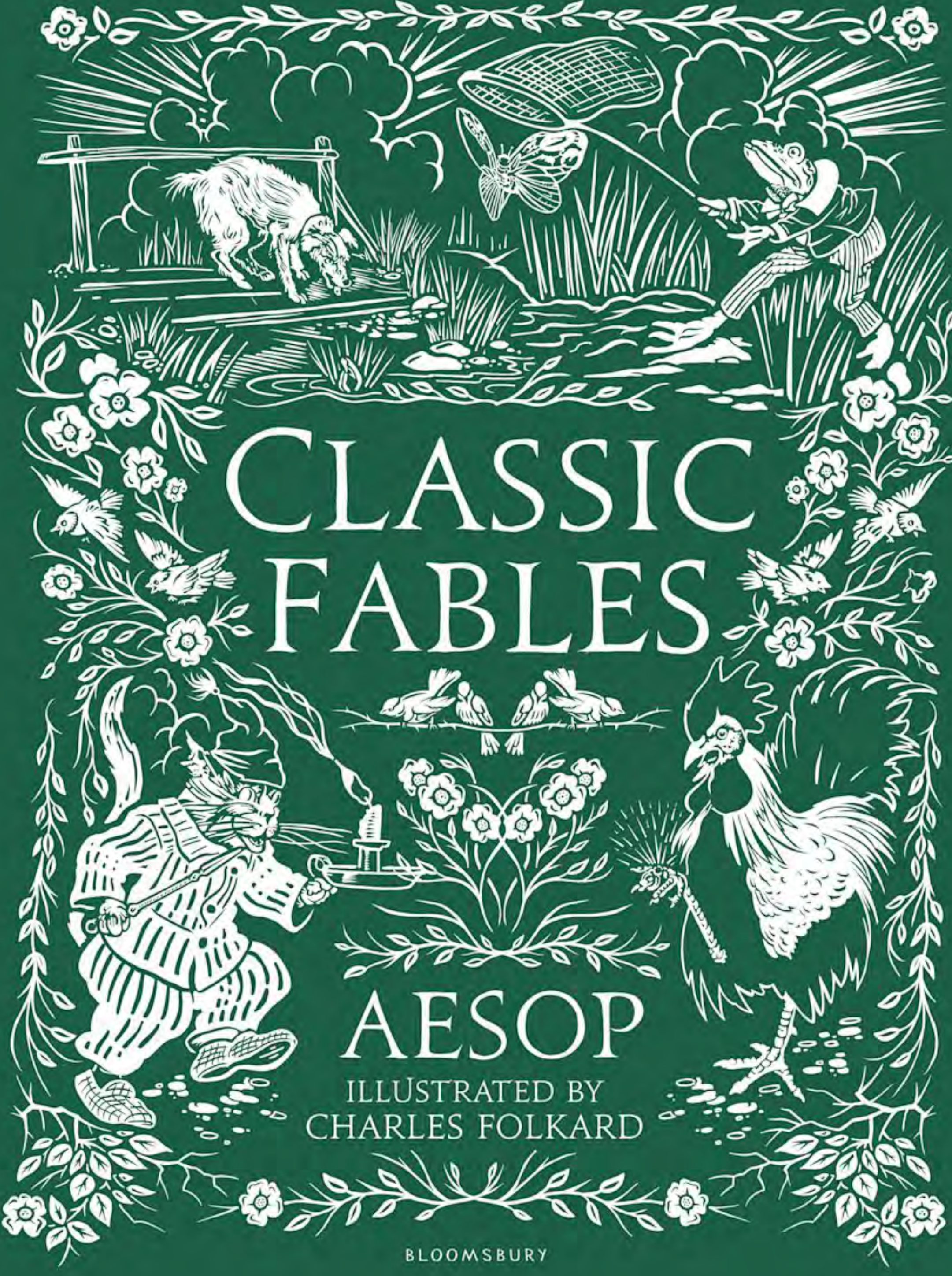




CLASSIC FABLES

AESOP

ILLUSTRATED BY
CHARLES FOLKARD

BLOOMSBURY



❁ CLASSIC ❁ FABLES

Written by
AESOP

Illustrated by
CHARLES FOLKARD



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CONTENTS



The Fox and the Grapes	1	The Stag and the Fawn	17
The Covetous Man	2	The Eagle, the Cat and the Sow	18
The Kite and the Pigeons	3	The Fox and the Bramble	20
The Mice in Council.....	4	The Old Man and Death	21
The Fox and the Stork	5	The Donkey Eating Thistles	22
The Lion and Other Beasts.....	6	The Old Lion	23
The Dog and the Reflection	7	The Old Man, his Son	
The Cockerel and the Jewel.....	8	and the Donkey.....	24
The Travellers and the Bear	9	The Horse and the Lion.....	26
The Fox and the Donkey	9	The Thieves and the Cockerel.....	27
The Bull and the Goat.....	10	The Cat and the Mice.....	28
The Eagle and the Fox	11	The Fox and the Wolf	29
The Wolf and the Kid.....	12	The Goat and the Lion.....	29
Fortune and the Boy	12	The Shepherd Turned Merchant...	30
The Donkey and the Lion Hunting	13	The Sensible Donkey	31
The Lark and her Young Ones	14	The Peacock and the Crane	31
The Goat-Heard and the She-Goat	16	The Hen and the Fox	32

The Fox and the Cockerel	33	The Old Woman and her Maids....	54
The Wind and the Sun	34	The Boy Who Cried Wolf.....	55
The Birds, the Beasts and the Bat .	35	The Jackdaw and the Pigeons	55
Mercury and the Carver	36	The Dog Invited to Supper	56
The Goose that Laid		The Thief and the Boy.....	57
the Golden Eggs	36	The Fox and the Lion.....	57
The Fox and the Crow	37	The Town Mouse and	
The Swallow and Other Birds	38	the Country Mouse	58
The Sow and the Wolf	39	The Peacock and the Magpie	61
The Lion and the Mouse	40	The Proud Frog	62
The Two Pots	41	The Ant and the Fly	64
The Horse and the Stag	41	The Wolf and the Crane	65
The Hare and the Tortoise.....	42	The Leopard and the Fox	66
The Lion, the Bear and the Fox....	44	The Old Man and his Sons	67
The Dove and the Ant.....	45	The Fox Without a Tail	68
The Forester and the Lion	45	The Hares and the Frogs	69
The Fowler and the Blackbird.....	46	The Ape and the Fox.....	70
The Cockerel and the Fox	47	The Viper and the File.....	70
The Crow and the Pitcher	48	The Fir Tree and the Bramble	71
The Farmer and his Sons	49	The Sick Kite	72
The Man and the Gnat.....	50	The Hen and the Swallow	72
The Fisherman.....	51	The Dog in the Manger.....	73
The Fox and the Countryman.....	52	The Sow and the Dog	73
The Fox and the Mask	53	The Fox and the Sick Lion.....	74

The Harper	75	The Farmer and the Stork	96
The Wolf, the Fox and the Ape	76	Aesop at Play	97
The Young Man and the Swallow	77	The Fox in the Well.....	98
The Bald Knight	78	The Nurse and the Wolf.....	99
Mercury and the Woodman	79	The Angler and the Little Fish	99
The Kid and the Wolf.....	80	The Satyr and the Traveller	100
The Fox and the Hedgehog	80	The Boasting Traveller	102
The Oak and the Reed.....	81	The Ploughman and Fortune	103
The Donkey and the Little Dog.....	82	The Porcupine and the Snakes	104
The Wood and the Clown.....	84	The Travellers.....	105
The Wolves and the Sick Donkey .	85	The Owl and the Grasshopper.....	106
The Bees, the Drones and the Wasp	86	The Partridge and the Cockerels...	108
The Young Man and his Cat	87	The Frogs and the Fighting Bulls..	109
The Fox and the Boar	88	The Two Crabs.....	110
The Dog and the Wolf.....	89	The Two Frogs.....	110
The Thief and the Dog.....	90	The Mischievous Dog	111
The Creaking Wheel	90	The Fox and the Goat	111
The Jackdaw and the Sheep.....	91	Alphabetical list of fables	113
The Young Men and the Cook.....	91		
Jupiter and Pallas	92		
The River-Fish and the Sea-Fish...	93		
A Boar Challenges a Donkey	94		
The Collier and the Fuller	95		



LIST OF COLOUR ILLUSTRATIONS

The Hare and the Tortoise	ii
The Fox and the Grapes	x
The Eagle, the Cat and the Sow	18
The Old Man, his Son and the Donkey	24
The Hare and the Tortoise	42
The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse	58
The Proud Frog	62
The Donkey and the Little Dog	82
The Satyr and the Traveller	100
The Owl and the Grasshopper	106





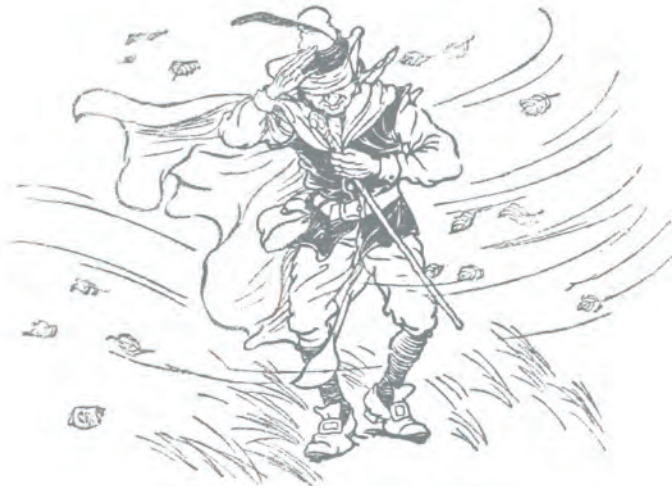
The Fox and the Grapes



Fox, very hungry, chanced to come into a vineyard where there hung branches of charming ripe grapes; but nailed up to a trellis so high that he leaped till he quite tired himself, without being able to reach one of them. At last says he:

“Let who will take them; they are but green and sour, so I'll even let them alone.”

DO NOT PRETEND TO
DESPISE WHAT YOU
CANNOT OBTAIN.



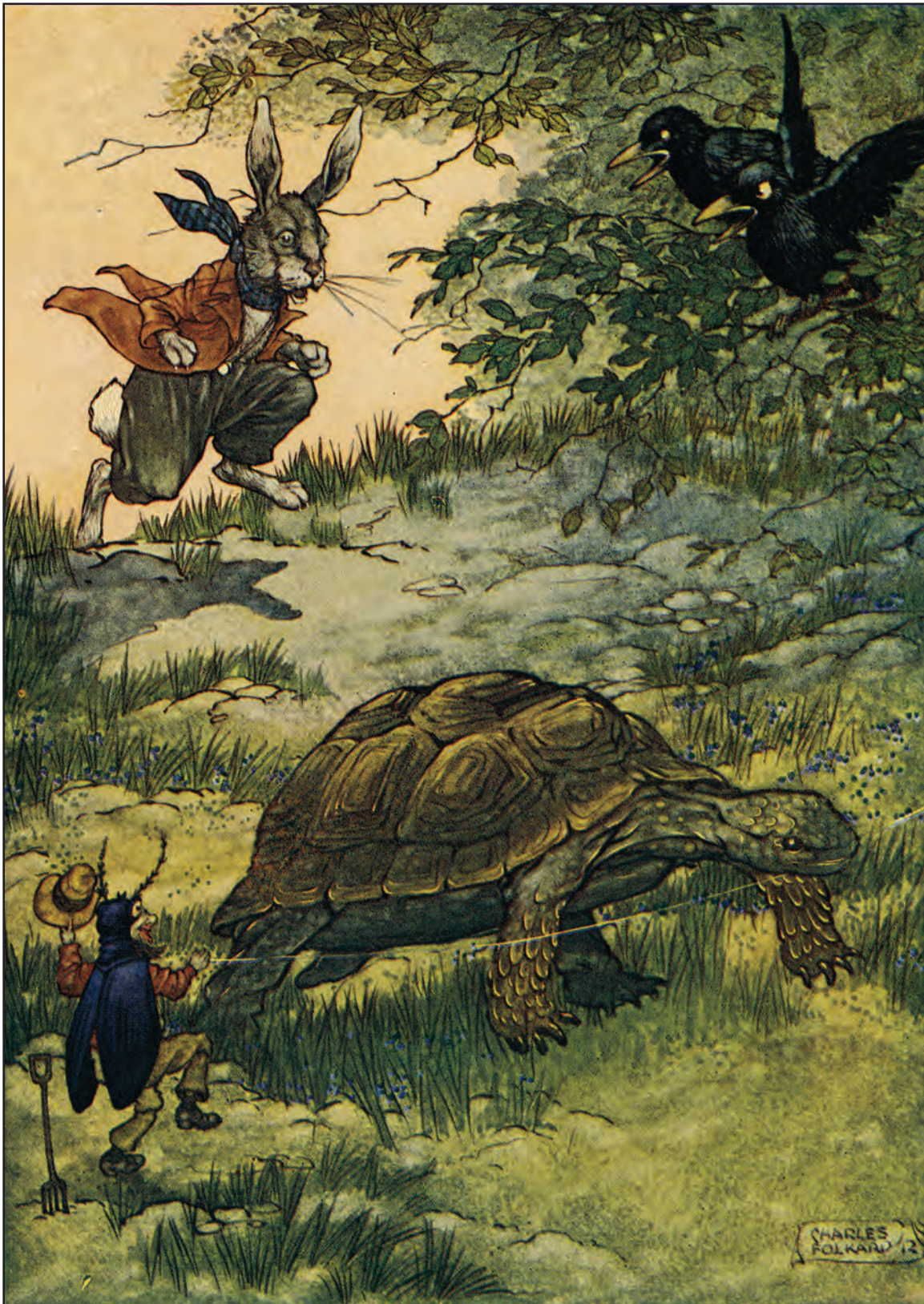
The Wind and the Sun



dispute once arose betwixt the North-wind and the Sun, about the superiority of their power; and they agreed to try their strength upon a Traveller, which should be able to get his cloak off first. The North-wind began, and blew a very cold blast, accompanied with a sharp driving shower. But this, and whatever else he could do, instead of making the man quit his cloak, obliged him to gird it about his body as close as possible.

Next came the Sun, who, breaking out from a thick watery cloud, drove away the cold vapours from the sky, and darted his warm sultry beams upon the head of the poor weather-beaten Traveller. The Man, growing faint with the heat, and unable to endure it any longer, first threw off his heavy cloak, and then hurried for protection to the shade of a neighbouring grove.

PERSUASION IS BETTER
THAN FORCE.



The Hare and the Tortoise



Hare insulted a Tortoise upon account of his slowness, and vainly boasted of his own great speed in running.

“Let us make a match,” replied the Tortoise. “I’ll run with you five miles for five pounds, and the Fox yonder shall be the umpire of the race.”

The Hare agreed, and away they both started together. But the Hare, by reason of his exceeding swiftness, outran the Tortoise to such a degree that he made a jest of the matter, and finding himself a little tired, squatted in a tuft of fern that grew by the way and took a nap; thinking, that if the Tortoise went by, he could at any time catch him up with all the ease imaginable. In the meanwhile the Tortoise came jogging on with a slow but continued motion, and the Hare, out of a too great security and confidence of victory, oversleeping himself, the Tortoise arrived at the end of the race first.

KEEPING ON WINS THE RACE.

The Boy Who Cried Wolf



certain Shepherd's boy who kept Sheep upon a common, in sport and wantonness would often cry out: "The Wolf, the Wolf!" By this means he several times drew the Farmers in an adjoining field from their work, who, finding themselves deluded, resolved for the future to take no notice of his alarm. Soon after the Wolf came indeed. The boy cried out in earnest. But no heed being given to his cries, the Sheep were devoured by the Wolf.

THOSE WHO TELL LIES FIND IT
HARD TO BE BELIEVED WHEN THEY
TELL THE TRUTH.

The Jackdaw and the Pigeons



Jackdaw, observing that the Pigeons in a certain dovecot lived well and wanted for nothing, whitewashed his feathers, and, endeavouring to look as much like a Dove as he could, went and lived among them. The Pigeons, not distinguishing him as long as he kept silent, forbore to give him any disturbance. But at last he forgot his character and began to chatter, by which the Pigeons, discovering what he was, flew upon him and beat him away from the meat, so that he was obliged to fly back to the Jackdaws again. They, not knowing him in his discoloured feathers, drove him away likewise, so that he who had endeavoured to be more than he had a right to, was not permitted to be anything at all.

AN IMPOSTER SOMETIMES
OVERACTS HIS PART.