THE TOY OF THE GIANT'S CHILD. Writtenin German by His Royal Highness Prince Albert, and trans-lated by the late G. F. Richardson, Esq., Geologist of the British Museum)

It is the lofty Inselberg-a mountain high and strong-Where once a noble castle stood—the giants held it long; Its very ruins now are lost, its site is waste and lone And if he looks for giants there, they all are dead and gone ! The giant's daughter once came forth, the castle-gate before, And played with all a child's delight before her father's door : Then, sauntering down the precipice, the girl would gladly go, To see, perchance, how matters went in the little world below.

With few and easy steps she passed the mountain and the wood, At length approaching near the place where dwelt mankind, she

And many a town and village fair, and many a field so green, Before her wondering eyes appeared, a strange and curious scene, And as she gazed, in wonder lost, all on the scenes around, She saw a peasant at her feet a tilling of the ground: The little creature erawled about so slowly here and there, And, lighted by the morning sun, his plough shone out so fair.

"Oh pretty plaything," cries the child, "I'll take thee home with me," And cradling man, and horse, and plough, so gently on her arm, She bore them home quite cautiously, afraid to do them harm.

And spying soon her father out, she shouted from afar-Oh, father, dearest father, what a plaything I have found, Her father sat at table then, and drank his wine so mild, And smiling with a parent's smile, he asks the happy child-

Thou leap'st for very joy, my girl-come, open, let us see !" She opes her 'kerchief cautiously and gladly, you may deem, And shows her eager sire the plough, the peasant and his team; And when she'd placed before his sight the new found pretty toy, She clasped her hands, and screamed aloud, and cried for very joy But her father looked quite seriously, and shaking slow his head-

'What struggling creature hast thou brought so carefully to me

"Go, take it back again, and put it down below; So go, without a sigh or sob, and do my will," he said: " For know, without the peasant, girl, we none of us had bread; 'Tis from the peasant's hardy stock the race of giants are-

MY FIRST VISIT TO COURT. DESCRIBED IN A LETTER TO A FRIEND. (From the German of Starke.)

(Concluded from our last.)

The peasant is no plaything, child-no, God forbid he were."

At this juncture the secretary suddenly entered, approached his highness, and said something to him, of which I only understood the words "just arrived." The prince made me a friendly bow, and hastened away accompanied by the secretary. There stood I alone. I uttered a deep-drawn sigh, wiped the perspiration from my forehead, and began inwardly to think as I now do, that after a few days all this would afford me amusement rather than vexation? That which causes a man pain and displeasure can often be looked back to as a subject for laughter. But I could not think so then; indeed, something within me seemed to whisper that my adventures were not at an bawl. The porter roared with laughter: this both room, and echoed my footsteps, and knew not which way or where to go. I remembered the secretary to help!" roared I. At length I was released, trembling have told me, that directly after my interview with the prince I might go into the concert-room, where I

ground, and went whither chance conducted me. I how to direct or help himself: I really think I am no passed through many rooms which I had not yet seen longer the same man!" In the midst of such thoughts entered many corridors which led I knew not whi- I found that I had lost the way which the farmer's son ther: at one time I walked forwards—then turned had shown me, and saw to my great astonishment that back again—cruised about hither and thither-tried I was in the midst a lonely place bounded by a few all four points of the compass-paused to consider, huts. and became quite convinced that I had lost my way. I hastened to the nearest hut to ask my way; but Then I impatienly began my wanderings over again, the scene which suddenly met my eys kept me back. and tried all the paths I had already given up as hope- Before a handsomely dressed youth, stood an elderly less, until, without knowing it, I got into another wing of the castle; but when I discovered it, it did not help and her eyes overflowing with tears. "You make me me. I had already knocked gently at many a door, mourn for the loss of my good son who supported and tried many a handle-many a door had I opened me," sobbed she. "May God bless you for what you in vain, when at length I gently put my head into a do for me! but, dear, noble sir, are you not indeed room, where my head was of all things the least ex- robbing yourself? You have no parents, and your pected. Two ladies' maids, as they appeared to be, place at court must cost you much. stood busily occupied in adorning themselves. They both fled to one corner of the apartment, and I drew man. "What you have had, and what you may furback equally startled, while one of the pair, a gaily ther need, can be spared from my superfluities; I me an unrestrained volley of laughter.

This was the first time that I had been openly spend how I like." laughed at, and I retreated from it more quickly than a rogue before a police officer. In the hope of escaping at last from this labyrinth, I hastily entered a wet with tears, and I felt that I was myself again. chamber through an open door, and thence into another chamber, and here my progress was stayed, for it led no further. I stood in the midst of a bed-room, in which was an unmade bed and abundance of litter. My superlative ideas of the refinement and splendour of every thing in this castle was somewhat corrected by the ordinary appearance of this room. "Was I behave tolerably well; I am now the man that I was, not a fool," thought I, "to entertain such undue veneration for every thing here, and thus to behave so timidly? Am I not here among men who go to bed and having heard my request, politely offered to accomand sl.ep-get up again and wash, in no better state than I; and some of whom use much dirtier linen?"

of the room suddenly entered, and seeing a stranger now's beloved farm-yard. I pressed warmly the hand there, started, and with a mistrustful and angry look, of the noble youth when he left me. I longed to emasked, "What are you doing in my room?"

I answered with a bow, "I am only looking for the of sight. concert-room."

No, sir! that excuse won't do!" at length to pacify him, and with a little less threat- and welcomed me with a look full of kindness. The Confused at the awkwardness of the adventure, I left ducks were crowding round a trough—and a shaggy his room without feeling able to profit by his directions. dog eame wagging his tail and whining a welcome. my right, and then go by the blue room on the left, my friend, a smiling infant in her arm: "Welcome! little used to these things as not to know where the Come in, it is all ready." little ball-room or the blue room might chance to be Joyfully did I enter the room. A large dish full situated. "It is just the same," thought I, "in the of white asparagus was sending forth a pleasant steam castle as in the street-men have not sufficient per- - an inviting salmon displayed its bright red fleshspicacity to give plain directions to a stranger." I a tin, full of roast pigeons, was hissing on the wood was even going to be angry about it, but it occurred ashes-and a flask of wine was sparkling on the table. to me that on the subject of perspicacity I had not I forgot all my vexations, and two hours afterwards much that day to boast of. For my consolation I now slept away all remembrance of them; and now I am, caught sight of the secretary. He took me readily as always, a friend with all the world and you. under his guidance, began to chat in the most friendly manner, and at length brought me to a door, at which

"Yes! yes!" said he, when I told him so; "a man

would be pleasant to drink first and listen afterwards. have come across my mind. to the prince, but in my awkwardness I had well-nigh watching, especially when darkness is round you. of a dream. The people laughed, and I returned, I midnight lamp of revelry.

knew not how, back again to my seat. "That was superlatively stupid!" thought I, rubbing my forehead

full of anguish that I should again be such a bungler. had done my former mishaps.

Then with her infant hands she spreads her 'kerchief on her knee, could recall the time that is past!" thought I, "I the wave to the surface is 60°, a phenomenon follows She hastes with joyous steps and glad (we know what children are), mium of one might have been met with such and such This fact furnishes a ready means to remedy the evils What hast thou brought me here my girl 2-this is no toy," he sald; to that of the rain, which was more in unison with my another equally celebrated, mentioned by Saunders, secretary was nowhere to be met; else he would pro- accumulation of sound in some portions of a building. bably have taken care of me. The greater portion of the audience dispersed to different parts of the castle; the rest hastened away with rustling umbrellas in different directions, without taking any notice of me, until I found myself standing alone and undecided, within the principal entrance of the castle. "Who knows how long the rain may last? Hasten, that thou may'st fall into the arms of hospitality, for thy soul yearneth for condoling friends, and thy body for meat and drink!" With this I fixed my hat securely on my head, buttoned up my coat, made a sally and ran (in a style that, perhaps, had not been seen in the castle square for many a day,) in the direction of the lodge.

lament my awkwardness. But why did I not then that the very worst luck accompanied me to the last? I know not. Just before I had reached the lodge, an enormous dog started up, sprung at me, placed his paws on my breast, and bellowed and howled in my face with the voice of a lion. "Help! murder! help!" bawled I, as loudly as a man with sound lungs could consoled and vexed me, but I implored his assistance Augh-the dog don't bite!" drawled he. "Help! in every limb. I took off my hat, partly in gratitude might expect a great treat. But where, in this huge out looking on one side or the other, as if I was fleeing from the dog. "Oh! it is a wearisome life at court! I crept away on tip-toe, as if treading upon forbidden thought I, "and I am a dull simpleton who knows not

"Never fear, good mother," answered the young dressed creature with roguish black eyes, sent after make no use of strong drinks," continued he, "so that the money which is allowed me for wine, I can

"God reward you, and our good prince also, for supporting a poor woman like me!" My eyes were

"It is well for me," thought I, "that I have been to court. The court is not to be blamed because I am unacquainted with its fashion and its state; there are good men at court; there are good men everywherethey only differ in appearance according to the station in which they move. In my own station, I think I In the meanwhile the young man had left the hut, pany me. His friendly, intelligent conversation made the road appear very short, and before I was aware of While I was making these observations, the occupier it, and almost before I wished it, he pointed out Krobrace him, and stood gazing after him till he was out

My peaceful shelter was glowing in the soft rays of "The concert-room, why that is in the other wing! the sun, then setting amid the clouds of evening. A beautiful rainbow adorned the sky, one limb of which I explained to him as well as I could, or rather as seemed to rest upon the farm-house. A graceful boy confusedly as possible, who I was, and how I had lost now hastened towards me, shouting "Quick! quick! my way. My dress, my respectable appearance, and supper is ready!" My host, waiting for me at the Residence, Sumach Cottage, Ann Street. my white leathern gloves, which I still wore, seemed entrance to the farm-yard, grasped my hand firmly, ening air he pointed out the way I was to take .- cattle were lying about the house ruminating-greedy This advice, which was to keep the little ball-room on Within the porch I was met by the blooming wife of was not of much use to a poor lost fellow, who was so welcome!" said she, "from the court to a rustic meal.

THE DOORS BEING SHUT. I remembered I had already stood twice hesitating. (From "Thoughts for the Thoughtful," by Old Humphrey.)

I have been reading over the text, "Then the same often misses the right way by over-carefulness about day at evening, being the first day of the week, when it;" and so he conducted me into the concert room. the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Here I began to breathe freely, under the hope that Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, enjoyment would supercede perplexity. But the gra- Peace be unto you," John xx. 19. I have been retification of my ears was not likely to allay my thirst, flecting on the circumstance of "the doors being shut," and my parched tongue began to remind me that it and some pleasant though somewhat fanciful thoughts

"Only think that in such a splendid castle no one Do you wish that Jesus would come into your should offer me a cup of coffee!" mused I. "How heart saying, "Peace be unto you?" Look well to it, refreshing would it be, especially with such milk as the that the "doors" and windows are "shut;" for if your farmer's cows yield-such as my kind hostess brings ears are open to take in all the vain babbling that preto me in the honeysuckle bower!" During these vail in Vanity fair, and your eyes are open to stare at cogitations, I noticed a general stir among those about all the fine things there are set forth, your heart will me. Suddenly the prince, the princess, and some soon be as full as the inn at Bethlehem, and there will members of the royal family appeared. I stepped a be no room for Jesus. Either keep the doors and win- BOOT AND SHOEMAKER, little forward, as I thought it my duty, to make a bow dows shut, or watch them carefully. It is cold work run over him. "Does the man want anything?" said Many a weary hour will you have while other folks are some of the attendants softly, yet so that I could hear merry-making; but when he comes you shall see that it. I looked around me as if I had just awakened out the morning Son of Righteousness is better than the

A BAD ROOM FOR HEARING.

Mr. J. Scott Russell has thus lucidly explained one "Does the man want anything?" seemed to ring in of the causes of bad qualities in the construction of a my ears: but the really excellent music now began: room. He shows that in a large square room, of the all eyes were turned, not on me, as I had feared, but usual form, the reflexion of the same sound is carried on the performers. The stillness and breathless at- to the speaker's ear by different paths, and in different tention of the audience were contrasted by the lively periods of time; the result of which is the confusion expressions of delight in the vicinity of the conductor. of successive sounds and syllables with each other, These, with the splendid decorations of the hall, di- and so a prolific cause of indistinct hearing. It reverted my attention and helped to soothe my mind, quires another principle to afford the remedy for these and made me forget this last blunder sooner than I evils, which Mr. Russell believes to be quite new .-He calls it the principle of non-reflexion and lateral But twice, as the prince seemed to be looking some- accumulation of the sound wave. It was originally what steadily towards the place where I sat, it occurred suggested to him by the observation of a similar phe to me that his highness was offended at my behaviour. nomenon in the wave of the first order in water. This Without considering that the prince was most probably | wave he considers to be the type of the sound wave; thinking on far more important subjects, or if he and, on examination, he finds experimental evidence thought on my strange behaviour at all, his easy po- of the same phenomenon in the latter wave. He has liteness would readily forgive it, I reviewed the whole observed that at angles below 450, the sound wave is of my conduct, and could not conceive how I had no longer completely reflected from the surface on come to be so excessively awkward. "Oh, that I which it impinges; and, that when the obliquity of should succeed better." Greatly did I lament that I of total non-reflection, and the wave continues merely had lost so many favourable opportunities; the enco- to roll along the surface in a direction parallel to it. an ingenious return; to the remark of another, I might so often produced by the reflexions, and echo, and inhave given this or that appropriate reply; on more terference of sound in public buildings. Wherever it than one occasion I could have put in this or that is possible to place flat or curved surfaces at such anwitty repartee; and had I been ready enough to seize gles that the direction of the sound shall be very obmy opportunities, there was really no reason why my lique to the surface, it may be harmlessly disposed of, well-selected, nicely arranged stock of ideas should and prevented from injurious reflexion. This is exhave been so utterly destroyed. I was occupied with actly what the stalls of a choir, the side chapels of a hese gloomy reflections, through which, however, the cathedral, and the partitions of boxes in an operaprospect of a pleasant evening's chat, and supper with house, ao so successfully for buildings of a large class. Kronow, came like a ray of light: I was also more or The same principle enables Mr. Russell to explain the less attentive to the sound of the music, and afterwards whispering gallery of St. Paul's (which is circular), and farmer's wishes than with mine. All this occupation which is perfertly straight. The same principle also brought me to eight o'clock, and to the end of the explains the conveyance of sound along the smooth concert. Everybody left the room, and whither every- surface of a lake, and over the flat surface of a sandy body went, I followed slowly. Unfortunately the busy desert; as well as the extraordinary reverberation or

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