DESERET EVENING NEWS.

Thursday, - - - - July 23, 1868.

THE WORLD'S REWARD.

A TALE OF HUNGARY.

(Concluded.)

The countryman shuddered body and soul. He saw the snake wreathing its folds in self congratulation, and preparing to revel in the success of its machinations. All hope of delivery had vanished, and the poor countryman began to prepare himself for death, and to recommend himself to the keeping of God before drinking the bitter cup. But, lo! suddenly a fox sprang forward from the wood where he had been hidden, quickly took his place between the countryman and the snake, and very courteously asked what was the subject of their quarrel. He winked at the countryman, while the snake watched all his movements, and offered the poor man his patronage if he would help him to a good supply from the poultry yard. "Yes! yes!" said the countryman, upon which the fox said he would institute a proper inquiry into the whole affair.

And to the countryman's great astonishment, the snake gave his consent, and they conducted the wondering fellow back to the very boundary from which they had witnessed the begining of his strange adventure.

When they reached the spot the fox betook himself to silent and thoughtful musings. He looked at the stone around, above and below, poked with his nose, brushed with his tail, and began an eloquent harangue: "Beloved, beautiful and accomplished snake! I can no more doubt your right than I can add another charm to the grace of your body; nay, I am as sensible of the justice of your claims as is this stone to the brightness of the shining scales on your back, but I am perplexed with the question as to how your stately form could have been confined to this small hole. In order that I may form a righteous judgment the whole matter must be made clear."

"I will answer then at once," said the snake, and suddenly crept into the hole where she had been concealed. The fox gave a sharp wink to the countryman, who so suddenly and dexterously turned over the stone upon the snake that it was almost impossible for her to stretch out her head. "And couldst thou indeed breathe?" inquired the fox with affected wonderment, "couldst thou indeed breathe in this narrow, uncomfortable place?" "Uncomfortable, indeed," said the snake, "very uncomfortable—the stone is so very heavy—let me out, let me out, or I shall be pressed to death?" The last words were feebly uttered from the squeezed throat of the snake, but the countryman gaily answered: "No! no! my lady snake! remain where thou art!" and he and his cunning deliverer wended their way homeward.

They had not proceeded far when the fox reminded the countryman of his engagement, and the countryman promised that the very next morning he would have six noble cocks ready for breakfast, to which he invited him, whereupon the fox bade him a hearty farewell, and slipped away into a vineyard that was near.

The countryman hurried back to his village as fast as his legs could carry him, but reached it only late in the evening; but before he perceived his cottage he heard in the distance the noisy shoutings of his impatient wife, and he had scarcely crossed the threshold ere she set upon him with all the fury of a wild beast as if she would destroy him. It was in vain he narrated to her the fearful adventures which had delayed his return—it was in vain he lauded the kindness of the benevolent fox which had been his deliverer—she only raved and scolded the more till the stream of her desperation was exhausted, and her husband was unable to say a word.

He told her of the promise he had made to the fox, and said that on its fulfillment her life and his own depended; but she burst out more furiously than ever, and swore she would rather sacrifice him than one single cock from her poultry yard; and before the appearance of the morning star she stood armed with a sharp heavy hatchet behind the wicket-door, and as the unsuspecting guest entered to partake of the promised hospitality, and had just stretched his head over the threshold, she struck his head with a mortal blow.

The countryman hearing the death-cry of the wounded fox, hurried out of his chamber, hoping to warn and save him. It was too late. The dying fox was bathed with his own blood, and perished with the exclamation: "The world's reward for well doing!"

THE POWER OF PREJUDICE.

There is a well known London physician who has the greatest possible antagonism to smoking. He is medical referee to two life insurance offices, and a gentleman who applied to him for inspection a little while ago, came away sadly depressed because his "life" had been rejected. The matter was a serious one, inasmuch as the applicant was a professional man, with a large income that would die with him, and he was the father of a numerous family. He made known his grief to a medical friend, who thoroughly examined him and declared him to be as sound as a bell. "Whom did you see?" said the friend. "Dr. ——," replied the applicant. "Oh, I see; and he asked you whether you smoked?" "Yes." "Well, Dr. —— is referee for another office; apply to be insured there. Dr.—— never recognizes faces; he won't know you; and when he asks you if you smoke, you needn't tell a fib, but you can put him off in some way." The applicant appeared a second time before Dr. ——, who did not in the least recognize him. At the close of the examination Dr. —— said: "Do you smoke?" "It's a filthy, disgusting habit," replied the applicant. "I have great pleasure in recommending you as a perfectly sound and healthy life," said Dr. —— to the applicant, whom a fortnight before he had refused to pass.

TRIMMING TOMATO VINES.—A correspondent of the Highland *News* says: Keep your vines trimmed to not more than three or four strands. A little attention will enable you to do this in a way that will throw the strength of the plant into the fruit. Fruit-bearing branches never put out immediately over a leaf.—Just now when the tomato is in blossom, this can readily be observed. The branches which put out directly over the leaf or strands or vines, should be pinched out with the thumb and finger, except three or four you wish to train up; you can have the fruit greatly improved in both quality and quantity.

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