

Werk

Titel: The Surprising Travels & Adventures, Of Baron Munchausen, Also An Account Of A Vo

Autor: Raspe, Rudolf Erich

Verlag: Fordyce

Ort: Newcastle Upon Tyne

Jahr: 1840

Kollektion: Bucherhaltung; Itineraria

Digitalisiert: Niedersächsische Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek Göttingen

Werk Id: PPN80693235X

PURL: <http://resolver.sub.uni-goettingen.de/purl?PPN80693235X>

OPAC: <http://opac.sub.uni-goettingen.de/DB=1/PPN?PPN=80693235X>

LOG Id: LOG_0018

LOG Titel: Chapter XII

LOG Typ: chapter

Terms and Conditions

The Goettingen State and University Library provides access to digitized documents strictly for noncommercial educational, research and private purposes and makes no warranty with regard to their use for other purposes. Some of our collections are protected by copyright. Publication and/or broadcast in any form (including electronic) requires prior written permission from the Goettingen State- and University Library.

Each copy of any part of this document must contain these Terms and Conditions. With the usage of the library's online system to access or download a digitized document you accept the Terms and Conditions.

Reproductions of material on the web site may not be made for or donated to other repositories, nor may be further reproduced without written permission from the Goettingen State- and University Library.

For reproduction requests and permissions, please contact us. If citing materials, please give proper attribution of the source.

Contact

Niedersächsische Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek Göttingen
Georg-August-Universität Göttingen
Platz der Göttinger Sieben 1
37073 Göttingen
Germany
Email: gdz@sub.uni-goettingen.de

about a hundred yards, stooped for a couple of pepples, of which there were plenty under his feet, and slung them both so dexterously at the animal, that each stone put out an eye, and lodged in the cavities which their removal had occasioned. He now got upon his back, and drove him into the sea; for the moment he lost his sight he also lost his ferocity, and became as tame as possible: the sling was placed as a bridle in his mouth; he was guided with the greatest facility across the ocean, and in less than three hours they both arrived on the opposite shore, which is about thirty leagues. The master of the *Three Cups* at *Helvoetsluys*, in *Holland*, purchased this marine horse to make an exhibition of, for seven hundred ducats, which was upwards of three hundred pounds; and the next day my father paid his passage back in the packet to *Harwich*.

My father made several curious observations in this passage, which I will relate hereafter.

CHAPTER XII.

The frolic; its consequences—Windsor Castle—St. Paul's—College of Physicians, Undertakers, Sertons, &c. almost ruined—Industry of the Apothecaries,

THE FROLIC.

THIS famous sling makes the possesso

equal to any task he is desirous of performing.

I made a balloon of such extensive dimensions, that an account of the silk it contained would exceed all credibility: every mercer's shop and weaver's stock in London, Westminster, and Spitalfields, contributed to it: with this balloon and my sling I played many tricks, such as taking one house from its station, and placing another in its stead, without disturbing the inhabitants, who were generally asleep, or too much employed to observe the peregrinations. When the sentinel at Windsor Castle heard St. Paul's clock strike thirteen, it was through my dexterity; I brought the buildings nearly together that night, by placing the Castle in St. George's Fields, and carried it back again before day-light, without waking any of the inhabitants: notwithstanding these exploits, I should have kept my balloon and its properties a secret, if Montgolfier had not made the art of flying so public.

On the 30th of September, when the College of Physicians choose their annual officers, and dine sumptuously together, I filled my balloon, brought it over the dome of their building, clapped the sling round the golden ball at the top, fastened the other end of it to the balloon, and im-

mediately ascended with the whole College to an immense height, where I kept them upwards of three months. You will naturally inquire what they did for food such a length of time? To this I answer—Had I kept them suspended twice the time they would have experienced no inconvenience on that account, so amply, or rather extravagantly, had they spread their table for that day's feasting.

Though this was meant as an innocent frolic, it was productive of much mischief to several respectable characters amongst the clergy, undertakers, sextons, and grave-diggers: they were, it must be acknowledged sufferers; for it is a well-known fact, that during the three months the College was suspended in the air, and therefore incapable of attending their patients, no deaths happened, except a few who fell before the scythe of father Time, and some melancholy objects, who, perhaps, to avoid some trifling inconvenience here, laid the hands of violence upon themselves, and plunged into misery infinitely greater than that which they hoped, by such a rash step, to avoid, without a moment's consideration.

If the apothecaries had not been very active during the above time, half the undertakers, in all probability, would have been bankrupts.