

those of his nation. But as the vessel sailed onward and passed Thurrington and St. Veit, the passengers one after another, grew silent, gazed down the river, until one spoke out:

"Come, Jew, do you know any pastime that will amuse us? Your fathers must have contrived many a one during their long stay in the wilderness."

"Now is the time, to shear my sheep!" thought the Jew. And he proposed that they should sit round in a circle, and propound curious questions to each other, and he, with their permission, would sit down with them. Those who could not answer the questions, should pay the one who propounded them a twelve-kreutzer piece; and those who answered pertinently, should receive a twelve-kreutzer piece.

The proposal suited the company, and hoping to divert themselves with the Jew's wit or stupidity, each one asked at random, whatever entered his head.

Thus for example, the first one asked:

"How many soft boiled eggs could the giant Goliath eat upon an empty stomach?"

All said that it was impossible to answer that question, and each paid over his twelve kreutzers.

But the Jew said, "One; for he who has eaten one egg cannot eat a second one on an empty stomach," and the other paid him twelve kreutzers.

The second thought, wait Jew, and I will try you out of the New Testament, and I think I shall win my piece: "Why did the Apostle Paul write the second epistle to the Corinthians?"

The Jew said: "Because he was not in Corinth, otherwise he would have spoken to them." So

he won another twelve kreutzer piece.

When the third found the Jew so well versed in the Bible, he tried him in a different way. "Who prolongs his work to as great a length as possible, and yet completes it in time?"

"The rope maker, if he is industrious," said the Jew.

In the meanwhile they drew near to a village, and one said to the other, "That is Bamalch." Then the fourth asked, "in what month do the people of Bamalch eat the least?"

The Jew said, "In February, for that has only twenty-eight days."

The fifth said, "There are two natural brothers, and still only one of them is my uncle."

The Jew said: "The uncle is your father's brother, and your father is not your uncle."

A fish now jumped out of the water, and the sixth asked "What fish have their eyes nearest together?"

The Jew said: "The smallest."

The seventh man asked, "How can a man ride from Basle to Berne in the shade in the summer time, when the sun shines?"

The Jew said: "When he comes to a place where there is no shade he must dismount and go on foot."

The eighth asked, "When a man rides in the winter time from Berne to Basle and has forgotten his gloves, how must he manage so that his hands shall not freeze?"

The Jew said: "he must make fists out of them."

The ninth was the last. This one asked: "How can five persons divide five eggs so that each man shall receive one, and still one remain in the dish?"

The Jew said: "The last must take the dish with the egg, and