

The Nonths' Department.

THE SAVOYARD BOY AND HIS SISTER.

"So, then, that is Paris!" exclaimed Seppi, in astonishment.

"Yes, that must be indeed Paris," said his companion Marie, "it looks so very large. 'Would we were but once there, Seppi, for I am so very hungry, and we have not a morsel more bread left in the wallet.'"

"Why yes, Marie, our bread is indeed all gone; but only think of the pretty marmot and the hurdy-gurdy, by which God will help us on still further. Come, come, let us be merry and cheerful. Kind-hearted people will surely not deny us a bit of bread, and a little nook where we may sleep. And you, Marie, can dance so prettily the Savoyarde, and I will sing our song to it; and—hurrah! hurrah!—how my little animal here will spring about when it hears the hurdy-gurdy! And besides, you know, I can sweep chimneys too, and earn plenty of money that way."

"Ah, Seppi, you are always so light-hearted and merry; whilst poor I—I feel as if I could rather grieve my heart out, and cry bitterly!"

"Well, now, that would be foolish! Would that bring us a step further! And yonder lies Paris. Don't you know that one may make one's fortune in such a place as that? Our old Thomas, at home, has often enough told us that, and he knows it, for he has been in Paris himself.

Marie, who sat down to rest herself a little, now summoned together all her strength, and arose, sighing beneath the weight of the hurdy-gurdy, and with a dejected look, walked on by the side of her more sanguine brother. When they had gone thus for a little while, Marie stopped again, and said, mournfully, and almost in tears: "Alas, Seppi, what will our dear mother do now, so all alone at home! This is just about the time when the bells must be chiming there for evening service. Ah, how very sad it is not to be able to hear the sounds of those pretty bells here."

"Why, Marie, it is true," rejoined the consoling Seppi, "we do not hear them ourselves, but our dear mother does; and when she thinks of us, and the bells chime for prayer, she knows that we are in God's hands, and that He will not forsake a couple of poor children."

Just at that moment they were interrupted by the sudden tones, echoed forth through the evening air, from a loud peal of bells. The children simultaneously gave a loud scream of lively joy at these unexpected sounds; and Seppi exclaimed, exultingly: "There now, Marie, you see there are bells in Paris too, and they sound quite differently from those in our own village. Come, come; we shall not fail to thrive there."

And now even Marie herself had gained courage, and so, forgetting hunger and weariness, they pushed on again stoutly together.

The elated Seppi, as they stepped forward continued exclaiming, in a joyful tone, "Yes, yes, we will dance the Savoyarde, and marmot shall perform his tricks, and we will play the hurdy-gurdy and sing, and I will sweep chimneys—ay, ay; and if we can but once send our dear good mother some money—perhaps actually a gold piece, Marie—eh! only think of that!"

When our little travellers entered Paris, it had already grown quite dark. But what an ocean of houses—what crowds of people and equipages—and what astonishing quantities of lights were everywhere scattered around! The Savoyards strayed about for an hour or so, and during that time they were completely bewildered by the sight and bustle. But after the first charm of novelty was satisfied, hunger and weariness returned only the stronger. "But who then will give us something to eat, Seppi," asked Marie, "and where shall we sleep this night?"

"Why, there are so many, many houses," returned her brother, in a rather dejected tone; "surely there will at least be a corner in one of them! Look Marie, yonder is a fine large man-

sion, where there will be no lack of room—come, let us go and beg for shelter. Kind gentleman," said he, to a man who was standing at the gate with a long cane in his hand, "we are in sad distress for a night's lodging and a crust of bread; pray bestow your charity upon us, and we will dance the Savoyarde, and, if you like, our pretty marmot shall perform his leaps before you."

"Why, you couple of detestable beggars," exclaimed the porter, "do you think the palace of his Excellency is to be converted into a hovel to receive such trash as you? No, no, be off; we want none of your monkeys nor Savoyard dances."

Seppi waited not a moment, but seized Marie's hand, and led her hastily away, whilst the poor girl burst into tears and sobbed aloud. "Come, dear Marie, cheer up," said her brother, when they had gone on a little way again; "you take and play now the hurdy-gurdy, and marmot shall dance to it." Marie wiped away her tears, and they now halted and commenced their performance; but the people passed by, without, as Seppi had expected, handing them a present, or offering them a night's lodging. It got later and later, and the little girl shivered with cold and grief, whilst Seppi, almost losing courage, uttered not a word.

They had now reached a small square, crossed by several streets. Marie sunk down on a stone, and held her hands before her eyes in bitter lamentation. At this moment an elegantly-dressed person seemed to observe the children, and, stepping up to Seppi, said, "My little Savoyard, you could do me a favour."

"Very willingly sir; what are your commands?" replied Seppi, delighted.

"Do you see that large shop yonder, which is lighted up so brilliantly?"

"What, opposite? O yes, I see it."

"Well, here you have a gold coin, go in there and get it changed. In case you are questioned about it, say boldly, you have found it. When you come back I will make you a present."

Seppi gladly handed his monkey to his sister, took the twenty-franc piece, and ran across with it to the shop as hard as he could run. When he had given it to the person in the shop to change, the latter looked at it very closely, sounded it on the counter, took it up again and examined it; and, at length, rushing towards the little Savoyard, seized him by the collar, and held him tight. "You good-for-nothing fellow," exclaimed the tradesman, "confess at once where you got this bad money!"

The astonished lad had quite forgotten what he ought to reply, and trembling, stammered out the truth. But the man was distrustful, and was not at all satisfied with this statement. He wished at all events to trace out the party who resorted to such an expedient for circulating base coin among the public. Accordingly, he still retained hold of Seppi's collar, summoned a couple of his people to join him, and ordered the lad to lead the way directly to where he had left the stranger. Meantime the latter, having found the Savoyard to remain rather longer on his mission than he expected, began to think all was not right, and was confirmed in his fears when he perceived the approach of the party, headed by the boy: he accordingly started off, full tares, as fast as his legs could carry him. He was quickly pursued by the others, who still dragged poor Seppi with them against his will, but their efforts to overtake the culprit were in vain, and they were forced to give up the race, he having too great a start of them. They then dismissed the dead-weary Savoyard, saying, "Be off, young squire, you may now run wherever you like."

Run, indeed!—alas! poor Seppi was only too glad to be able to barely drag his wearied feet after him. He crept slowly after the others, and thought of his distressed sister, who, doubtless, would be waiting for him to return, in the dearest anxiety and alarm. When he at length arrived at the spot where he had left her, he looked

everywhere about—but his dear Marie was gone! "Marie, Marie, dear Marie!" cried Seppi, softly, but she did not reply, "Marie, Marie!" he repeated, but no answer. And now, indeed, poor Seppi's heart was broken, and he was quite in despair. He ran backwards, and forwards, everywhere about, calling out loudly, "Marie!" but all in vain, and, leaving it to chance, he hurried down the first leading street to look for her.

The midnight hour had now struck, when Seppi quite exhausted and faint, sank down upon the step of a house, and soon fell into a deep sleep. The morning dawned, and our little Savoyard still slept on. Doubtless he was dreaming of the mountains of his fatherland—of his dear parent—the playfellow's he had left behind—but, perhaps above all, of his beloved sister, now wandering about, Heaven only knew where!

(To be continued.)

ENIGMA No. 1.

We commence in this number the publication of Enigmas for the benefit of our young readers. This one is of a general nature and will not cause much difficulty. Now boys and girls let us see how quickly you can think.

- I am composed of 10 letters.
- My 10, 5, 8, is a river in Switzerland.
- My 2, 10, 6, 7, what Noah's dove went in quest of.
- My 10, 2, 4, 3, is one of the most important parts of a locomotive.
- My 7, 5, 6, 3, is an inhabitant of Northern Europe.
- My 9, 8, 3, is a representative of one of the passions.
- My 7, 1, 6, 9, 3, 2, is an eminent Hebrew who was proof against persecutions.
- My 9, 7, 1, is a famous mountain, near Troy, where Paris adjudged the prize of beauty to Venus.
- My 7, 9, 6, 3, when conveyed in a request is cheerfully complied with.
- My 2, 3, 10, 6, is a characteristic of Pharaoh's lean kine.
- My 5, 7, 8, 9, 6, is a most eminent lying magician.
- My 10, 2, 7, 3, 8, is a very shrubby tree with leaves resembling those of the hazel.
- My 10, 4, 3, is an instrument in daily use.
- My 8, 9, 6, 7, is of great use in confectionary.
- My whole is a town in the north of Africa.

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What multiplier, will from the factor
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 9
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