not think I care to stay anyway.”

King Olin accordingly led the way to the flying-machine.

“All aboard!” he cried. “And I’ll take you to the best place of all.”

“It couldn’t be more beautiful than this,” said Queen Tita, “though I do hope it will be a little more cheerful.”

CHAPTER VIII

WONDERFUL LITTLE WORKMEN

In a twinkling all the little Elf-men and Elf-women were in their places. Already they were beginning to feel more cheerful. When all were ready, King Olin said in his kingliest tones:

“Go, Thistledown, go,
Not too high nor too low,
Till you reach a spot
Where the sun shines not.”

At this command of the Elf-king, Thistledown sailed swiftly away and soon the home of the Nymphs was left far behind. On and on they sailed without a single blunder, showing that King Olin was used to thinking for others.

“Better catch your three-and-forty winks now,” he commanded, “for we have a long way to go, and when we reach the end of our journey there will be so much to see you will have no time for sleep.”

Obediently the little Elf-men and Elf-women closed their eyes and were soon in the land of fairy dreams. On and on flew Thistledown straight as an arrow toward the spot King Olin had in his mind. Through the rest of the night and all through the next day they traveled without a single stop. The sun went down, the stars came out, and at last the moon rose, flooding the earth with light.

“I think we are almost there,” said King Olin, “for we are flying nearer the earth.”

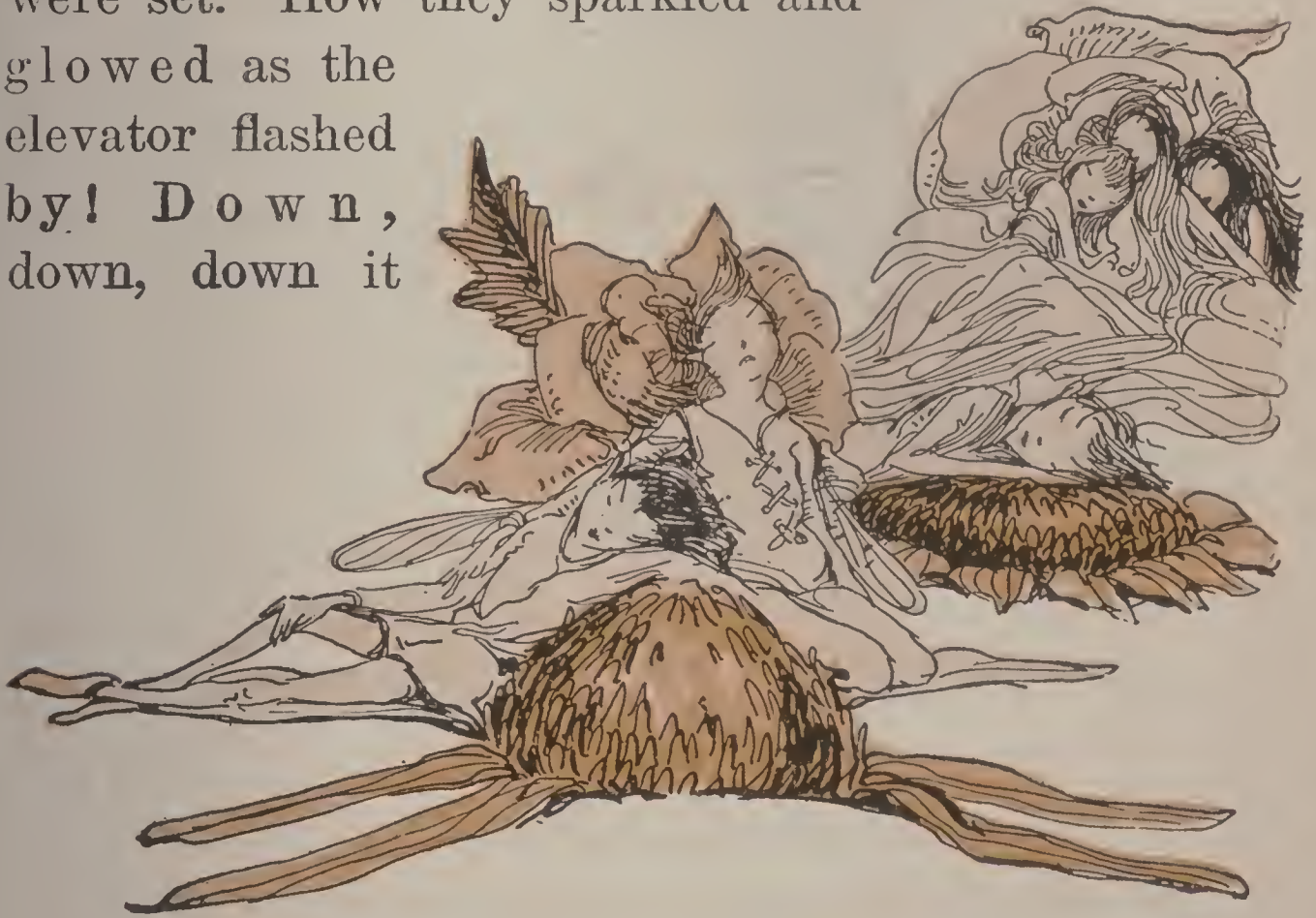
Sure enough, a mile or so farther on, Thistledown alighted on the summit of a high hill. The Elves sprang out, glad to be on solid ground once more. The hill upon which they found themselves was covered with soft, velvety grass, dotted everywhere with flowers of every hue. The sweet odor of these flowers filled the air.

King Olin looked about on all sides, then walked a few steps to a spot which appeared to be the exact center of the hill. Beckoning to the Elves, he pointed to the ground at his feet. There, glittering in the moonlight, was a bright glass point.

“When I step on this, be ready to follow me at once,” he said.

No sooner had he placed his foot upon the point than the top of the hill opened and he found himself in a silver elevator, hung by long silver chains. Queen Tita and the other Elves followed as quickly as possible and the hill closed over them. Immediately the elevator began to descend.

Upon entering the elevator, the Elves had been surprised to find it as light as day. They now saw that this light was caused by the precious stones with which the walls of the elevator shaft were set. How they sparkled and glowed as the elevator flashed by! **D o w n ,**
down, down it



“In the land of fairy dreams”

went. It seemed to the Elves that they must be going to the center of the earth.

By and by the elevator stopped. The door slid back and the Elves filed out. They found them-



“A silver elevator”

selves in a large marble hall whose ceiling and walls were set with all sorts of precious stones. In the center of the ceiling glowed a diamond as large as a bushel basket, which gave light to the whole hall. In the distance they heard the tinkling of the most beautiful music.

As they listened, the door at the farther end of the hall swung back and a throng of fairy men and women came dancing toward them. These strange fairies were dressed all in spotless white and upon their feet were tiny crystal slippers. Every Elf almost held his breath as he looked. What a beautiful picture the strange fairies made! On they came till they reached the spot where the Elves

stood. Then one who appeared to be king of the band stepped forward and said, "Welcome to the land of the White Dwarfs. I am King Olaf and these are the men and women of my court. You are just in time for our feasting and dancing."

The Elves were led through long passages into wide halls similar to the one they had entered first. All these halls and passages were set with the brightest and clearest of precious stones. These stones were put there to furnish light, for you must know that these little underground people have no sun, moon, and stars to give them light, nor do they use lamps or candles.

On and on the fairy troop went, out of one hall into another until the Elves began to wonder if they should ever stop.

At last King Olaf paused and waved his wand. Immediately the hall in which they found themselves opened out very large.

The king waved his wand once more and a great canopy set with diamonds and other precious stones was drawn over the hall. At the same moment a great throng of fairy men and maidens came dancing in through several open doors. These fairies were all dressed in white like the others, with

crystal slippers on their feet. The men wore pointed caps with little silver bells that made music as they danced. The maidens wore bands of silver network in their hair and silver girdles about their waists.

The Elves looked on, wondering where the feast was. Just then King Olaf waved his wand once more, and several tables covered with the finest linen and the most beautiful gold and silver dishes came right up through the floor.

Another wave of the wand, and the dishes were filled with all sorts of delicious things to eat. In the same way, chairs came and placed themselves around the tables. After the Elves had all been seated at the king's table the other fairies took their places.

A merry time followed; for these little underground people are full of life and fun and cannot long remain quiet. No sooner had the feast begun than strains of the sweetest music reached the ears of the Elves. It seemed to come from somewhere above their heads.

Looking up, they discovered a number of beautiful birds flying about and singing most sweetly. Now these were only artificial birds, which these



“Welcome to the land of the White Dwarfs”

little Dwarf-men had made in such a wonderful way that they could fly about and sing like real birds.

The feast lasted about two hours as we count time. The king then raised his wand, and tables and chairs vanished like a bubble that has burst, leaving the fairies all standing on their feet. This seemed so funny to the little Elf-men and Elf-maidens that they all burst out laughing. Soon the White Dwarfs joined in and immediately all felt better acquainted.

Just then the birds began singing merrily, and all the fairies began dancing. Round and round they went, the bells in the caps of the Dwarf-men tinkling merrily and the tapping of their tiny slippers sounding an accompaniment to the songs of the birds.

When the music and dancing were over, the Elves were shown to their sleeping rooms. And what wonderful rooms they were! The walls were covered with precious stones, while in the ceiling of each was a diamond as large as your head.

At first the little Elves could not close their eyes, everything was so rich and grand. But by and by they became a little more used to it and, because they were so tired, they dropped asleep.



“Round and round they went”

When they awoke they found that the busy Dwarfs were already up and had breakfast ready for them. And what a breakfast it was! There was everything for which a fairy could possibly wish.

When they had finished eating, King Olaf asked the Elves if they would care to see the Dwarfs at work.

“You see we don’t spend all our time at play,” he said.

Of course the Elves said they should be delighted to visit the workshops, as they wished to learn all they could. King Olaf then led the way to a hall much larger than any they had yet seen. Here, too, the ceiling and walls were set with precious stones, which made the hall so light that it was no trouble for the little workmen to see.

In the hall the Elves saw the finest gold, silver, and precious stones they had ever seen. On every side were dozens of little Dwarfs busily engaged in making all sorts of beautiful things from these precious stones and metals. And so delicate was the work that you could not have seen it without your fairy spectacles.

When the Elves had looked as much as they wished, King Olaf led them through a long hall into another beautiful room where a great number of Dwarf children were reading, writing, and studying. The teacher was a very wise-looking old Dwarf with a long snowy beard.

“This is our school,” said King Olaf. “We are very proud of it.”

“And well you may be,” replied the Elf-king. “It is the finest we have seen and we have visited many fairies.”



"This is our school."

They stayed in the Dwarf school some time listening to the recitations and looking at the wonderful books. The king then led them through a number of other rooms and halls until at last, to their surprise, they found themselves outdoors, although they were still underground.

This was very wonderful to the Elves, for they had believed that the rooms and halls they had seen were all there was of this underground home. Instead, they found themselves looking out over

fields and meadows dotted with hills, lakes, and islands, and ornamented with the most wonderful trees and flowers. Beautiful walks led in all directions, and when they went from one new place to another they walked through queer narrow lanes which looked as if they had been cut out of crystal rock.

The flowers were all so fragrant and the birds sang so sweetly that the Elves thought they should like to stay always in this strange place. They could not understand how this could all be so bright and beautiful and still be underground. But they soon saw that instead of the sky overhead, there was a wonderful roof set with large carbuncles and diamonds, which gave all the light that was needed.

The Dwarf-king led them up and down the beautiful walks and through the crystal lanes, and though they must have walked miles they did not feel at all tired. At last they came to a lake much larger than any they had yet seen.

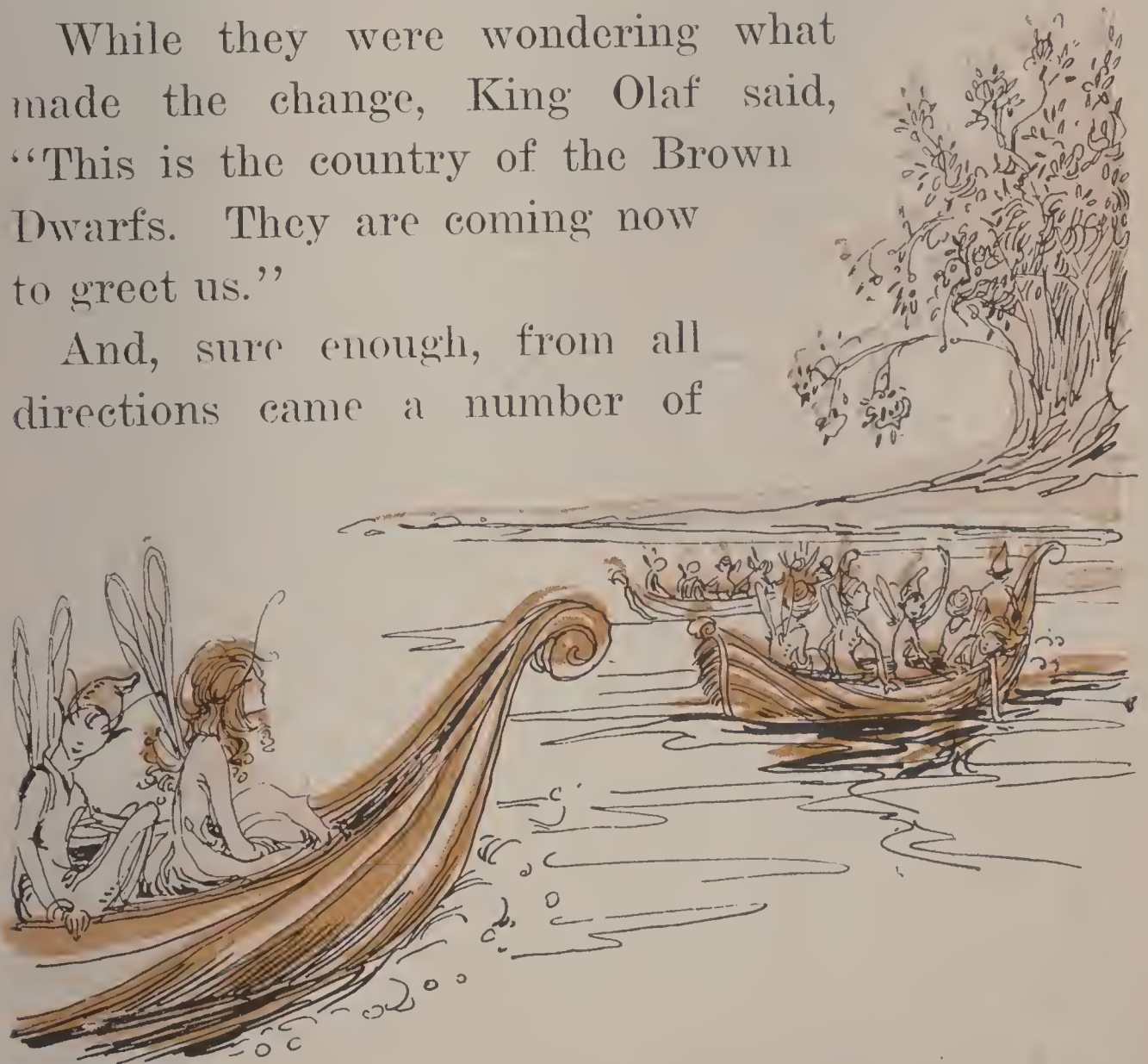
They went down to the water's edge and the king waved his wand. Immediately a number of beautiful little canoes came gliding like swans across the water. The Elves and Dwarfs got into them and the canoes went of themselves across to the

other side of the lake, and stopped at the shore.

No sooner had the Elves landed than they noticed that this new place was quite different from the one they had just left. Here the grass and trees were not so green, the flowers were neither so fragrant nor so beautiful, and the birds sang very little. Yet it was a very pleasant place.

While they were wondering what made the change, King Olaf said, "This is the country of the Brown Dwarfs. They are coming now to greet us."

And, sure enough, from all directions came a number of



"The canoes went by themselves"

little men dressed in brown, with silver bells on their funny little brown caps. They wore black shoes with red laces. They were not so handsome as the White Dwarfs, but their merry little faces were very pleasant to see.

The Brown Dwarfs gave their visitors a hearty welcome and took them at once to their home. This home was very much like that of the White Dwarfs, though it was neither so large nor so grand.

The little Brown Dwarfs lived much more simply than the White Dwarfs, and, like their white cousins, worked in gold and silver, although the things they made were neither so fine nor so beautiful. The Brown Dwarfs were, however, such gay and charming little people, and made their visitors so welcome, that the Elves wished they might stay longer.

But King Olaf said, "If you wish to visit the Black Dwarfs, you must be on your way. This is their holiday time, and they will be more likely to make you welcome now than if you wait until they are busy. They are never very friendly, but much less so when at work. If they have ever done any work for you, they will make you more welcome than they would otherwise do."



“They bade good-bye to the Brown Dwarfs”

“Then we are all right,” said the Elf-king. “They made our flying-machine and it just couldn’t be beaten. We shall be very glad indeed to make the acquaintance of these wonderful workmen.”

So they bade good-bye to the Brown Dwarfs and followed King Olaf out into a pleasant garden and on through fields and meadows similar to those in the country of the White Dwarfs. On and on they went till at last the green grass and the beautiful trees and flowers were left behind.

They knew at once that they must be in the

land of the Black Dwarfs. Not a green thing was to be seen anywhere. Everything was bleak and barren, and instead of grass and flowers there were only rocks and cinders. The air was chilly, and a smoky haze had replaced the beautiful soft light which had made the other places so pleasant.

You may be sure the Elves did not like the change. They began to wish they had not come. But it was then too late to go back, as the Black Dwarfs had seen them and were coming to meet them.

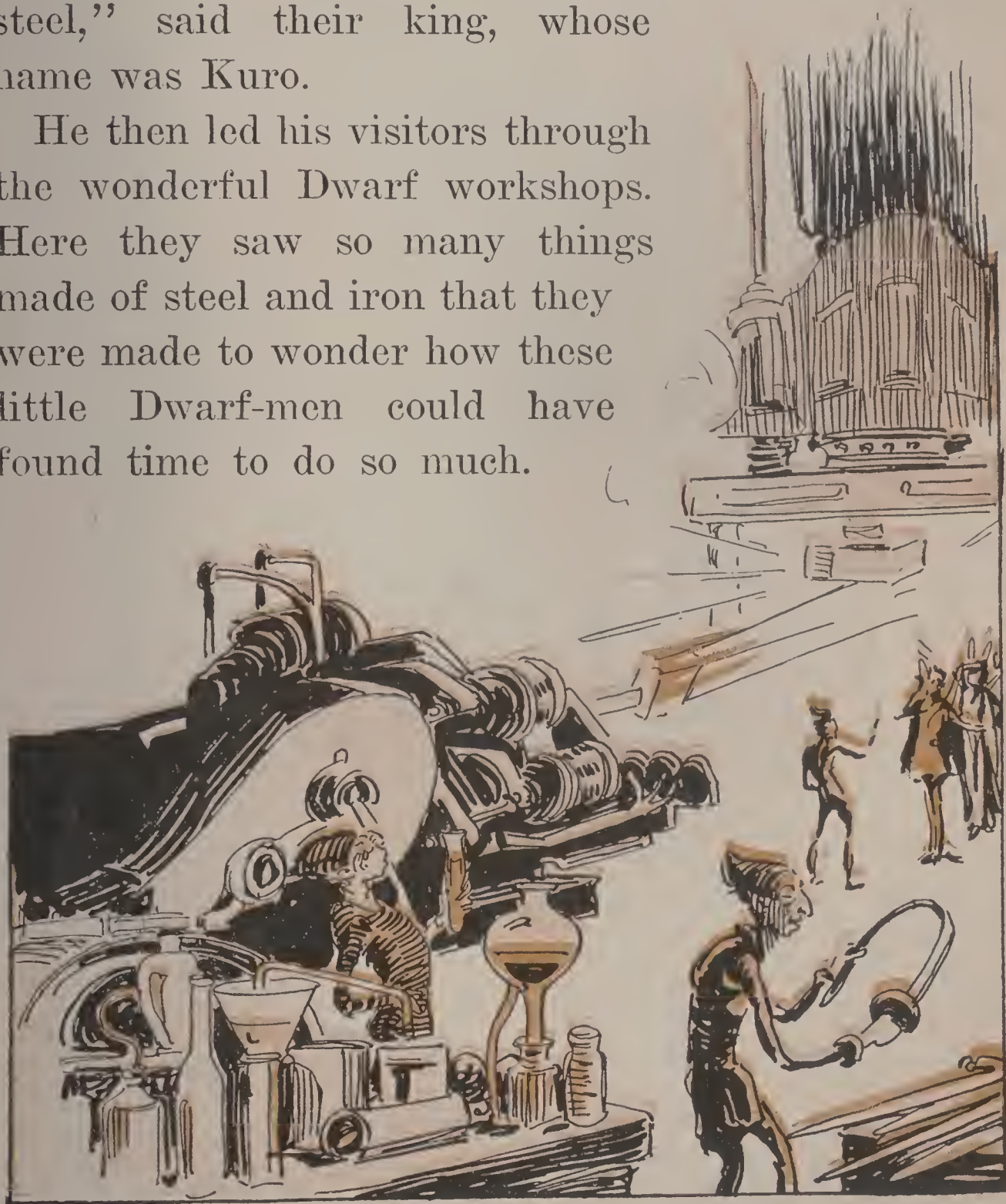
As you may already have guessed, these Black Dwarfs, like the others, were named from the clothes they wore. They were dressed in black trousers and jackets, and on their heads were queer little black, hood-shaped caps. Their shoes, too, were black, tied with red laces like those worn by the Brown Dwarfs. Now these Black Dwarfs were not at all handsome. On the contrary, they were very ugly, with red, weeping eyes like those of blacksmiths and colliers.

Upon first seeing these ugly little creatures, the Elves wished more than ever that they had not come. But the Black Dwarfs greeted them pleasantly enough and seemed very eager to show them

the wonderful things the Dwarf-men had made.

“We do not work with anything but iron and steel,” said their king, whose name was Kuro.

He then led his visitors through the wonderful Dwarf workshops. Here they saw so many things made of steel and iron that they were made to wonder how these little Dwarf-men could have found time to do so much.



“The wonderful workshops”

The visitors were even shown the very spot where their wonderful Thistledown was made; and somehow after that they felt better acquainted with the Black Dwarfs.

The Elves did not stay long, however, as the smoke and cinders did not agree with them. They had to cough and sneeze most of the time and their eyes soon became as red as the Black Dwarfs' eyes. They were really glad, therefore, when the time came for them to bid the Black Dwarfs good-bye. You may be sure the Elves lost no time in making their way out of this region of smoke and cinders into the pleasant country of the Brown Dwarfs, and thence to King Olaf's beautiful domain.

The White Dwarfs came dancing out to meet our travelers, and the merry tinkle of the Dwarfmen's silver bells and the tapping of their crystal slippers were like music in the ears of the Elves. And what a happy time they all had that night in feasting, dancing, singing, and playing games!

The next morning the Elves bade good-bye to the White Dwarfs, and the silver elevator carried them once more to the outside world. And how glad they were to be in the warm sunshine and open air again!



"Home, home! No more to roam!"

Without more ado they took their places in the flying-machine and almost immediately they all began to sing:

“Home, home!
No more to roam!”

Thistledown rose and sailed swiftly away. And just as the sun was going down that evening, the Elves found themselves once more in their beloved glen.

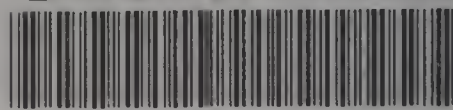
“Oh, how nice it is to be at home again and how beautiful it is here!” sighed Queen Tita, sinking down on her favorite couch of moss at the foot of Linden Tree, their home. “Yet I am glad we went, for we have learned a great deal.”

“Yes, indeed,” replied King Olin, “and I think we should begin at once to work harder than ever to help those who are unhappy. We must keep the sunbeams filled with good thoughts every day, and the moonbeams filled with sweet and rosy dreams every night.”





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