

her son was greatly troubled and could not think what to do; but presently he started up from his seat, and went out, and got five or six asses, and on their backs he placed large leather sacks full of wine, which he had bought with the money of King Rhampsinitos. Then he drove the asses by the wall on which his brother's body was hung up; and when he came near the soldiers who were guarding it, he loosened the string which was round the mouth of two or three of the sacks, and the wine began to trickle down upon the ground. Then he cried out with a loud voice for all the guards to hear, and tore his hair, and ran about the road as if he did not know which sack to tie up first. Quickly the soldiers came up, and there was such a pushing as was never seen before. Instead of helping him to tie up the leather bottles, they ran for cups to catch up the wine as it streamed out on the ground, and they drank it up as fast as their cups were filled. Then the mason's son began to scold them, and pretended to be dreadfully angry; but the soldiers tried to coax and soothe him, until at last he drove his asses off the road, and began to put the sacks right again.

Then the guards came round him, and began to talk and laugh with him; and by and by he gave them one of the bottles of wine to drink. But they said that they would not drink it unless he drank some of it with them. So they poured the wine out into the cups, and they drank and made merry together. Then he gave them another bottle, and another and another, till all the soldiers fell down on the ground fast asleep. They had been so long drinking and laughing together, that it was now night; and it was so dark that nobody could see what he was doing. Then the mason's son went softly to the wall and took down his brother's body which was hanging on it, and afterwards he went to all the soldiers one by one, and shaved off the whiskers and beard from one side of their faces; and then he returned home to his mother and gave her the body of his brother.

When the morning came, the soldiers woke up from their heavy sleep. They felt very dull and stupid, but