1317

EVERGREEN

322

FABLES



L. J. FERNANDEZ & SONS

EVERGREEN FABLES

No: 1317



L. J. FERNANDEZ & SONS,
CITY PRESS, TRIVANDRUM.

1317

JAMIRUL ISLAM HIGH S.

CONTENTS

		Page
1.	The Wolf and the Lamb	5
2.	The Farmer and the Stork	8
3.	The Wolf and the Crane	11
4.	The Dog and the Donkey	14
5.	The Dog and the Wolf	17
6.	The Farmer and His Sons	21
7.	The Wolf and the Kid	23
8.	The Angler and the Little Fish ...	26
9.	The Hart and the Vine	28
10.	The Farmer and the Shoe-Nail ...	31
11.	The Vain Jackdaw	33
12.	The Ass, the Cock and the Lion ...	36
13.	The Lion and the Mouse	39
14.	The Travellers and the Bear	42
15.	Mercury and the Woodman	45

NUMAVIRUL ISLAM HIGH SCHOOL
Date 1317

EVERGREEN FABLES

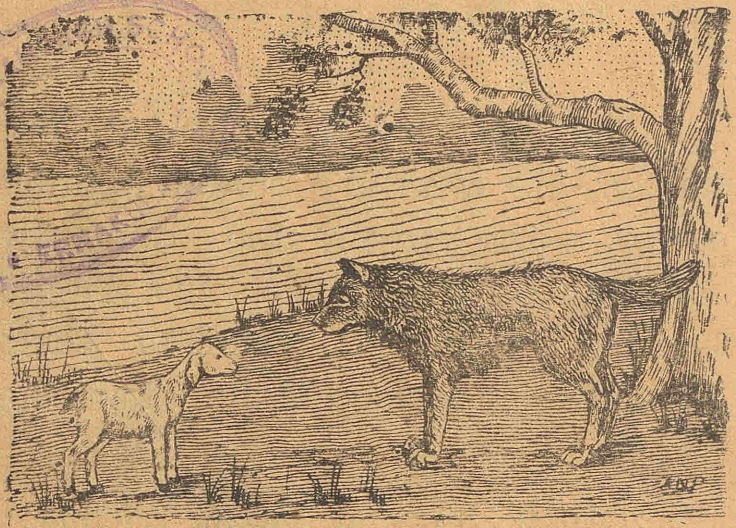
1. THE WOLF AND THE LAMB

One hot day a wolf felt very thirsty. He went to a stream to drink water. The stream ran down by the side of a mountain. Just then a lamb was drinking water at some distance. She stood further down the stream.

"What do you mean by this?" cried the wolf. "You have made the water muddy."

"I have not done so," mildly replied the lamb. "Besides, the water runs from you to me."

"That may be so," said the wolf in a tone of anger. "But I remember you well. You spoke ill of me a year ago."



"Surely, you are mistaken," replied the lamb. "I was born only this year."

"Well, it must have been your father then," said the wolf.

1317

So saying he fell upon the poor lamb and tore her to pieces.

A quarrelsome man wants no cause for quarrel.

WORDS

Thirsty	Cause
Stream	Mildly
Mountain	Besides
Distance	Remember
Further	Mistaken

Quarrelsome

PHRASES

By the side of. To tear to pieces.

To fall upon.

EXERCISES

I. Where did the wolf meet the lamb?

II. How did the wolf quarrel with the lamb?

III. What is the moral of the story?

---

2. THE FARMER AND THE STORK

Once upon a time a farmer wanted to protect his newly-sown corn from the cranes. He therefore set a net in the field to catch them. Several of the birds were caught in the net. Amongst them there was a stork.

"Oh, spare my life, good farmer," cried the bird. "I am a poor harmless stork. I did not come to steal your corn. I am not a thief like the cranes."

"All this may be very true," replied the farmer. "But I have caught you in the company of the cranes. Therefore you must suffer the same punishment."

So saying he killed the bird.

Never keep company with bad people.

WORDS

Protect	Steal
Newly-sown	Thief
Several	Punishment
Spare	

PHRASES

To set a net. To spare one's life.

To be caught in a net.

To keep company with.

EXERCISES

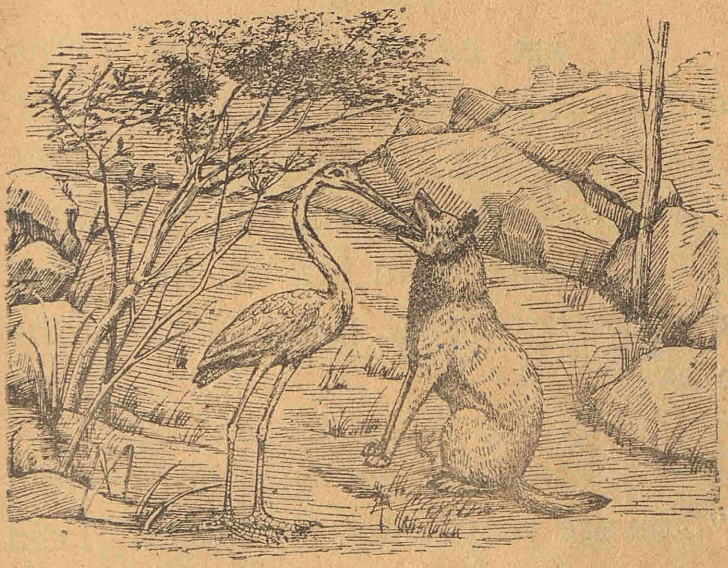
I. How was the stork caught in the net?

II. What did the stork tell the farmer?

III. What was the farmer's reply?

IV. What is the moral of the story?

3. THE WOLF AND THE CRANE



One day a wolf swallowed a bone. It stuck in his throat. It gave him great pain. So he went about howling. He met several animals. He asked them to pull out the bone. He promised to give them a handsome

reward. But for a long time he could find no one to help him.

At last he saw a crane. The crane undertook to help the wolf. He had a long, slender neck and bill. He poked his long bill into the throat of the wolf. With his bill he pulled out the bone. He then asked for the reward.

"Reward!" exclaimed the wolf. "You are very lucky, my friend. I did not bite off your head."

Wicked people are never grateful.

WORDS

Crane	Handsome
Swallow	Reward

Stick Undertake
Howl Slender
Grateful

PHRASES

To go about. To pull out.
To poke into.

EXERCISES

I. What help did the crane render the wolf?

II. What did the wolf say when the crane asked for the reward?

III. What is the moral of the story?

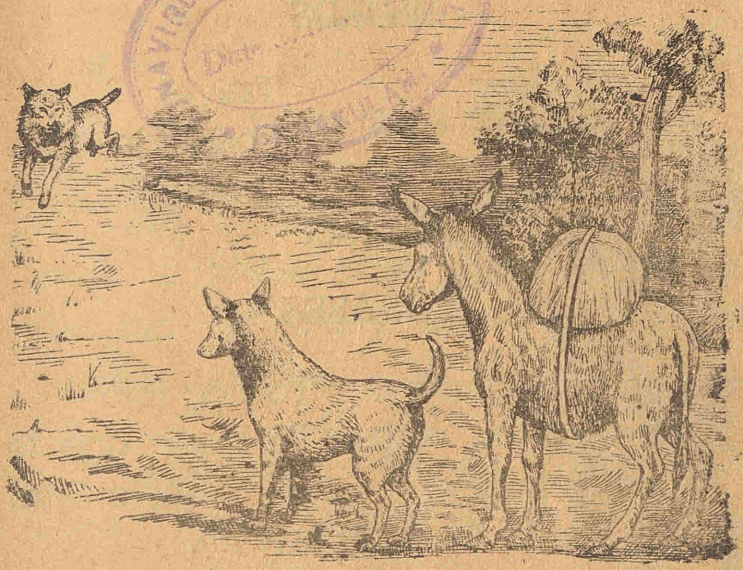
4. THE DOG AND THE DONKEY

One day a dog and a donkey went together on a long journey. The donkey was loaded with bread. They travelled for many hours. At last both of them grew very hungry. The donkey stopped to eat grass by the roadside. This made the dog feel still more hungry. He begged for a piece of bread from the donkey's load.

"There is no bread to spare," said the donkey. "You should find your own food by the way-side."

Just then they saw a wolf at a distance. It was coming towards them. The donkey at once began to tremble.

"Oh, my friend," said he to the dog. "Please, protect me from the wolf."



"No," replied the dog. "Just a while ago you were eating alone. Therefore, now you have to fight alone."

So saying the dog left the donkey to his fate.

Be friendly to others. Then alone others will be friends with you.

WORDS

Donkey
Journey
Load
Travel
Roadside
Tremble
Protect

PHRASES

To go on a journey.
To be loaded with.
To grow hungry.
To beg for.
To leave one to one's fate.
To be friends with.

EXERCISES

I. What did the donkey tell the dog when he wanted a piece of bread ?

II. What did he tell the dog when the wolf came ?

III. What was the dog's reply ?

IV. What moral do you learn from the story ?

---

5. THE DOG AND THE WOLF

One night a wolf happened to meet a house-dog. The wolf was starving for many days. The dog looked well-fed.

"You look quite happy, my friend," said the wolf. "But I am very miserable. Every day I have to work hard for food. Yet I am almost starving."

"Well," replied the dog, "you may do my work. Then you too can be happy."

"And what is your work?" asked the wolf.

"Only to guard the house at night," said the dog. "And my master gives me plenty of food to eat and a warm rug to lie on."

"Well" said the wolf, "I shall do the same. Then I too can have plenty of food and a warm bed."

Just then the wolf noticed a strange mark round the neck of the dog.

"And what is that, my friend?" asked the wolf, pointing at the mark.

"Oh, it is nothing," said the dog. "It is only the mark of the chain."

"Chain!" exclaimed the wolf in surprise.

"Yes," said the dog. "My master ties me up in the day-time. Only at night I am free."

"Thank you, my friend," said the wolf. "You may keep your happiness to yourself. I do not want to be chained up. I must be free."

It is better to be a poor free-man than to be a well-fed slave.

WORDS

Starving	Free-man
Well-fed	Strange
Miserable	Exclaim
Guard	Surprise
Rug	Slave

PHRASES

In surprise. To keep to oneself.

EXERCISES

I. What did the wolf ask the house-dog?

II. What was the dog's reply?

III. Why did the wolf promise to take up the dog's work?

IV. Why did he change his mind afterwards?

V. What is the moral of the story?

6. THE FARMER AND HIS SONS

Once upon a time an old farmer lay very ill. He was about to die. A short time before his death he called his two sons to him.

"My boys," said the old man, "I am leaving my farm and fields to you. In one part of the fields I have kept all my treasure. It lies buried in the ground within a foot or two of the surface. Search for it. Then you will find it."

Not long afterwards the old man died. The sons now wanted to find out the treasure.

"It must be a treasure of gold," said one of them.

The two brothers soon set to work to find it. They dug up every inch of ground. They did not find any treasure of gold. But the fields yielded splendid crops that year. Thus they were well repaid for their trouble.

The way to get rich is to work hard.

WORDS

Farmer	Yield
Treasure	Splendid
Bury	Repay
Ground	Trouble

PHRASES

To search for To find out

To set to work

EXERCISES

I. What did the old farmer tell his sons on his death-bed ?

II. How did the sons try to find out the hidden treasure ?

III. What was the result of their attempt ?

IV. What is the moral of the story ?

---

7. THE WOLF AND THE KID

One day a kid strolled into a distant field. A wolf happened to see him.

"I am lucky to-day," said the wolf to himself. "I can make a meal of this kid."

So saying he pursued the kid. The kid ran away with all speed. But the wolf overtook him soon. The kid could not escape now. So he turned round.

"You may kill me, by all means," said he. "But will you play a tune on the pipes? I want to dance for a moment. Then I am ready to die."

The wolf played a tune on the pipes. The kid danced merrily up and down the field. The noise of the pipes soon drew the attention of the dogs from the farm. They rushed to the spot. In a moment they drove the wolf away.

"What a fool am I!" said the wolf to himself. "I should have

killed the kid forthwith. It was not my business to play on the pipe."

Attend to your own business. Then you shall succeed.

WORDS

Stroll	Speed
Happen	Escape
Pursue	Tune
Overtake	Merrily
Business	Forthwith

PHRASES

To make a meal of. By all means. With all speed. To draw attention.

EXERCISES

1. Where did the wolf meet the kid ?

II. How did the kid escape from the wolf?

III. What moral does the story teach us?

---

8. THE ANGLER AND THE LITTLE FISH

One day a man was angling in a river. He caught a very small fish. He took it up in his hand. He was about to put it into his basket. Just then the little fish began to speak.

"Oh, spare my life this time," said the fish. "Throw me back into the river."

"Why should I do so?" asked the angler in surprise.

The fish answered: "Because at present I am very young and small. Therefore I am not worth much. You may throw me back into the river. Let me grow fat. Then you can catch me again."

"I will not do so, my friend," said the angler. "How can I be sure of catching you again?"

So saying he put the fish into his basket.

A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.

WORDS

Angle
Basket
Surprise
Spare
Worth

PHRASES

To spare one's life. To be sure of.

EXERCISES

I. What did the little fish tell the angler?

II. What was the angler's reply?

III. What is the moral of the story?

---

9. THE HART AND THE VINE

One day a hart was pursued by some hunters. He ran for many hours. Still the hunters were after him. He was quite tired. At last he found shelter among the leaves of a vine.

The hunters soon came to the spot. But they did not see the hart.

They were about to go away. Just then the hart began to eat the leaves of the vine. This produced a rustling sound. It attracted the attention of one of the hunters. He saw the hart among the leaves of the vine. He at once shot at the animal. The hart was now wounded to death.

"This is the punishment for my ingratitude," thought he at the moment of death. "The leaves had protected me in the hour of danger. I should have left them alone."

Ingratitude is one of the worst sins.

WORDS

Hart	Wound
Shelter	Punishment

Produce Protect
Rustling Ingratitude

PHRASES

To find shelter. To attract one's attention.

EXERCISES

I. Where did the hart find shelter from the hunters ?

II. How did the hunters find him out ?

III. What moral does the lesson teach us ?

10. THE FARMER AND THE SHOE-NAIL

One day a farmer wanted to go to a market. He saddled his horse for the purpose. In one of the shoes of the horse a nail was wanting. The farmer saw this. But he did not care to get a nail to fix the shoe.

"It is only a nail," said he to himself. "I need not trouble myself about it."

So saying he rode off. On the way the horse cast his shoe. But the farmer did not stop to get a new shoe. He was in a hurry to go to the market.

"Still he has three good shoes," said he to himself.

But the ground was full of sharp flint-stones. Therefore the horse soon began to go lame. Suddenly two robbers sprang out of the wood. They fell upon the farmer. He was now quite helpless. The poor animal could not run. So the robbers caught hold of the farmer. They took from him all his money and his horse.

A careless man will often come to grief.

WORDS

Saddle	Flint-stone
Purpose	Spring
Hurry	Robber

PHRASES

To trouble oneself about.	To be in a hurry.
	To go lame.
To catch hold of.	To fall upon.
To come to grief.	

EXERCISES

I. Show how the farmer was careless.

II. To what misfortune did his carelessness lead him ?

III. What is the moral of the story ?

II. THE VAIN JACKDAW

There was once a jackdaw. He was very vain. He was not contented with his black feathers. So he gathered some peacock's feathers. He fastened them carefully on his back. He tried to pass for a peacock.

He then joined a family of peacocks. But they soon found him

out. They attacked him with their sharp bills. He was soon stripped of his borrowed feathers. He was then driven away.

Now he went back to his old friends, the jackdaws. But they would not have him in their company. They drove him away saying, "It is your own fault. You should have been contented to be a jackdaw."

People sometimes shine in borrowed feathers. But they soon come to grief.

WORDS

Jackdaw	Gather	Bills
Vain	Peacock	Strip
Contented	Fasten	Borrow
	Grief	

PHRASES

To be contented with.
To shine in borrowed feathers.
To pass for. To be stripped of.
To come to grief.

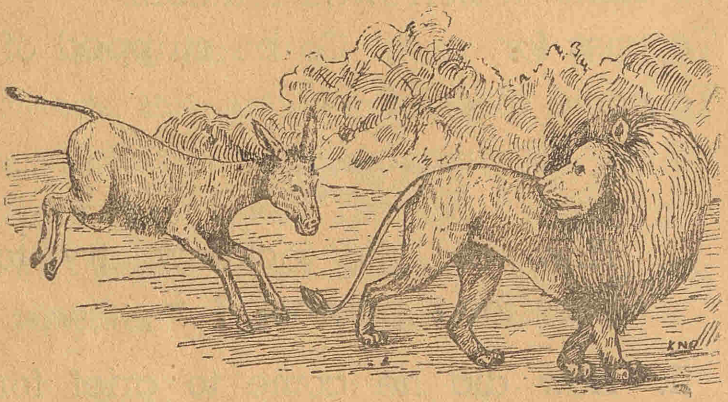
EXERCISES

I. How did the jackdaw try to pass for a peacock ?

II. How did he come to grief for that reason ?

III. What moral do you learn from the story ?

12. THE ASS, THE COCK AND THE LION



One day an ass and a cock were feeding together. A lion happened to see them. He was very hungry. He wanted to make a meal of the ass. He crouched in order to spring upon his prey. Just then the cock sent forth a loud, shrill crow. This frightened the lion. He ran away from the spot.

The ass saw the lion running away. "The lion must be afraid of me," said he to himself. He now went in pursuit of the royal beast.

After a short time the lion turned round. He saw the ass running after him. He at once stopped his flight. He sprang upon the ass with a fierce roar. In a moment the foolish ass was torn to pieces.

Never think too much of yourself.

WORDS

Feed	Pursuit
Crouch	Royal
Shrill	Flight
Frighten	Fierce

PHRASES

To make a meal of. In pursuit of.
In order to. To tear to pieces.

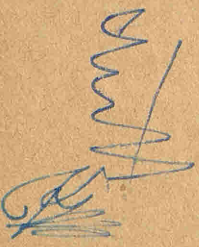
EXERCISES

I. Why did the lion run away ?

II. Why did the ass go in pursuit of the lion ?

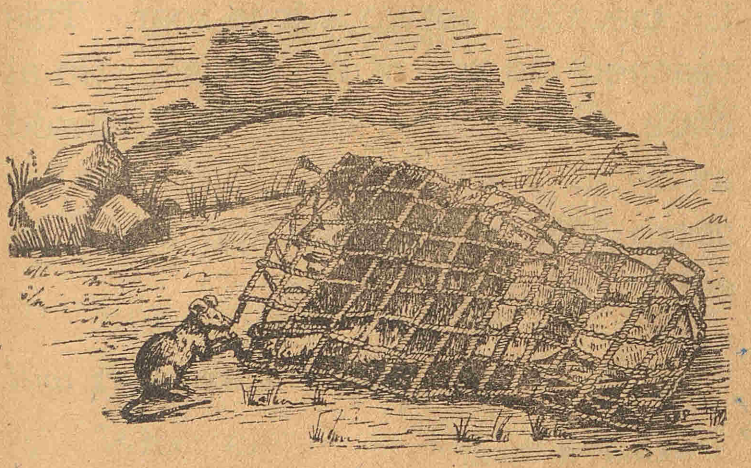
III. What was the fate of the ass ?

IV. What moral do you learn from the story ?



13. THE LION AND THE MOUSE

One day a lion was sleeping in his den. At that time a mouse happened to run over his body. The lion woke up with a start. He was very



angry with the mouse. He was about to kill him. Just then the mouse begged of him to spare his life. The lion was amused at the fright of the

little creature. He at once let him go.

A short time after this, the lion went out in search of food. He was caught in the snare of a hunter. He tried his best to get free. But he was unable to free himself from the snare. He therefore set up a loud roar. This reached the ear of the mouse. He at once ran to the spot. He gnawed away the strings of the snare with his sharp little teeth. The lion was soon set at liberty.

Be kind to others. Then others will be kind to you.

WORDS

Start	Search
Amuse	Snare

Fright	Gnaw
Creature	Strings

PHRASES

In search of. To be amused at.
To try one's luck. To set up a roar.
To set at liberty.

EXERCISES

I. Why was the lion angry with the mouse ?

II. Why did he spare his life ?

III. How did the mouse repay the lion's kindness ?

IV. What moral do you learn from the story ?

---

14. THE TRAVELLERS AND THE BEAR

One day two men were travelling together through a forest. The forest was full of wild beasts.

"It is dangerous to pass through this forest," said one of them. "We may be attacked by some wild beast at any moment. Let us stand by each other in case of any danger."

"By all means," said the other.

Not long afterwards a savage bear rushed upon them. One of them forgot his promise. He immediately ran to a tree. He climbed up into its branches.

His companion was now left to himself. He could not climb the tree. He therefore fell flat upon his face. He lay on the ground, holding his breath. The bear smelt him all over. He thought that the man was dead. He therefore quietly went back into the wood.

The danger was soon over. Then the man on the tree top slowly came down.

"Well, my friend," said he, "the bear was whispering something to you. What was it?"

"Why," replied the other, "he gave me a very good piece of advice—'Never put any trust in a coward. He

may forsake his friends in times of need.'"

A true friend will always stand by his companions in times of need.

WORDS

Wild	Climb
Beast	Smell
Dangerous	Quietly
Attack	Whisper
Savage	Coward
Promise	Forsake

PHRASES

To pass through.	To be left to oneself.
To stand by.	To rush upon.
In case of.	To hold one's breath.
By all means.	To put one's trust in.

EXERCISES

I. What did the travellers promise to do in case of any danger?

II. What happened to them in the forest?

III. What moral do you learn from the story?

---

15. MERCURY AND THE WOODMAN

One day a man was cutting down a tree. The tree stood beside a river. He was cutting the tree with his axe. By chance the axe slipped out of his hand. It fell into the water. At once it sank to the bottom. The man was

very poor. He was therefore full of grief.

Suddenly the god Mercury appeared to him.

"What is the matter, my dear man?" asked the god.

"Oh god! Have mercy on me," said the woodman. "I have lost my axe in the river."

The god at once dived to the bottom of the river. The next moment he came up again with a golden axe in his hand.

"Is this your axe?" asked Mercury.

"It is not," said the woodman.

Then the god dived a second time. He came up again with a silver

axe in his hand. This too the honest woodman would not accept.

"No, this too does not belong to me," said he.

Then Mercury dived to the bottom of the river the third time. This time he returned with the woodman's iron axe.

"This is mine," said he. He was delighted to see it. He thanked Mercury very warmly for restoring it to him. The god was immensely pleased with his honesty. He therefore gave him the gold and the silver axes too as a reward.

The woodman returned home with the three axes. He told the story to his companions. The next day one

of them went off to the river bank with his axe. He purposely threw his axe into the river. Then he sat on the bank and pretended to cry.

The god Mercury came as before. The man told the god of the loss of his axe. Mercury dived into the river. He soon returned with a golden axe.

"Is this your axe?" asked the god.

The woodman greedily snatched at it. "It is mine," said he to the god.

Thereupon Mercury threw it back into the river. He did not restore even the iron axe to the woodman. The next moment the god disappeared.

Honesty is the best policy.

WORDS

Woodman	Honesty
Chance	Purposely
Slip	Pretend
Bottom	Greedily
Dive	Snatch
Delight	Thereupon
Warmly	Policy

Restore

PHRASES

To slip out of one's hands.
To be pleased with.

EXERCISES

I. How did the woodman lose his axe ?

II. How was it restored to him ?

III. Why did Mercury reward him with the gold and silver axes?

IV. Why did the other woodman purposely throw his axe into the river?

V. Why did he lose his own axe?

VI. What is the moral of the story?

The End.

