

THE STORY

-OF-

JOHN AND JONATHAN.

In the olden time there dwelt on a beautiful island called Albion a merchant by the name of Bull. John was his christian name, and the one by which he was best known. A plain spoken man was John Bull, powerful and strong as his namesake, very blunt in his manner, and in appearance stout and broad-shouldered; very much like the pictures you may see in Punch of a jolly English farmer, and which will give a very good idea of him generally. However, like everybody else, he had his good and bad points,—he was as stubborn as a mule, easily led but uncommon hard to drive, had a strong will of his own that wouldn't brook dictation, and had most of the failings common to obstinate people. He had inherited the island from his ancestors, who had held it for generations, and had likewise inherited from them a love for high-sounding names. He was very wealthy—far more so than any of the landed proprietors across the bit of water that divided them; and, as a matter of course, was a subject of envy to some of them, which, to say the least, was very ungrateful on their part, especially as he had lent every one of them money at various times. His tenantry were very numerous, some of whom leased his land for agricultural purposes, while others, being engaged in business like himself, had factories, stores and warehouses, and traded with neighboring merchants. John having a good eye to his own interests, generally derived a great revenue from these sources, consequently he was looked up to like a lord among the people who had great reverence for him. On his part he treated them with great kindness and generosity, built schools for their children, administered justice with impartiality, and kept a strong police force to see that order prevailed among them. But it was on holidays that John felt big, as on these days he usually reviewed his police. On these occasions would he rig