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## OPINIONS OF MARY

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time. Mary gave them fully, and it is most effective, I admit.) “Then he came to a bull which he asked to drink the water up, then to a butcher whom he asked to kill the bull because it wouldn't, then to a rope which he commanded to hang the butcher for refusing to do this, then to a rat that he begged to gnaw the rope. But none of them would help him. At last he came to a little woman, and at his wits' end asked her, “Can you tell me what to do? Rat won't gnaw rope, rope won't hang butcher, butcher won't kill bull, bull won't drink water, water won't quench fire, fire won't burn stick, stick won't heat dog, dog won't bite pig, pig won't go over the bridge, and I can't get home to-night.” The little woman thought a moment, then she said, “I am very poor, but give me a penny and I think I can find a way to help you.” So he gave her a penny and she went and bought a saucer of milk for her cat, and said to pussy, “See that rat? Now promise me to try to catch it after you drink this.” The cat said, “Very well, I will.” So when the cat had finished the milk she made one spring at the rat. The rat in terror ran to the rope and began at once to gnaw it. And so it was all along the line. Then the cat to the rat, the rat to the rope, the rope to the butcher, the butcher to the bull, the bull to the water, the water to the fire, the fire to the stick, the stick to the dog, the dog to the pig,