

manded me to approach, I knew you to be the true master of the treasure, which I immediately resigned to you. A treasure still more considerable is preserved for you in Yemen. Now give me my liberty, and let me depart."—"By the power of God," exclaimed Ali, "I will not give thee thy liberty till thou shalt have put me in possession of the treasure in Yemen."—"I will bring it you, but swear I shall then be free," "I swear it; but I have something else at heart in which thou mayest assist me."—"Let me hear."—"I have a wife and children at Cairo, and will that thou bring them to me."—"Your will shall be obeyed, and they shall come to Bagdad suitably provided. Ali then began to collect the gold, and put it into bags which he found near him; he next employed himself through the rest of the night in secreting the treasure in a subterraneous chamber which he discovered open, and, having done so, he locked the door and put the key in his pocket. Toward the morning the slave of the owner, of the house knocked at the door, and was astonished to find Ali alive and well: he immediately set off to carry the news to his master, who, highly rejoiced, repaired to visit his guest. He congratulated Ali on his escape, and asked him what he had seen during the night. Ali assured him he had not been disturbed. "I passed the night," he continued, "in reading the koran, and that probably kept the evil spirits, who assailed your former visitors, at a respectful distance.

At the expiration of three days, the genius of the treasure appeared, and announced to Ali that he might go and meet his family, as they were splendidly arrayed, and travelled in handsome conveyances, taken from the treasure from Yemen which accompanied them. Ali invited the principal merchants of the city to accompany him, and proceeded with them to a garden in the suburbs, where he awaited the arrival of his wife and children. They had not

waited long when a large moving mass made its appearance in the distance. It was a caravan of mules and camels, with a numerous train of attendants. The conductor rode up to Ali, and apologized for a delay of four days which had been incurred, he stated, through fear of robbers.—Now Ali had previously made himself known to the merchants of Bagdad, as one of their class, who had come to the city with a caravan of his own, but had been cut off from it by banditti, and compelled to take safety in flight; in concordance with which story, the genius of the treasure had provided these seeming mules and camels, which, with their drivers were all phantoms. The merchants of Bagdad were filled with astonishment at the wealth of Ali, and accompanied him to his dwelling, where their wives were also assembled to meet his wife. All were treated with great civility and a sumptuous regale, and rosewater and perfumes were scattered lavishly about. In their turn they offered presents to Ali, and his family, and nothing was to be seen, but servants with trays of fruit, flowers, confectionary, and rich stuffs. Ali then gave the supposed muleteers and camel-drivers their dismissal, with which they were well pleased. On asking his wife an account of her travels, she told him that she had fallen asleep, and when she awoke found herself in the midst of the caravan. Ali, opening the chests, was surprised at the quantity of gold, precious stones, and rich clothes which they contained; he showed his treasures to his wife, and told her his adventures. "God be praised!" she exclaimed; "this is the result of your father's benedictions. Now follow his advice, and never relapse into the habits into which your former companions seduced you." Ali promised her to reform, and he kept his promise. He placed the brocades and jewels in a magazine, and engaged assiduously in trade.

The reputation of Ali at last came