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Travellers' Tales

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NEW METHOD SUPPLEMENTARY READER STAGE 2

TRAVELLERS' TALES

FROM THE ODYSSEY AND BARON MUNCHAUSEN

Adapted and brought within the vocabulary of New Method Reader 2 (Alternative Edition) by

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THE TRAVELS OF ULYSSES



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THE TRAVELS OF ULYSSES

1 *The Gods are angry*

For many years the Greeks had fought against the people of Troy. At last the city of Troy was taken and burned. And the Greeks set out on their way home.

The Gods on Olympus[1] were angry with the Greeks. They said that none of the Greeks should reach home. The God Poseidon was very angry with Ulysses. Ulysses was driven farthest from home. Ten years had passed and still he was far away from Ithaca, his home-land.

2 *A Meeting of the Gods*

The Gods held a meeting in the Great Hall on Olympus. All the Gods were there. But Poseidon was not there; he had gone on a journey.

Then Zeus stood up, the greatest of all the Gods:

"Men say that the Gods are not just, but we are justly angry with the Greeks. For this reason the Gods have said that they shall none of them see their homes again."

[1] The Greeks in this story lived many years ago and they believed in many gods and *goddesses* (=women-gods). Olympus was a high mountain in Greece, on the top of which the Gods lived.

Then the *Goddess* Athene answered, "It is true that the Gods are justly angry with the Greeks, but I am sad because of Ulysses. He is being kept on an island by Calypso. She wants him to think no more of his home-land; but he remembers it always and wants to see Penelope, his wife, and to sit by his own fire-side before he dies. He is a good man; why are you so angry with him?"

Zeus answered, "I am not angry with Ulysses. Poseidon is angry with him because he put out the eye of the Cyclops, his son. Poseidon is not here. Let us think what we can do."

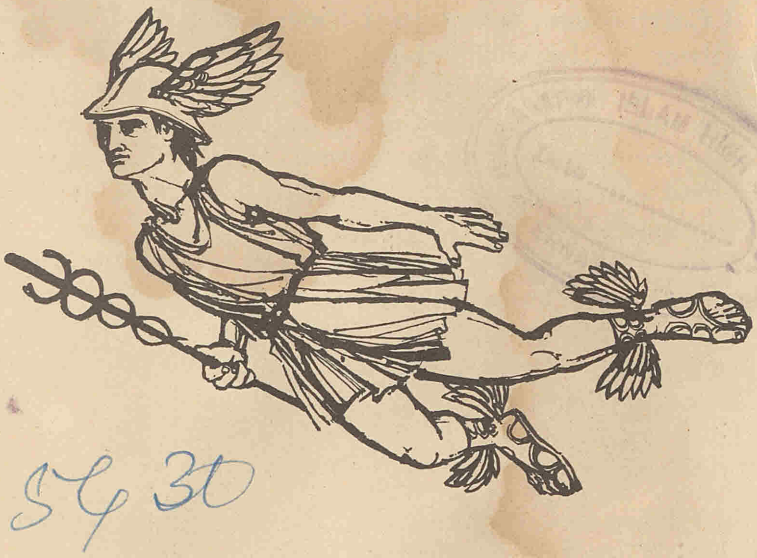
Athene answered, "Let us send Hermes to the island of Calypso. Let Hermes tell Calypso that she must let Ulysses go home. She must let him build a boat."

3 Hermes goes to set Ulysses free

Hermes put on his golden shoes. Flying through the air, he soon came to the island of Calypso. There was a deep hole in the side of the mountain. This was the house of Calypso. She sat by a fire of sweet-smelling wood, singing with her beautiful voice. Round the door of her house were trees; and four little rivers ran through fields full of many-coloured flowers.

Hermes went in; and Calypso knew him. For the Gods know each other although they live far away in many parts of the earth.

Ulysses was not there. He was sitting near the sea, weeping because he could not see his wife and home and country.



Hermes flying to Calypso

Calypso said to Hermes, "Why have you come, Hermes of the Golden Feet? I am pleased to see you. Tell me what you want."

She set a table before him with food and milk; and he ate. Then Hermes said, "Zeus told me to come. You must send Ulysses home. Ulysses shall see his wife and his home again."

Calypso said, "I have no ship."

Hermes answered, "You must help Ulysses to build a boat. Do this thing quickly."

Then Hermes put on his golden shoes and went through the air back to Olympus.

4 Ulysses builds a boat

Calypso went to look for Ulysses, and she found him sitting by the sea, looking out over the water and weeping. She stood by him and said, "Do not weep any more for you shall see your home-land. Come, take this axe, and cut down trees; and I will give you bread and water and food to put in your boat, so that you may go safely home."

Then Calypso gave Ulysses an axe and he cut down twenty trees and began to make them into a boat. And Calypso made sails for the boat. Ulysses put the sails on the boat, and at last he pulled the boat down into the water.

5 Ulysses sets out in his boat

Ulysses set out in his boat. He sailed for seventeen days. Then he saw land far away.

Poseidon was coming back from his journey. As he travelled through the air he looked down, and he saw Ulysses sailing in his boat. And he was very angry. He said, "What is this thing that the Gods have done while I was away from Olympus?"

Then Poseidon covered the sky with clouds. And he brought a great wind, and he moved the waters. And Ulysses was thrown out of his boat, and the boat fell to pieces.

6 Ino helps Ulysses

Ino was a Goddess of the Sea. She saw Ulysses in the water; and she came up to the top of the sea. About



And Ulysses was thrown out of his boat . . .

her head was a fine cloth, blue like the sea. She gave the cloth to Ulysses, and it held him up in the water for two days. On the third day the sea was quiet, and Ulysses saw land quite near; and he heard the sea among the rocks. He went on and held a rock with both his hands and pulled himself up. But he could not reach the land because of the great rocks. So he went around the island until he came to a river where there were no rocks. Then he threw the head-dress of Ino into the water. And Ino came up from the bottom of the sea and caught it in her two hands.

Then Ulysses lay down on the bank of the river and fell asleep.

7 *The beautiful Nausicaa*

Nausicaa was the daughter of Alcinous, King of the island.

Nausicaa awoke early in the morning and went to find her father and her mother. She found her mother making cloth; and her father was going to meet the Princes and Great Men of the land.

Then she said, "Dear father, give me the cart and two asses and I will take the clothes to the river to wash them, for you must always have clean clothes when you go to meet the Princes. And my five brothers want clean clothes when they go to dance."

So her father called his servants and they made the cart ready. And Nausicaa brought the clothes out of her room and put them in the cart. And her mother gave her food and milk to drink, and oil to put on her body.

So Nausicaa came to the river. And the girls who were with her took the clothes and washed them in the river. Then they washed themselves and rubbed themselves with oil. And they sat down on the bank of the river to eat and drink. After they had eaten, they played with a ball, singing as they played; and Nausicaa led the song.

8 Nausicaa finds Ulysses

Now as Nausicaa threw the ball, she threw it too far, and it fell in the river. Then all the girls cried out. And Ulysses awoke; and he came out from where he had been sleeping. All the girls ran away, but Nausicaa stood there. Then he fell at her feet and said, " My boat was lost in the sea and I came to this



He fell at her feet

island. Help me; give me dry clothes to put on, and lead me to the city."

Nausicaa answered, "You do not seem to be bad or foolish, so I will help you. I am the daughter of Alcinous, King of this island." And she called to the girls, "Why do you run away when you see a man? He has not come to hurt us. Give him food and drink and dry clothes."

So they gave him dry clothes, and he put them on. They gave him food, and he ate.

And Nausicaa said, "You must be wise and do what I tell you. While we are passing through the fields, you may walk with us behind the cart; but, when we come to the city, you must not follow us. There is a little wood near the wall. You must stay in that wood till I have reached the house of my father. When you think that I have come to my father's house, then go into the city and ask where is the house of Alcinous. When you come to the house, go through the hall to where my mother sits on one side of the fire and my father on the other. Pass by my father, and fall at my mother's feet, and ask her to help you."

Then she drove the asses, and they quickly left the river behind them. They came to the little wood, and there Ulysses sat down and waited. And after a time he went into the city. And he met a girl carrying a pot of water. And he asked her, "My child, can you tell me where is the house of Alcinous?"

She answered, "I will show you, for his house is near my father's house."

So the girl led him.

9 Ulysses comes to the House of Alcinous

Ulysses came into the hall; and there were the Princes and Great Men of the island sitting and drinking. He passed through them and fell at the feet of Arete, the wife of Alcinous, and asked her to help him.

And she said, "Who are you? Who gave you those clothes?" For she saw that his clothes were those which she and her servants had made with their own hands.

Then Ulysses told her how he had come from the island of Calypso, and how Nausicaa had found him and led him to the city.

Then Alcinous said, "Why did not Nausicaa bring you to the house?"

Ulysses answered, "I feared that you might be angry with her. That is why I did not come with her."

"I should not be angry for such a reason," said Alcinous. "Why do you not stay here always and marry Nausicaa, for you are a fine man and like one of the Gods?—But I will not keep any man if he wishes to go. I will send you to your home. My men will take you in a ship wherever you want to go. My ships are the best ships in the world, and my young men are the best sea-men."

Then Arete told her servants to get ready a bed for Ulysses. And after a time they came back and called Ulysses saying, "Come, friend, and sleep, for your bed is ready."

And he went gladly.

10 Ulysses at the House of Alcinous

The next day Alcinous got up early in the morning and he called the head-man of his ships and said, "Get ready a new ship and fifty-two men to go in it, and then come and eat in the Great Hall."

And he sent a servant to call all the Princes and Great Men of the island to eat in the hall of his house that day.

So the sea-men made the ship ready and brought it into the river. Then they went to the hall. And all the Great Men came to the hall. And they all sat down to eat. And after they had eaten, the King said to the Princes and Great Men, "Let us go out and show our friend Ulysses how fast we can run and how well we can throw."

So the Princes threw a great stone, and they ran and played. One of the Princes said to Ulysses, "Father, will you not try what you can do? For in running and throwing you may put away the sadness from your heart.—Or do you not know how to throw the stone?"

Then Ulysses took a great stone, bigger than the stone which the Princes had been throwing, and he threw it very far. And all the Princes were surprised seeing a man throw a stone so far. Then Ulysses ran, and he ran faster than all the Princes. In all things Ulysses was better than any of the Princes and Great Men of the island.

Then they played at ball and danced.

11 The Princes bring presents

Then the King said, "Let each of us give Ulysses a present."

So each of the Princes brought Ulysses a present.

And Alcinous said to the Queen, "Bring a box." And the Queen brought from her own room a beautiful box, and all the presents were put in the box.

Then they went to wash themselves in the river.

As Ulysses came back from the river, Nausicaa met him at the door of the hall. And she saw that he was beautiful. And she said, "May the Gods keep you safe on your journey; and when you come to your own country, think of me once and again—and remember that I saved your life."

And Ulysses answered, "Nausicaa, I will always remember you as a goddess—for ever—for you did truly save my life. And, when I come to my home again, I will remember you all my life. And may the Gods be very gentle to you, as you have been gentle and kind to me."

Then he went into the hall and sat down by the side of the King. And a servant came in, leading a singer by the hand, for the eyes of the singer were dark and he could not see. And the singer began to sing. And in his song he told how the Greeks went to fight against the people of Troy, and he told of the many brave men who were killed, and how the city was burnt. And the heart of Ulysses was sad; and he wept.

Then the King said to Ulysses, "Tell me, why do

you weep when you hear the story of Troy? Had you a friend among those who were killed?"

12 Ulysses tells his story

Then Ulysses answered the King, saying, "What shall I tell you first? What last? For so many things have happened to me to make my heart sad.

"I am Ulysses, son of Laertes. I live in Ithaca. Many islands lie about it, but Ithaca is west of all the islands. It is the home of brave men. There is nothing dearer to a man than his own country. The Goddess Calypso asked me to stay with her; and so did Circe. But I would not stay because there is nothing a man loves more than his country and his mother and father. Now I will tell you how I journeyed from Troy. . . .

13 The City of the Cicones

"When we left Troy we came first to the City of the Cicones. My men fought against the people of the city and won. But the next morning the people came back again, many in number as the flies in summer; and they fought against us and drove us to our ships. Six men from each ship were killed, but the rest came away.

14 The Land of the Lotus

"Then there came a north wind, and the sky was black, and the ships were driven over the sea. We came near to my own country, but the wind drove us on for nine days.

"And on the tenth day we came to the land where the Lotus grows. The Lotus is a plant, and whoever eats it does not want to see his country or his wife or his children again. The Lotus-eaters gave some of this plant to my sea-men. Then those who had eaten said they would not go over the sea any more. But I told the other men to carry them to the ships. And we went quickly away.

15 The Cyclops

"After many days we came to an island where lived the Cyclops. The Cyclops had only one eye. We went into a great hole in the rock where the Cyclops lived. The Cyclops kept us there. Each day he killed two of my men and ate them. But one night, when the Cyclops was asleep, I took a burning piece of wood and put it in his eye so that he could not see. And we ran away from him, and he could not catch us because he could not see.

16 The Bag of Winds

"Then we came to the island where lives Æolus. For a whole month we stayed with King Æolus, and I told him the story of Troy and of my journey. And I asked him to help me.

"Now Æolus is the Keeper of the Winds, and he can make them blow or put them to rest as he wishes. So Æolus took all the winds, and he put them in a bag. He let only a gentle west wind blow. All the other winds were shut up in the bag.



Ulysses escapes from the Cyclops

"He gave the bag of the winds to me, and I put it on my ship.

"For nine days the gentle west wind blew, and we came near to Ithaca, our country.

"But one night I fell asleep. I had been awake watching the course of the ship for nine days, but on the tenth night I fell asleep. And, while I slept, my men looked at the great bag. And they said, 'See what King Æolus has given to Ulysses. In this bag there is much gold. Let us open the bag and see the gold.'

"So they opened the bag and all the winds came out and drove us far away from our country.

17 The Island of Circe

"After many days we came to the Island of Circe. I climbed up a little hill; and I looked, and saw a house in a wood. Then I went back to the ship and sent some of my men to go and see who lived in the house. I sent Eurylochus and twenty men with him.

"In an open space in the wood Eurylochus and his men found the house of Circe. All about it were wolves and other dangerous beasts, yet they did not do hurt to the men, but stood up on their back legs asking for food. And the men were afraid. They stood outside the house and heard the beautiful voice of Circe as she sang. And the men said, 'Is she a goddess or is she a woman?'

"So they called to her. Then she came out, and told them to follow her. She led them into the house and made them sit down. And she gave them food and drink. But in the food she put a powder; and

when they had eaten and drunk, she touched them; and they all were changed into beasts. And she drove the beasts out, and shut them up in little huts, and gave them the food of beasts to eat. But Eurylochus had not eaten or drunk. He ran away and came back to the ship and told me what had happened.

"Then I set out alone to go to the house of Circe. Near the house I met Hermes, who said to me, 'Have you come to help your men who are now changed into beasts in the house of Circe? If you go in there you will never come back. But I will give you this plant to eat. This plant will give you power to stand against Circe.' So he gave me a plant with a white flower; and I ate it.

18 Ulysses goes to set his men free

"Then I went to the house of Circe. And I stood outside and called. And Circe came and opened the door and asked me to come in. She made me sit down, and she gave me food and drink. And I ate and drank. Then she touched me and said, 'Come now to the huts of the beasts and lie there with your men.'

"But I was not changed into a beast. I ran at her and would have killed her. But she fell at my feet and said, 'Who are you? You must be Ulysses, for Hermes told me that you would come. Let us be friends.'

"Then I said, 'How can we two be friends when you have changed my men into beasts?'

"Then Circe led me out of the house; and she opened the doors of the huts; and she drove out the beasts. And she rubbed upon each some powerful oil.



Circe rubbing oil on the beasts

And they became men. Then I asked Circe to tell me how I might find my way home.

"She took me by the hand and said, 'I will tell you of the dangers that you will meet. First you will come to the Sirens, who sing beautifully; but no one who hears their song will ever see his wife or children any more. For the Sirens will draw him to where they sit on a rock, with the bodies of dead men around them. Drive your ship past them; and fill your ears with wax, so that you may not hear their song. Then you will come to two great rocks.—One rock reaches up into the sky, and on this rock lives Scylla. Scylla is a fearful beast who puts out her hand and carries off men from the ships as they pass below. At the foot of the rock is Charybdis. Charybdis lives at the bottom

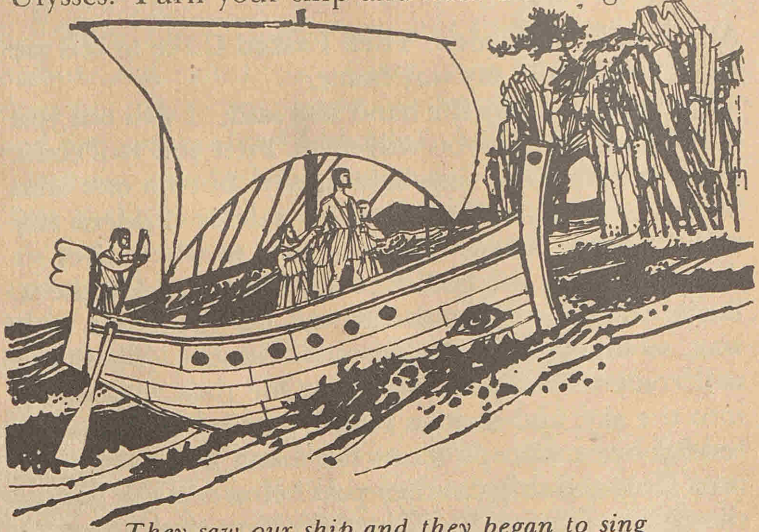
of the sea, and three times a day she draws in the water. If your ship is there when she draws in the water, it will be drawn down to the bottom and will be lost. If you can pass these dangers, then you and your men may come safely home.'

"So saying, she went away. And I called to my men, and we went on to the ship. And a gentle wind helped us.

"Then I told my men of the dangers that were before them. And I filled their ears with wax. But I did not put wax in my own ears.

19 Scylla and Charybdis

"Then we came near the place of the Sirens. They saw our ship and they began to sing, 'Come to us, Ulysses. Turn your ship and hear our song. No one



They saw our ship and they began to sing

who hears our song goes away. He is filled with love. We know of the sadness of men and we fill their hearts with happiness.'

"I heard the song and wanted to go to the Sirens: but my men could not hear it because they had wax in their ears. So they held me, and they drove the ship on past the place where the Sirens were.

"After this we came to a narrow place; on one side was Scylla and on the other side was Charybdis drawing down the water. She drew down the water so that one could see the white stones on the bottom of the sea. But while we were looking at Charybdis, Scylla put out her hand and caught six of my men from the ship—the strongest and bravest of them all. Then Charybdis drew down the water again and the ship went with it. But I held on to a tree which grew out from the rock of Scylla. Then I waited to see the ship come up again. At last pieces of the ship came up to the top of the water. I caught one of these and sat on it, and I drove it along with my hands.

"For nine days I was carried about by the sea. And on the tenth day I came to the island of Calypso.

"I have told you of the island of Calypso. . . .

"So my story is ended."

20 Alcinous sends Ulysses home

Then Alcinous said, "I will now send you to your home, Ulysses."

Then Ulysses went to the Queen and said, "O Queen, may the Gods keep you till death (from which none are free) comes upon you. I go to my home. May

you have happiness in your children and in your people and in your King."

Then he went out of the hall. And Alcinous sent with him a servant to lead him to the ship. And Arete sent girls carrying fresh clothes for him and food. Then they came to the ship; and Ulysses lay down in the back part of the ship. And a deep sleep came upon him.

And the ship went on its way.

21 Ulysses comes to Ithaca

After many days the ship came near Ithaca. But Poseidon looked down and saw that the ship of Ulysses was near his home-land; and he held the ship so that it could not go on, but stayed in one place. Then the men on the ship said, "What is it that keeps our ship from moving? Why does not the ship journey on? The Gods are angry with us because of this man whom we are carrying."

So they took Ulysses and all his things, and they put him on the land. And then they sailed away.

So Ulysses awoke in the land of Ithaca. But he did not know the place, for Athene had made it seem changed. And he walked this way and that way saying, "To what land have I come now? What shall I do with all these riches?"

Then he took all the things which Alcinous and the Princes had given him, and he hid them.

22 Athene meets Ulysses

As Ulysses walked by the side of the sea, Athene

met him. She had made herself look like a boy. And Ulysses said to Athene, "Tell me, boy, what land is this to which I have come, and who are its people? Is it an island?"

Then the boy said, "You are foolish, or perhaps you have come from very far, and for that reason do not know this country. Many men know this country. It is Ithaca."

Then Ulysses was very glad.

And Athene changed her form so that Ulysses knew that she was the Goddess Athene. And she said, "Dress yourself as an old man, for there are many bad men who have come into your house, telling Penelope that you are dead, and asking her to marry one of them."

So Ulysses dressed himself as an old man and made his face look like the face of an old man. And so he came to his own house.

23 The Dog Argus

At the door of the house lay the dog Argus. Ulysses had taken care of Argus when he was newly born. But when Argus was still very small Ulysses had sailed to Troy. Now Argus lay at the door of the house, very old and dirty and not able to see. He knew Ulysses and ran to him. But the servant at the door did not know Ulysses. Then the servant said, "It is strange that the dog goes to that old man." And when the dog Argus had touched Ulysses, it fell down and died. Argus had waited twenty years; and the dog knew its friend at the last.

Then Ulysses went into the hall and there were all the men who wanted to marry Penelope. They would not give him food, but they laughed at him; and one of them hit him.

Then Ulysses spoke to the man who had hit him, and said, "Hear me. There is no anger if a man is hit when he is fighting in war. But you have hit me because I am poor. May you always be poor and unhappy. May the Gods in Olympus see this thing, and make you remember it to the end of your life!"

And one of the servants went and told Penelope how a poor man had been hit in the hall. And she was very angry. And she said to her servant, "Go and bring the poor man to me, for I wish to speak to him, and to ask him whether he has seen Ulysses or can tell me about him. For perhaps the poor man has travelled far.—Oh, if Ulysses would come back! He would soon drive these men from my house!"

24 Ulysses meets Penelope

In the evening all went to their rooms. And Ulysses was left alone in the hall.

Then Penelope came down and sat by the fire. And the servants came into the hall and took away the bits of food that were left.

And Penelope called to her old servant and said, "Tell the poor man to come and sit with me by the fire, so that he may tell me his story."

So the old servant called him, and Ulysses sat down by the fire.

Then Penelope said, "I ask you first who are you?

From where have you come? What is your city and your father's name?"

And Ulysses told her. He said, "I am Ulysses."

But she was not sure.

Then he said to her, "Hear me, Penelope, and know that it is really I. I will tell you how I made my bed. There was a tree growing near the house. And round the tree I built a room. And I cut off the top part of the tree and I made the bed from the wood of it. But the lower part of the bed is the tree growing in the ground; and the other parts I made from the top of the tree which I cut off."

Then Penelope knew him. And she ran to him and put her arms round him and kissed him, saying, "Do not be angry with me because I was not sure. For so



And they wept upon each other, and kissed each other

many men have told me untruths. But now I know that you are really Ulysses."

And they wept upon each other, and kissed each other.

So Ulysses came back to his home after twenty years.

THE TRAVELS OF BARON MUNCHAUSEN

5G30





Baron Munchausen

5630

THE TRAVELS OF BARON MUNCHAUSEN

1 Certain persons have said that my stories are not true! They have said that I tell these stories only to make people laugh. This has made me very angry. All the stories of my travels are quite true. In order to show that they are true, I have asked some friends to write this paper. I hope that all will now know that I, *Baron Munchausen*, always tells the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

At the City of London
May 9th

We four persons, solemnly say, that all the stories of the travels of
Baron Munchausen
are true.

Our stories of our own travels are much harder to believe than his.

Our stories are true.

So Baron Munchausen's stories are true also.

We believe every word of them.

Gulliver
Sinbad
Aladdin
Ananias

2 How I set out on my travels

When I was still only a boy, I told my father that I wanted to see the world. My father had been a great traveller; but he did not want me to travel.

I spoke to my mother's brother. He liked me and spoke to my father, saying, "Munchausen is a good boy; he is brave. My father is in Ceylon and I am going to visit him. Let Munchausen come with me on a journey to Ceylon."

At last my father let me go.

3 How trees were blown up high in the air

We sailed from Amsterdam, taking letters from the King of Holland.

A strange thing happened during the journey. We came to an island and stayed there for a few days to take in food and water. While we were there, there was a fearful wind. It blew great trees up into the air. They were blown so high that they looked like little feathers up in the sky. They were blown five miles up above the earth. Then the wind stopped; and all the trees fell down. They fell down into just the same places where each had been before. Each tree fell into the place where it had been growing. All the trees were just as before—but one tree was not. One tree did not fall like the others. An old man and his wife were in the tree getting apples when the wind began. These two people made the tree fall down on its side.

The King of the Island came out of his house and watched the trees falling. This last tree fell on the



. . . there was a fearful wind, it blew great trees into the air

King, and killed him. The people of the island were glad—because he was a bad King. They thanked the old man and his wife, and they made them King and Queen of the Island.

4 The Baron goes shooting

After about six weeks we reached Ceylon. The people were very good to us; they treated us as friends and showed us the island.

When I had been ten days in Ceylon, a rich man took me out shooting. He was a very big man, and he walked very fast. He walked faster than I. We came to a wood; he went far into the wood. I could not keep up with him because he walked so fast. I was left outside the wood.

Near the wood there was a river. I was standing looking at the river when I heard a noise behind me. I turned around, and there I saw a great *lion*. The lion wanted to eat me. He came nearer—nearer! I had only small shot (balls) in my *gun*—small shot which I used for killing birds.—This small shot will not kill a lion. But I shot at the lion. He was not afraid; he came on! He came on faster!

I turned to run away.

Then I looked at the river and I saw—a great *crocodile*! It was just opening its mouth to eat me. And on the other side the lion was just ready to jump upon me.

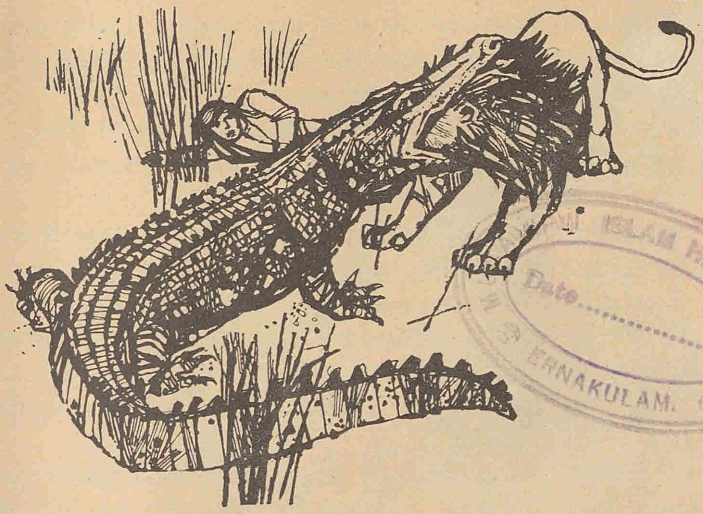
I fell to the ground in fear. I lay there, thinking that the lion would jump upon my back and begin to bite me—or that the crocodile would take my feet in its mouth—— But nothing happened! . . .

5 *The Baron kills two beasts*

Still nothing happened! Then I heard a fearful noise. I had never heard any noise quite like it. I will tell you what it was.

I was lying on the ground afraid to look up. Then I raised my head a little and looked.

The lion had jumped. The crocodile had opened its mouth. I had fallen just as the lion jumped. So the lion jumped straight into the mouth of the crocodile. The lion's head was in the crocodile's mouth; its body was outside. The crocodile could not bite off the lion's head. The lion could not get its head out of the crocodile's mouth.



The lion and the crocodile

I quickly cut off the lion's head. I shot the crocodile in the eye—I alone had killed two beasts. My friend came back to find me. He was very surprised.

He said, "You are only a boy—yet you have killed a lion and a crocodile!—and you have only small shot for shooting birds!"

6 One night in Russia

I went on a journey to Russia. I was riding on a horse. It was winter. There was snow—snow everywhere. I could see no houses.

Night was near; and I had lost my way.

"Where shall I stay the night?" I cried. "There is not a house! Not a tree."

Then I saw a very small thing standing up out of

the snow. It was like a very small tree. It was only two feet high. I put part of the *harness* round the tree; so my horse could not run away.

Then I lay down on the snow and went to sleep. I slept well. It was day when I opened my eyes—and I was very surprised.

Looking round, I saw that I was in a town. I was lying near a church.

I could not see my horse; but I could hear him. I heard the voice of the horse. It seemed to come from high up above me.

I looked up—and there was my horse, tied to the top of the church!

I now knew what had happened. The town was covered with snow. I went to sleep on top of the snow. What I thought to be a little tree was the top of the church. A hot wind blew and the snow went away in the night. My horse was tied to the top of the church. And I was down in the street of the town.

What should I do?

I took my gun; I shot carefully. (Did I tell you that I shoot very well?) I cut the harness with the shot. The horse fell down into the street. It was not hurt.

I got on my horse and went on my journey.

7 *A surprising meeting with a wolf*

In Russia most people travel in *sledges*. I bought a sledge and used my horse to pull it. I travelled on in my sledge. I was going to Petersburg.



There was my horse tied by the harness to the top of the church

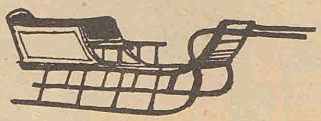
I came to a great forest. As I went through the forest I saw a wolf coming after me. The wolf needed food. It wanted to eat my horse. It came faster and faster. The horse went faster. On came the wolf! I could do nothing. I lay down in the sledge. The wolf was very near.

At last the wolf jumped! It jumped over me on the horse; and it began to eat the back of the horse. The horse went on faster. The wolf ate into the horse's body.

I stood up in the sledge. I hit hard! The body of the horse fell on the ground; but the wolf ran on. And, as the horse fell, all its harness fell round the wolf. The wolf went on, pulling the sledge.

In this way I was pulled to Petersburg by a wolf.

Some people have been surprised at this story; but it is quite true.



Sledge

8 The story of a fox's skin[1]

I was out shooting in a forest near Petersburg, and I saw a beautiful black fox. Its skin was very fine. I wanted to get the skin for a coat. I did not want to make a hole in the skin. But, if I shot the fox, it would make a hole in the skin. I must kill the fox, yet make no hole in the skin.

[1] *Skin* = outside covering of the body of a person or animal.

I knew what to do.

I had with me a large, heavy needle. I put the needle in my gun. As the fox passed a tree, I shot at its tail. The needle went through the tail into the tree. The fox could not get away, for its tail was held to the tree. After a time the fox lay quiet.

I came quietly behind the tree. I shot my gun just behind the fox's ear (but I did not hit the beast). At the same time I cried "Ha!"

The fox was so surprised that it jumped out of its skin.

So I had a good skin with no shot-hole in it—only a small needle hole in the tail.

9 *The elephant and the mango tree*

I was once out shooting in India. I had used all my shot; I had gun-powder left; but I had no more shot. I walked through the forest eating a *mango*.[1]

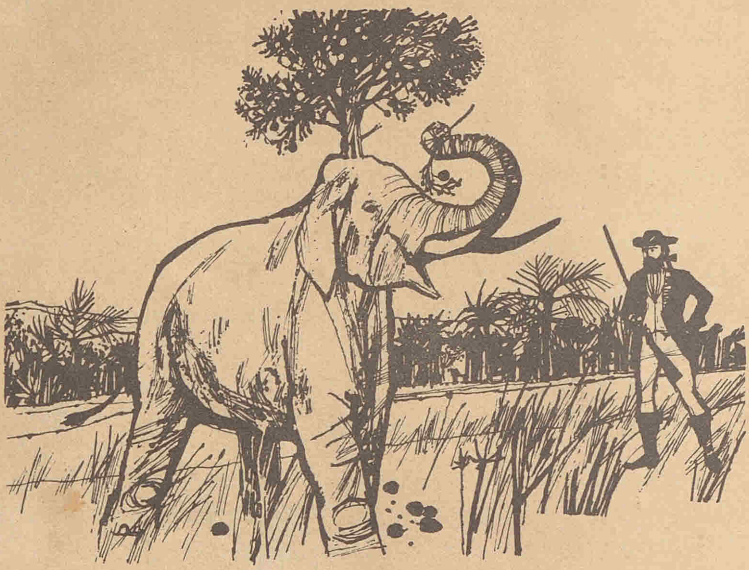
Then I saw a great elephant—a very fine elephant.

Quickly I put gun-powder in my gun. As I had no shot, I put the *stone*[2] of the mango in my gun. I shot at the elephant: the shot hit the elephant between its eyes. The elephant stopped. But it did not fall. It stood there. Then it turned and ran away.

Some years later I went back to India to visit the same friends. I went out shooting in the same forest. I came to the same place. As I walked, I heard a noise. I turned round and saw a great elephant. And there,

[1] *Mango* = a fruit.
[2] *Stone* = seed found in some kinds of fruit.

growing between its eyes, was a big mango tree. And all round it on the ground were the finest sweetest mangoes which had fallen from the tree.



Growing between his eyes was a big mango tree

If you do not believe this story, you can ask my friend the Raja (King) of Mithyakotha, for he saw the mango tree too. (The Raja died some years ago, but the story is quite true. Or you can ask my friend Smith of Asia.)

10 The Baron's dog

I have been in many dangers, but I have come safely out of all, because I always knew what to do,

and how to do it. A man who is often in danger needs four things:

(1) a good head.
(2) a good gun.
(3) a good dog.
(4) a good horse.

Any man who leads a life of danger must have a good gun and know how to use it; he must have a fast horse and a good dog. I have told you about my shooting. I will now tell you about my dog and my horse.

There was never a dog like my dog. He was the best and fastest dog I ever saw. When I first had him, he had long legs. But he ran so fast and so far that his legs became quite short; but he is still so wise and so quick and so good that he serves me well—although his legs are short.

11 The Baron's horse

My horse was given to me. I will tell you how it happened.

I was on a visit to my dear friend, Prince Przobossky. I was in an upper (up-*p*-er) room sitting with the ladies. The gentlemen were all outside looking at a young horse which had just been brought from the country. I heard cries. No one could mount the horse; no one could go near it. The gentlemen did not know what to do.

So I went down.

I jumped on the horse's back. The horse was very surprised; but I was very gentle, and I knew much

about riding. I soon made the horse do what I wanted. The ladies were looking at me out of the window, but they could not see me well. They wanted to come down to watch me riding. But I cried, "Do not come down; I will come up!"

I rode the horse far away from the house. Then I came back riding very fast. As I came near the house, I made the horse jump. It jumped in at the window of the ladies' room. Then I made it walk round the room three times. I also made it climb up on a table, and then sit nicely in one of the *seats*.[1] I then made it hold out its foot to each of the ladies—as a gentleman holds out his hand. Then it jumped out of the window again, down on to the ground.

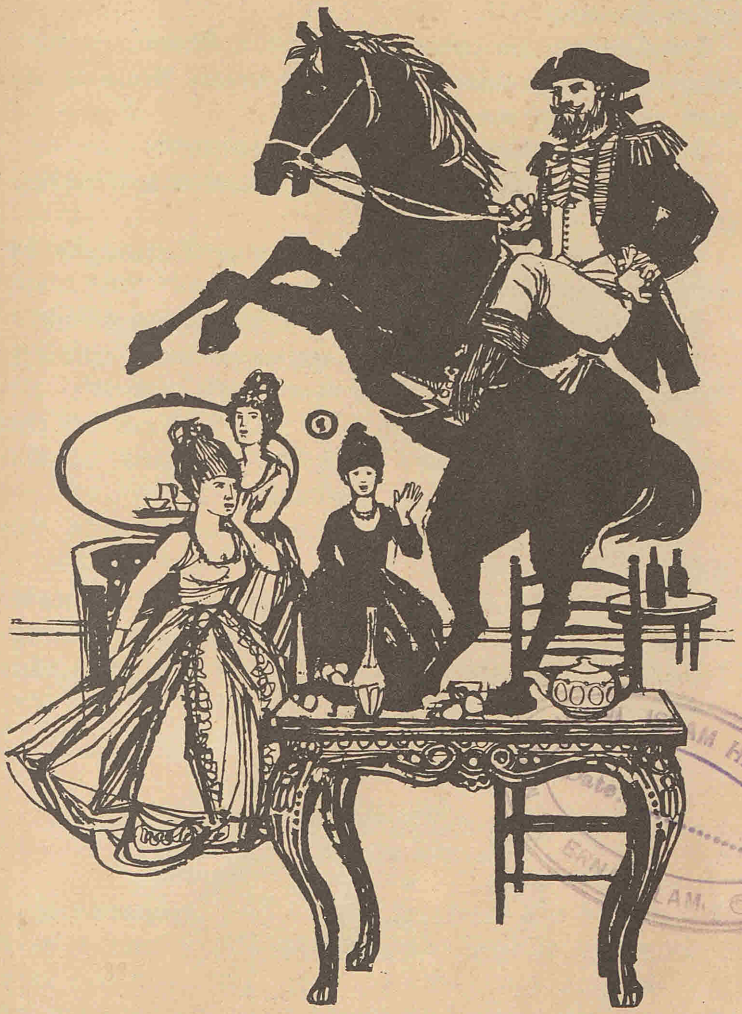
The Prince was very pleased at this, and he gave me the horse as a present.

12 *The Baron goes to war*

I led a company of horse-soldiers in the war between Russia and Bolonia. My horse put me in great danger in the first battle, because I did not then know how fast it could go. I will tell you how this happened.

We won the battle and the Bolonians ran back to the town. I rode after them, and came to the wall of the town. In the wall there was a great heavy door. This door did not open like most doors; it was pulled up from above. When the Bolonians saw me coming they let the door fall down. But I rode quickly

[1] *Seat* = something used for sitting on.



Baron Munchausen's horse on the table

through, before the door fell. I heard a noise behind me as the door fell.

I rode into the town and saw the Bolonians running out of the other side of the town. None of my men were with me. I was alone.

I said, "I must wait till my men come."

My horse needed water, so I took him to a drinking-place.

He drank, and drank, and drank. I thought he would never stop drinking.

I sat there for a long time. Still the horse drank.

I looked round to see if my men were coming. And then I knew why my horse drank so much.

The great heavy door, as it fell, had cut off the back part of my horse's body. As he drank, all the water was pouring out at the back.

The other part of the horse was outside the wall.

My men came. They saw the back part of the horse, and knew that it was mine. So they brought it along. I quickly took a needle and made the horse one again; and it was as good as before.

13 How to pass a carriage in a narrow road

Soon after this, the war came to an end.

I started out to travel home.

It was a cold winter—the coldest winter I have ever known. I was in a *carriage*. The road was very narrow. I was afraid we might meet another carriage in the road. There was not room to pass another

carriage in the road. So I told my servant to blow his *horn.*

The servant kept blowing his horn; he blew and blew. But no sound came. He could not make the horn sound.

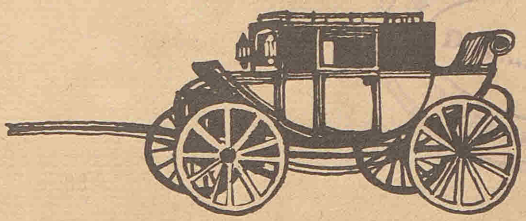
Why did the horn not sound? It was a good horn. It had always sounded before. We did not know what to think.

He blew harder. Still the horn gave no sound.

Soon after this we met another carriage. We could not pass. I got out of my carriage and looked. There stood the two carriages in the road. The road was deep, with high banks on each side. We could not pass.

(Did I tell you that I am a very strong man? My arms are *very* strong, and I can raise very heavy things.)

I took the horses out of my carriage. Then I got under the carriage and put my back under it. I jumped up on the bank—with the carriage, of course, still on my back. I walked along the bank till I had passed the other carriage. Then I jumped down into the road.



Carriage

Then I came back and took both the horses. I took one horse under one arm, and the other horse under the other arm. I jumped up on the bank. I walked along. Then I jumped down into the road.

In this way we passed the other carriage, and went on our journey.

14 Frozen sound

When night came we made a fire. It was still very cold. My servant put his horn down on the ground near the fire. We began to eat.

As we ate, we heard the sound of a horn. The horn was playing—alone. No one was blowing the horn; yet sound was coming out of it.

Then I knew what had happened.

I have told you that it was a very cold winter. When my servant blew his horn, the sounds were frozen inside the horn. When we sat down to eat, my servant had put down the horn near the fire. The fire warmed the horn, and all the sounds came out.

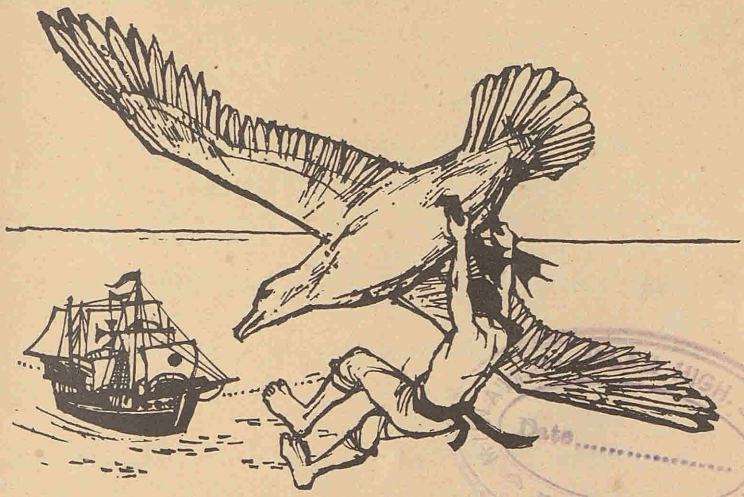
For the rest of the journey I made my servant blow his horn for one hour before each meal. Then he put the horn by the fire. So the horn always played nice songs to us while we were eating.

15 The Baron crosses the Atlantic

I got on to an English ship at Portsmouth.

All went well till we came near to America. Then, one day, the ship hit something. One man was high up among the sails. He was thrown half a mile through the air. But he was not killed. As he was

flying through the air, he passed near a big sea-bird. He caught the bird's feet and the bird carried him safely back on to the ship.



He caught the bird's feet and the bird carried him safely back to the ship

Then the ship stopped. I was in my room. I was thrown up against the top of the room. My head hit the floor of the room above me. It hit it so hard that my head was driven down into my body. But the captain and four men pulled it out again, and I soon felt quite well again.

(Did I tell you that my head is very hard?)

The ship had not run on to a rock. It had run on to a very big fish. It hit the nose of the fish. The fish was very angry, and hit the ship with its tail.

The fish had made a hole in the side of the ship

with its tail. I saw the water coming in through the hole. I must stop the water! I must stop it at once.

So I sat on the hole.

At last a man came and put pieces of wood over the hole and I was free to go-away.

16 The Baron in America

I met a man in America who was using my name! He called himself Baron Munchausen, and he told stories which were not true! This made me very angry. For my stories are always true.

I will tell you some of the stories told me by this man.

He told me that there was a house in America in which there were one hundred rooms one above the other. This clearly is not true.

He said that they had carriages which moved without horses; he also said that his friend, Mr. Ford, made three hundred no-horse-carriages in one day. This clearly is not true.

He said that he was able to send his voice through the air so that hundreds of people, sitting in their homes, could hear him speak. He said that the people sat in their houses and heard him tell stories many miles away. This cannot be true.

He said—— I will not tell you any more of his foolish stories.

17 The Baron in Egypt

I got much money in America by going from place to place and telling the people about my travels. All

the people believed them.—They believe such stories in America.

From America I went to Egypt. I got a boat and went far up the River Nile.

You have heard that each year the River Nile becomes very large and deep and goes over all the land.

This happened while I was in my boat. On the third day I could see nothing but water. And on the fifth day my boat was caught in the top of a tree.

We could not move.

Then a wind blew and the boat was blown over on one side. The water came into the boat and it went down. We were all saved (six men and two boys), for we held on to the tree.

We lived in this tree for six weeks and three days. It was a bread-tree. On it grew things like loaves of bread. And, of course, we had quite enough water. So we lived on bread and water.

Then the river went down. We found our boat at the foot of the tree, but we were now one hundred miles from the river. So we walked to the city of Alexandria.

18 The Great Gun at Gibraltar

A *telescope* is a long pipe with glasses in it. With the help of a telescope one can see things which are far away.

I had a very fine telescope, made in London.

From Egypt I went to Gibraltar where the French were fighting against the English.

There I met my old friend *General* Elliot. (A General is a man who leads an army.) I showed General Elliot my telescope and he was very pleased with it.

As I looked through my telescope at the French, I saw that the French were just going to *fire a cannon*.[1] I looked carefully and I saw that the cannon-ball would fall just on the place where we were standing.

I said, "General, the ball of the big French cannon will fall just on this place. Will you do as I ask?"

"Yes," said the General.

"Then bring your biggest cannon to this place."

The cannon was brought.

I pointed the cannon carefully at the French cannon.

I watched the French soldiers through my telescope. Just as I saw the French fire their cannon, I gave the order to fire our cannon. The two cannon-balls met half-way. Our cannon was bigger. So the French cannon-ball was driven back. It was driven back down the hole of the French cannon which shot it. It went out through the other end of the cannon, and then passed through three ships at sea. Then it fell at last into a poor man's house in Africa on the other side of the sea—and hit the poor man on the nose.

It hurt his nose; but he was not killed.

19 Killing bears in the North

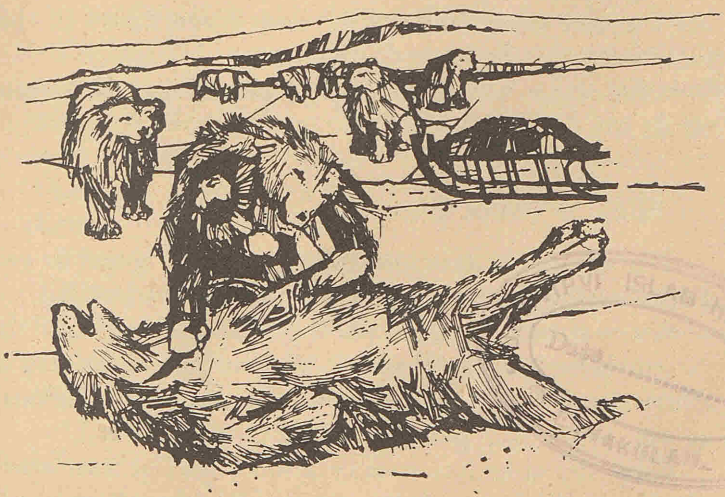
I went with Captain Phipps to the *North Pole*

[1] *Fire a cannon* = shoot a large gun.

(that is a place very far north where there is always snow, and it is very cold). In the North there are *Polar* Bears.—Polar Bears are white bears which live in the snow.

One day I went out shooting Polar Bears. I saw two bears fighting or playing. I went nearer to them, and raised my gun to shoot at them. Just as I raised my gun, my foot hit something and I fell down. The back of my head hit the hard snow. After that I knew nothing—I lay as one dead.

At last I opened my eyes. I saw that a great Polar Bear was just taking hold of the front of my coat. It was trying to pull me away. It wanted to pull me away to some place to eat me.



Baron Munchausen killing the polar bear

I quickly raised my gun (which was still in my hand) and shot the bear.

At the sound of the shot three hundred other Polar Bears came running across the snow.

I knew that I was in great danger. I must do something quickly.

I cut off the skin of the dead Polar Bear and put it round me.

The three hundred Polar Bears came. They put their noses close to me, and smelled me. They thought I was a bear and did not hurt me. They began to play all round me.

"Now," thought I, "I can get many Polar Bears. I shall take the Polar Bear skins home to all my friends."

I went close up to a bear and quickly killed it with my knife. I killed three hundred Polar Bears in this way.

When I got back to Europe I gave Polar Bear skins to all my friends.

20 *How to shoot pheasants at sea*

The *pheasant* is a fine bird, and very good to eat. I like eating pheasant better than any other bird.

We were many days on the ship going from the North Pole back to Europe. We ate fish every day at every meal. I do not like fish. I wanted some pheasant to eat.

Now my dog has a very good nose; it can smell birds very far away. It can smell pheasants best of all. It is a very useful dog. Whenever the dog smells any

bird, it comes to me and shows me where the bird is.

One day on the ship my dog came to me and tried to show me that he could smell pheasants.

I did not believe him. For there was no land near.

But the dog came again—and again.

At last I said to the Captain, "I believe there are pheasants near. My dog tells me so. And my dog is always right. He can smell birds which are half a mile away."

The Captain laughed at me.

"There are no birds," he said. "There is no land near. We are hundreds of miles from any land. But there is a great fish coming along just behind the ship.—Look!"

I looked and saw a very large fish coming close behind. It was a fish called a *shark,* which eats men.

The Captain said, "We will catch the shark."

He called his men, and they caught the shark. They pulled up the dead shark on to the ship. Then they cut open the shark to take off its skin. When they cut open the shark they found inside it two pheasants. The pheasants were alive, for the shark had not bitten them. . . .

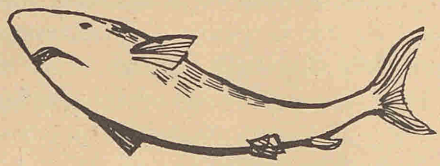
That is not the end of the story.

The hen-pheasant had laid eggs inside the shark. There were four eggs. Next day the young pheasants came out of the eggs. So we had six pheasants.

The Captain said to me:

"Baron," he said, "your dog was right. He told the truth."

I answered, "Captain, my dog and I always tell the truth."



Shark

21 I reach London

We reached London early one summer morning.

I went on to the land, and walked along the river-side. I came to a hill where there are cannons. It was very early in the morning, but the day was hot. I wished to get out of the sun. There were no trees. I knew that these cannons are fired only when the King or some great person comes to London. So I got inside one of them. I soon fell asleep.

I had thought that no one knew of our coming. But a man had seen our ship coming up the River Thames. Orders were given to receive me as if I were a King; for the story of my earlier travels was well known.

When the soldiers on the hill saw that our ship had come, they ran to the cannons. They fired all the cannons.

I was shot across the river and fell on some dry

grass in the field on the other side. The grass was deep and soft. So I was quite unhurt.

I took a small boat and went back to the ship.

22 *The Baron does the bravest thing of all*

Near the ship I found the King of England and all the great men of the land waiting to receive me.

There were flags in the streets, and all the people came out of their houses to see me ride by.

At noon I sat down to a meal with the King and all the great men and the beautiful ladies. And after that I walked in the garden of the King's house. I walked with my dear friend, the Lady Fragrantia.

"Tell me," said the lady, "in all your travels, what is the most beautiful thing you ever saw? and what is the bravest thing you ever did?"

"The most beautiful thing," said I, "is standing now by my side. And the bravest thing I ever did is—to ask her to be my wife."

ISLAM HIGH SCHOOL Date

5430

QUESTIONS ON ULYSSES

(U. = Ulysses)

1. 1. Against whom had the Greeks fought?
2. Who were angry with the Greeks?
3. Who was angry with U.?

2. 1. Who was not at the meeting?
2. Who was sad because of U.?
3. Where is U.?
4. Why was a god angry with U.?

3. 1. Who was sent to the island of Calypso?
2. What did he tell Calypso to do?

4. 1. Where did Calypso find U.?
2. What did she give him?
3. How many trees did he cut?

5. 1. For how many days did U. sail?
2. What did Poseidon do to U.'s boat?

6. 1. What did Ino give to U.?
2. Why could not U. reach the land at first?
3. Where did he fall asleep?

ISLAM HIGH
Date.....

7. 1. Who was Alcinous?
2. Why did Nausicaa go to the river? (To do what?)

8. 1. Why did the girls cry out?
2. What woke U.?
3. Where must U. stay?
4. At whose feet must U. fall?

9. 1. Why did Arete ask about U.'s clothes?
2. What did Alcinous say? "Why do you not——?"

10. 1. What did the Princes do after the meal?
2. What did they do after that?

11. 1. What did the Princes bring?
2. What did U. answer to Nausicaa? (Write as much of it as you can.)
3. What made U. weep?

12. 1. Is Ithaca east or west of the other islands?
2. "There is nothing dearer to a man than——?"

13. 1. The people of the Cicones were many as——?
2. How many men from each of U.'s ships were killed?

14. 1. What did those who had eaten the Lotus say?
2. How did U. get these men to the ships?

15. 1. How many eyes has a Cyclops?
2. What did the Cyclops do to U.'s men?
3. What did U. do to the Cyclops?

16. 1. What did Æolus give to U.?
2. Why did U.'s men open the bag?

17. 1. What did Circe do to U.'s men?
2. Whom did U. meet?

18. 1. What was given to U.?
2. What do the Sirens do?
3. What does Scylla do?
4. What does Charybdis do?

19. 1. Why do not U.'s men hear the Sirens?
2. How many men did Scylla catch?
3. What did U. hold?

20. 1. What did U. say to the Queen? (Give as much of it as you can.)
2. What did U. do when he lay down in the ship?

21. 1. Why did not the ship move?
2. What did the men do to U.?

22. 1. Who was the boy?
2. How did U. dress himself?
3. What did the bad men want to do?

23. 1. Who knew U.?
2. Why was Penelope angry?

24. 1. What did U. tell Penelope to make her sure?
2. After how many years did U. come back?

QUESTIONS ON BARON MUNCHAUSEN

(B. M. = Baron Munchausen)

1. 1. What have certain persons said?
2. What does B. M. always do?

2. 1. Who helped B. M.?
2. To what place will B. M. go?

3. 1. How high were the trees blown?
2. Why did one tree not fall back into its place?
3. Who was made King of the Island?

4. 1. What was in front of B. M.?
2. Why could not B. M. kill it?
3. What was behind B. M.?

5. 1. Into what did the lion jump?
2. How did B. M. kill the crocodile?

6. 1. Where was the horse?
2. How did B. M. make the horse fall down?

7. 1. What did the wolf do to the horse?
2. What fell on the wolf?

8. 1. What did the fox do when B. M. said "Ha!"?
2. In what part of the fox was there a hole?

9. 1. What did B. M. put in his gun?
2. What was growing on the elephant?

10. 1. What four things must a traveller have?
2. What made the dog's legs short?

11. 1. Where did the horse jump?
2. What did the horse hold out?

12. 1. Why did the horse drink so much?
2. What did the Baron's men bring?

13. 1. What could the servant not do?
2. How did B. M. pass the other carriage?

14. 1. What had happened to the sound in the horn?

15. 1. Why was the man in the sails not killed?
2. What happened to B. M.'s head?
3. What made a hole in the ship?
4. How did B. M. stop the hole?

16. 1. What is there in America? "A house in which there are——"
2. What did the American say about carriages?
3. What other thing did he tell about?

17. 1. How did B. M. get money in America?
2. How long did B. M. live in the tree?
3. What tree was it?

18. 1. Where will the French cannon-ball fall?
2. Where did the two cannon-balls meet?
3. Where did the French cannon-ball fall? "On the — (*a*) — of a — (*b*) — in — (*c*)."

19. 1. What did B. M. do with the skin of the bear?
2. How many bears did he kill?

20. 1. What did the dog smell?
2. Where were the birds?
3. How many eggs were there?

21. 1. Where did B. M. fall asleep?
2. Where did B. M. fall?

22. 1. What is the most beautiful thing B. M. ever saw?
2. What is the bravest thing B. M. ever did?

LIST OF EXTRA WORDS

U = *The Travels of Ulysses.* M = *The Travels of Baron Munchausen*

Carriage	M/13
Crocodile	M/4
General	M/18
God/dess	U/1/2
Gun	M/4
Harness	M/6
Horn	M/13
Lion	M/4
Mango	M/9
North Pole	M/19
Pheasant	M/20
Polar	M/19
Seat	M/11
Shark	M/20
Skin	M/8
Sledge	M/7
Stone	M/9
Telescope	M/18

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The Mystery of the Island
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Hoodt-Hoodt
A Journey to India
The Magic Slippers
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[illegible] of the Undersea City
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