

crushing the leg of one of the servants; rolling out of the way a great stone that had fallen from the hill-side and well-nigh blocked up the passage; feats that fill the onlookers with surprise and admiration, and making Totoobah feel uncomfortably apprehensive.

All are delighted, especially Athum, who is charmed to meet with a man who has travelled so widely, who can talk so well of so many places, so many topics of interest, in fact, upon almost all subjects save himself, a circumstance, as pleasing as unusual, for most men of his acquaintance seemed to be possessed with the idea that their concerns were of as entrancing an interest to their neighbors as to themselves. He is so pleased, that when leaving, he insists upon the prince favouring him with a visit.

Not many days afterwards, Abdar, Totoobah and Athum Baboo were lounging in the very same room, where almost a year ago Totoobah had tried in vain to lift the ponderous specimen. There it lay, up to that time, unlifted. Totoobah touched it with his foot, smiled at his friend, and nodded towards the prince. Athum understood in a moment. He came forward, explained to Abdar the conditions, and urged him to make trial of his strength.

Was it possible? The great mass has been lifted clear of the floor. It was a feat, worthy of Hiettetu Tedebah the lifter.

Athum is pleased beyond measure; he protests that the prize is not great enough, then gives orders to his steward to have the specimen carefully packed, and carried to the mansion of Totoobah for Prince Abdar.

The visit comes to an end. Totoobah home again with prince Abdar is just giving directions to have the package returned unopened to Athum Baboo, but accompanied by a letter making certain explanations, when a messenger comes from Baboo. He tells them that his master has sent him to apologize for a mistake that he had made. The mass of rock lifted by the prince was not the valuable one that he had been led to suppose, but a very clever imitation, that had been obtained by Athum Baboo, lest

perchance some one should be rogue enough to try and obtain the original by employing some professional lifter, who, disguised and introduced as a friend might be permitted to make trial of his strength and, succeed in lifting the specimen. This model had been sent to Totoobah by mistake, the servants not understanding the directions about substituting the other. The original was even now being packed for transmission.

Totoobah and Abdar look at each other, never were two more so ashamed of themselves. They had done as a practical joke the very thing that their friend had taken such precaution to provide against. Abdar, though a prince, was a professional lifter, being no less a person than Hut, whom Totoobah had met at Arkaskan, and had persuaded to resume his rightful title, which for certain reasons, he had temporarily laid aside—to pay him a visit, to gain the friendship of Athum, and if an opportunity was afforded, win the prize. The intention being to return the rock after a few days, at the same time reading the owner a moral lecture, telling him that it was quite possible that he was doing what might encourage dishonesty by offering so valuable a prize upon such conditions.

The two look at each other; the joke is undeniably against them. Then they talk the matter over and decide to go to Athum Baboo, and make a full explanation.

They make up their minds that not even for the purpose of playing a practical joke will they again have recourse to deception.

[THE END.]

---

If a tree is not growing, it is sure in the long run to be dying. And so are our souls.

The people are the roots of the state; if the roots are flourishing, the state will endure.

If you will have the gift of sympathy, you must be content to pay the price: like Christ.