

potations. But his money does not last forever. It is soon all gone and perforce he is obliged to become sober and keep so.

Some time after these events the queen presents him with a little son. The child grows, displays good abilities and an excellent disposition. He becomes large enough to go to school, and play with the other boys. By and by his playmates begin to tease him and to twit him with his father's faults. "Your father was a great drunkard," say they. "You *had* three sisters, but your father sold them for rum and drunk them up, (*wegoopsibunegu*," a word defying translation, but indicating that the article referred to was spent in intoxicating liquors, and that these were drunk to intoxication). These reproaches he boldly repels. He does not believe a word of them. But they sting him to the quick. He goes home and tells his mother, and enquires if the story has any truth in it. She tells him "No, it is all a lie. The boys only want to tease you. Don't you mind them."

This satisfies him for a while; but his curiosity is aroused, and after a while he receives such straightforward statements respecting the matter that he strongly suspects it is true; and, finally, his mother tells him all.

"You had three sisters—*kúmeesk*—older than you, and your father drank them up."

"But where do my sisters live?" he enquires.

"That is what no one knows," she replies.

"I'll go and search for them," says the boy.

"Alas! my son, you can never find them," answers the mother.

"Indeed I can," he answers, "and I will too."

So, revolving this great scheme in his mind, he finally matures his plans. He has become a large boy, but has not yet attained to manhood. He is allowed to drive about in his own carriage, and has a servant to attend him and take care of the horses.

One day he directs his servant to harness up two horses, as he intends to take a

long drive. This is done, and they proceed on until they reach a river, over which there is no bridge, but which is shallow and can be easily forded. They pursue their course across the river until they reach the opposite bank. Here the prince directs his servant to return with the horses and carriage, and he goes on on foot.

He has not proceeded far before he meets with an adventure. He comes suddenly upon three men, who are so absorbed in some mysterious and complicated affair that they do not notice him as he approaches. They are robbers, and are trying to divide their plunder. He enquires what the trouble is, and learns that they have taken a coat, a sword and a pair of shoes, and they are puzzled how to divide them, so as to satisfy all hands. He enquires respecting the qualities of these goods, and learns that they contain "great magic." The coat will render the wearer invisible, the shoes will enable him to run with incredible swiftness, and the sword will enable its possessor to obtain or do whatever he desires. But the three articles are difficult to divide, so as to satisfy each of the three.

"Oh," says our hero, "I can assist you, and divide them so that all parties will be satisfied."

So they agree to let him try, and place the articles in his hands.

"Now," says he, "you must stand in an exact line before me. You must not move and you must not look round until I give the word." So they arrange themselves accordingly.

Thereupon the prince slips off his own shoes and claps on the others, pulls off his coat and puts on the magical prize, then seizing the sword he wishes himself at the residence of his eldest sister. No sooner said than done. He seems, as it were, to awake from a sleep, and lo! he stands before a large and splendid mansion.

The three robbers stand perfectly still, and do not turn their heads nor speak a word until the sun goes down and it begins to grow dark, when they get out of patience and look round, and find to their dismay that they are "sold."

The prince walks up to the door of the mansion at which he has arrived and