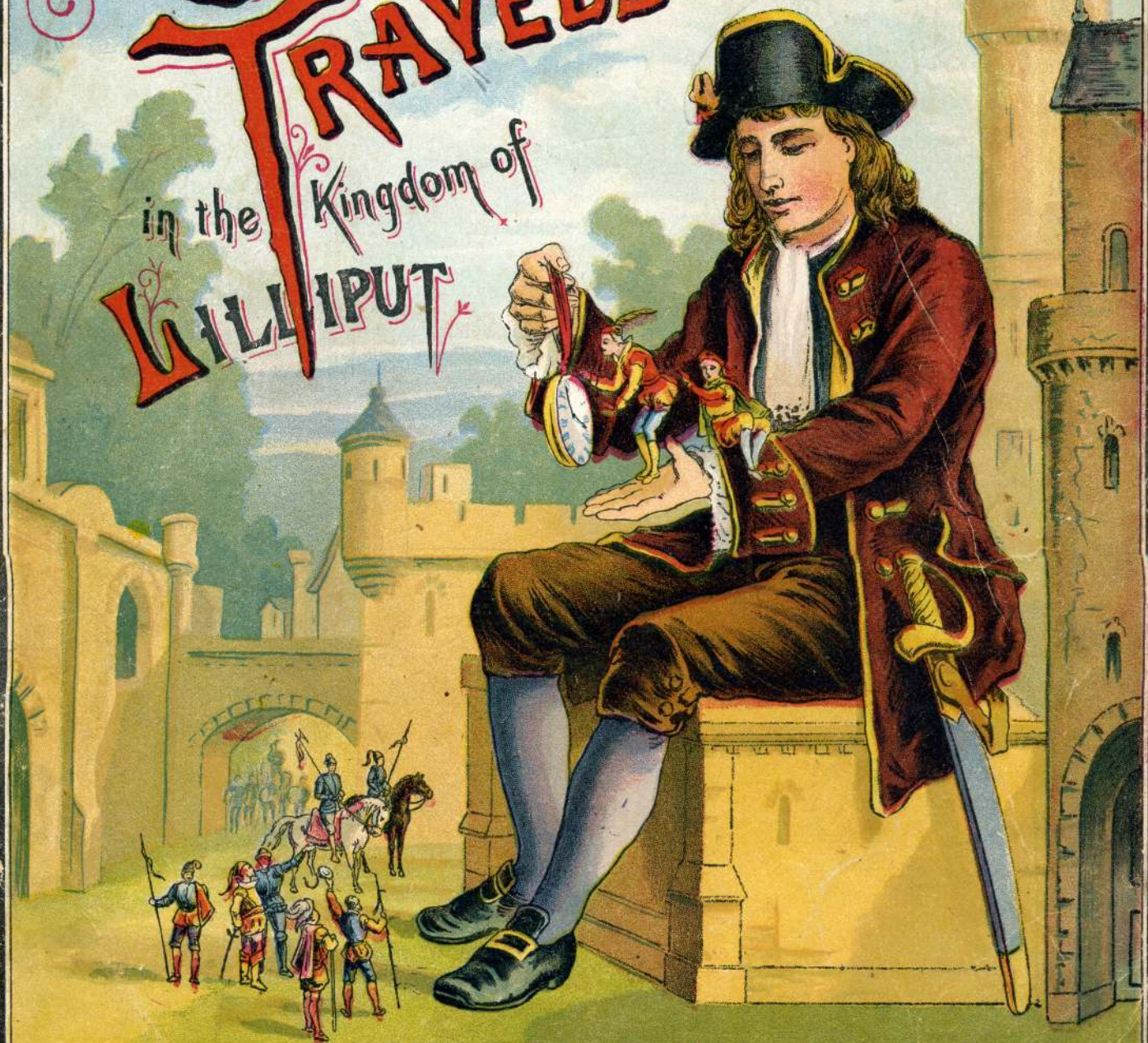


GULLIVER'S TRAVELS

in the Kingdom of
LILLIPUT



Mc LOUGHLIN BROS. NEW YORK.

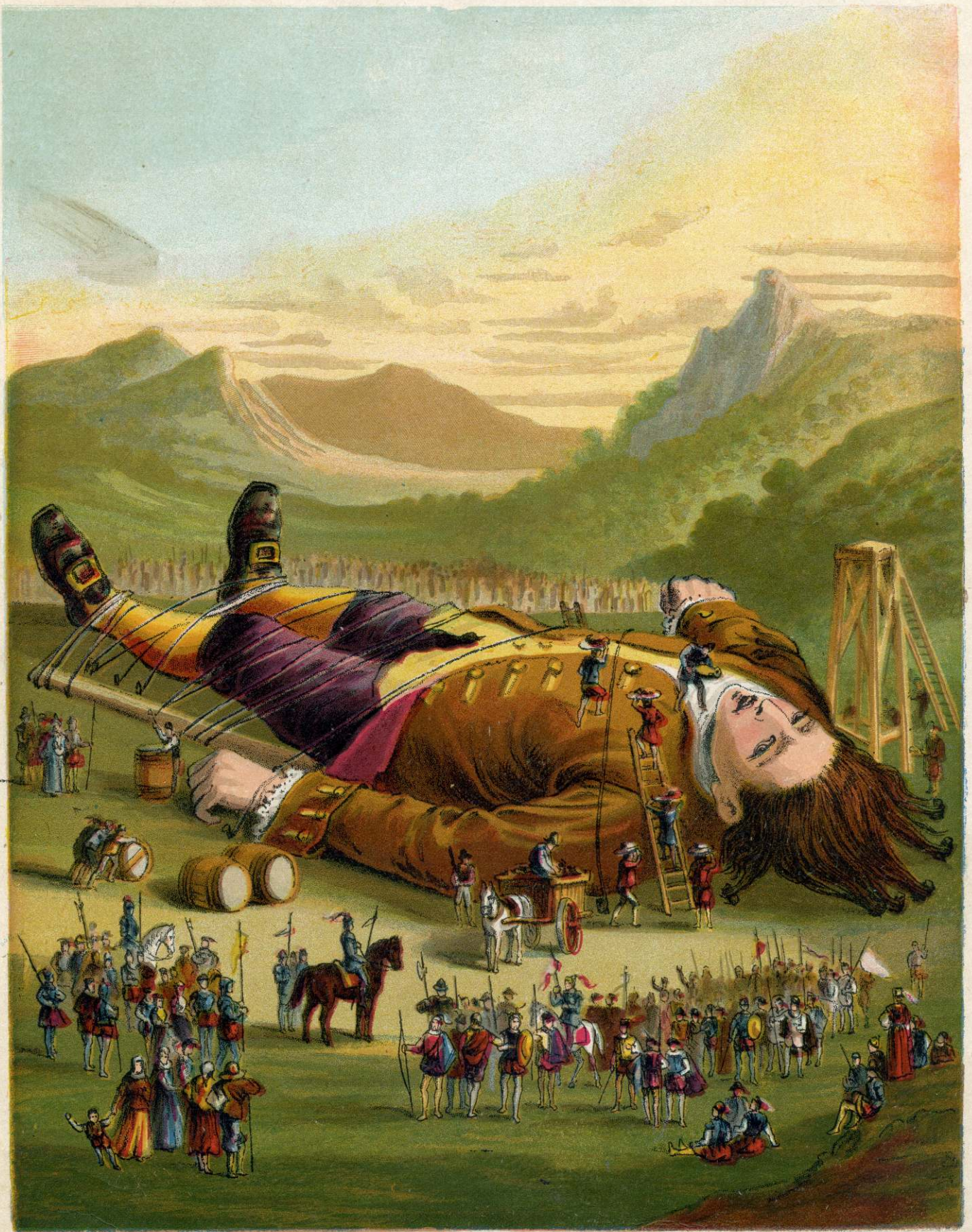
GULLIVER'S VOYAGE TO LILLIPUT.

IT was during my voyage from the South Seas to the East Indies that we were driven by a violent storm to the north-west of Van Diemen's Land, and wrecked on a rock. What became of my companions I cannot tell, but I suppose they were all lost. I swam as strongly as I could, and just when I was almost gone, I found myself within my depth, and I was able to walk to the shore. I arrived about eight o'clock in the evening, but could not discern any signs of inhabitants; and being very tired, I lay down on the short grass and fell asleep. I slept for nine hours, and sounder than I ever had done in my life. When I wakened it was daylight, and I at once prepared to get up; but to my astonishment I found my arms and legs had been strongly fastened to the ground, as well as my long thick hair, while many slender cords were passed across my body. I was lying on my back, and therefore I could only look upwards to the sun, which soon became very painful to my eyes. I heard a confused noise, but could see nothing; but presently I felt something moving up my left leg, then over my breast, and almost up to my chin. By bending my eyes downwards I saw it was a human creature not six inches high, a bow and arrow in his hands, and a quiver at his back, forty more of the same kind following him. When they had ventured as far as to get a full sight of my face, he lifted up

his hands and eyes by way of admiration, and cried out, in a shrill but distinct voice, "Hekinah degul,"—the others repeating the same words several times.

Struggling to get loose, I broke the strings and wrenched out the pegs that fastened my left arm to the ground; whereupon there was a great shrill shout, and in an instant I felt about a hundred arrows discharged on my left hand, which pricked me like so many needles. They then fired another volley into the air, some falling on my face, causing great pain; so I thought the most prudent thing to do was to be still till night, when I could easily free myself, my left hand being already loose. When the people saw I was quiet they fired no more arrows; and then began a knocking over against my right ear like people at work, when, by turning my head that way as well as I could, I saw that they were erecting a stage about a foot and a half from the ground, large enough to hold four of the inhabitants. When they had mounted up by help of the ladders, one of them, who seemed to be a person of quality, ordered the strings to be cut that fastened the left side of my head; which gave me liberty to turn to the right, so that I could observe him while he made his long speech. He appeared to be of middle age, and taller than the other three who attended him. I understood, by his manner, while he spoke he used threats, showed symptoms of pity, and gave promises of kindness, to all of which I answered in a most submissive manner, lifting up my left hand and my eyes to the sun as calling him for a witness. Being very hungry, I put my finger to my mouth to signify that I required food, and I was glad to find the Hurgo or great lord understood me very well.

He descended from the stage, gave his orders, when about a



GULLIVER'S FIRST MEAL IN LILLIPUT.

hundred of the inhabitants mounted and walked towards my mouth laden with baskets of food, containing shoulders and legs of meat shaped like those of mutton, but smaller than the wings of a lark. These I ate by two or three at a mouthful, with three loaves at a time, being about the size of musket-bullets. They were filled with wonder and astonishment at my great appetite, and shouted for joy and danced upon my breast after I had drunk up the contents of two of their largest hogsheads. When my appetite was appeased, there appeared a person of high rank from his Imperial Majesty with a message that I was to be conveyed as a prisoner to the capital city, but that I should be treated kindly. I then fell asleep, and slept for about eight hours.

Five hundred carpenters and engineers had been set to work to prepare the greatest vehicle they had. It was a frame of wood raised three inches from the ground, about seven feet long and four wide, moving on twenty-two wheels, and drawn by fifteen hundred of the Emperor's largest horses, each about four inches and a half high. The great difficulty was to raise and place me on this vehicle. Eighty poles, each one foot high, were erected for this purpose, and by the help of cords about the thickness of pack-thread fastened to hooks in the bandages the workmen rolled round me, I was drawn up by nine hundred of the strongest men by these cords passed through pulleys in the poles. In three hours this was done, and I was flung into the vehicle and there tied fast. All this they did to me while I slept profoundly. We made a long march and rested at night, with five hundred guards on each side of me, half with torches and half with bows and arrows, ready to shoot me if I should offer to stir. The distance to the city was one mile, and by rising at sunrise we contrived

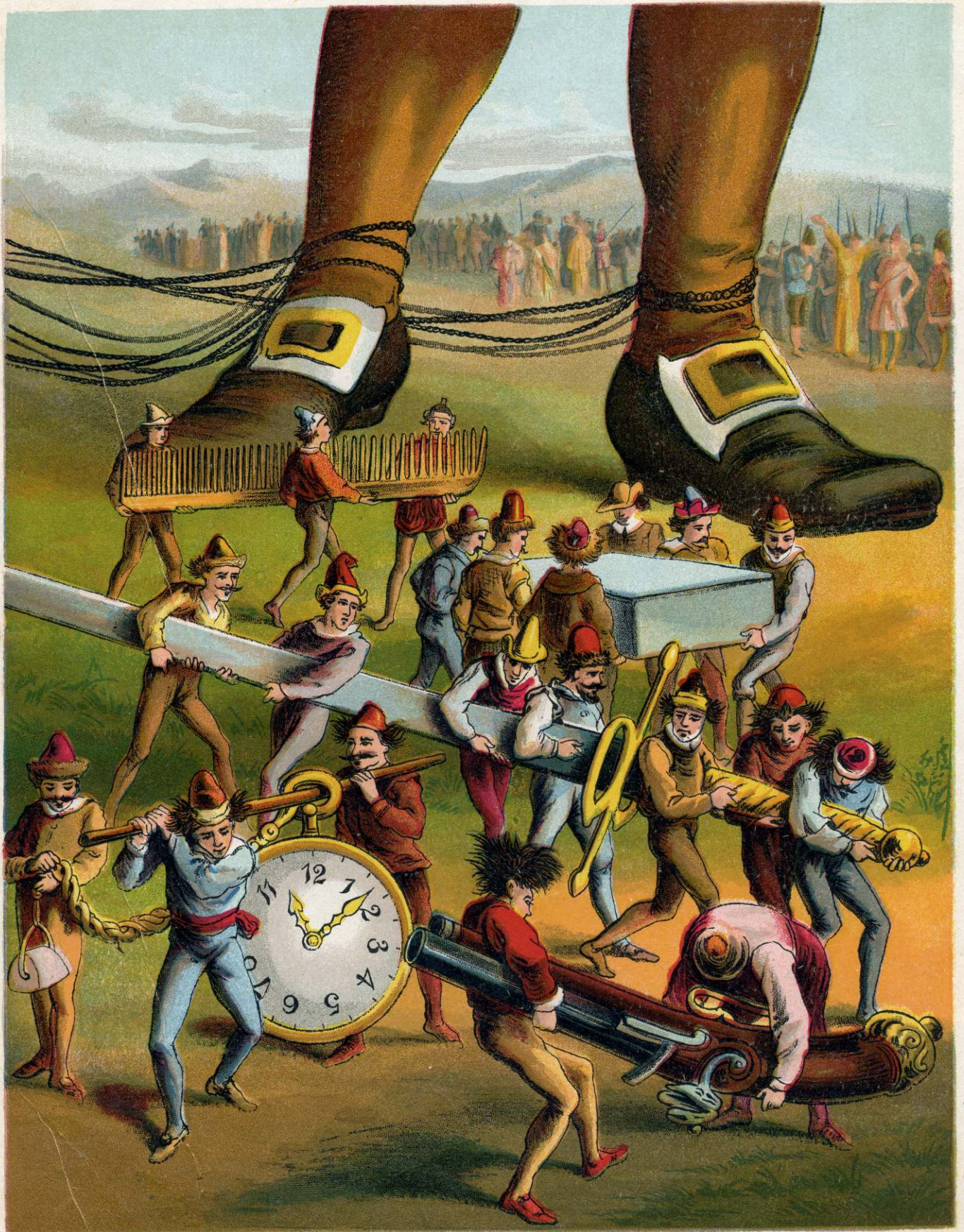
to reach within two hundred yards of the city gates about noon. The Emperor and all his court then came out to meet us; but though he wished to do it, the great officers of state would not allow his Majesty to endanger his person by mounting on my body.

The largest building in the whole kingdom was an ancient temple now unused, and before this the vehicle on which I lay was drawn up. Here I was made fast by fourscore and eleven chains—like those hanging to a lady's watch in Europe—fastened to the temple, and locked to my ankles with six and thirty padlocks. Being now secure, they cut all the strings that bound me; and when I rose up and walked backwards and forwards as far as my chains would permit, it is impossible to find words to express the astonishment of the people. The great gate of the temple was about four feet high and two broad, and I was able to lie down at my full length in it if it so pleased me. Standing on my feet I looked about me, and found the fields resembled beds of flowers, and the tallest trees appeared to be about seven feet high. I must confess I never beheld a more entertaining prospect. The Emperor and his court had been viewing me from a turret at least five feet high, over against the temple. He now descended and advanced towards me on horseback, but the beast reared at sight of me. Thanks to the Emperor's good horsemanship, he managed to keep his seat till the attendants ran in and held the bridle.

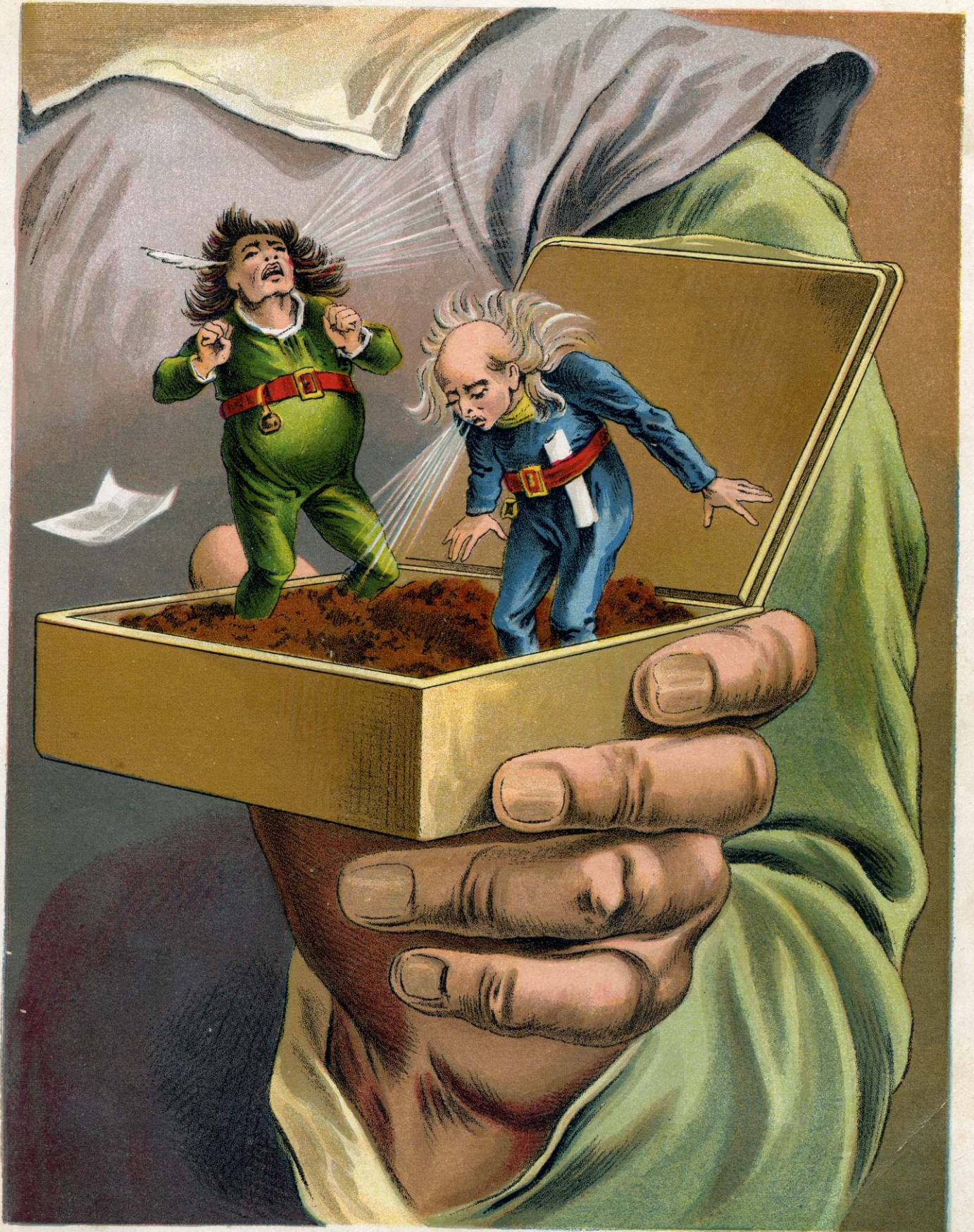
He is taller, by almost the breadth of my nail, than any of his subjects, which was enough to strike an awe into the hearts of his people. His features are strong and masculine, his deportment majestic, and all his motions graceful. His complexion is olive, his countenance erect, his body and limbs well proportioned, his nose arched, and his lip *Austrian*. For the better convenience of beholding him I lay on

my side, so that my face was parallel to his, and he stood but three yards off; however, I have had him many times in my hand since, and therefore cannot be wrong in the description. His dress was very plain and simple, but he had on his head a light helmet of gold, set with jewels, and adorned with a plume and crest. He held his sword in his hand, to defend himself if need be. It was about three inches long, the hilt and scabbard of gold enriched with diamonds. His voice was shrill, but very clear and distinct. The ladies and courtiers were all most magnificently clad, so that the spot they stood on seemed to resemble a petticoat spread on the ground embroidered with figures of gold and silver. His Supreme Majesty spoke often to me, and I returned answers; but neither of us could understand a syllable. Several of his priests and lawyers then spoke to me, but though I replied in as many languages as I had the least smattering of, it was all to no purpose. After about two hours the court retired, and I was left with a strong guard to keep off the rabble, who now crowded round me as near as they durst. The news of my arrival brought large numbers of rich, idle, and curious people to see me, so that the villages were almost empty.

I was a source of great concern to the Emperor and his court. They did not know what to do with me. They were afraid I would break loose,—that my appetite might cause a famine; but when they thought they had better stone or shoot me, they remembered how difficult it would be to bury such a huge carcass. Hearing from the officers of my guard that I was very good-natured, and had treated some impertinent fellows kindly, an imperial commission was sent out obliging all the villages nine hundred yards round the city to deliver in every morning six beeves, forty sheep, and other victuals, for my



THE LILLIPUTIANS EMPTY GULLIVER'S POCKETS.



THE KING'S OFFICERS IN THE SNUFF-BOX.

support, with so much bread and wine, and other liquors. Six hundred persons were set apart to be my servants; three hundred tailors were employed to make me a suit after the fashion of the country; and six of His Majesty's greatest scholars were employed to instruct me in their language. The Emperor's horses, as well as those of the nobility and troops of the guards, were exercised in my sight to accustom themselves to me; and in three weeks' time I had made great progress in learning their language, so that I was able to converse with the Emperor quite freely.

One day he desired that I would not be displeased if he gave orders to search me, for that no doubt I might carry about several weapons, which must be dangerous things. I agreed to this, saying I was ready to strip myself and turn out my pockets before him. He replied that, by the laws of the country, I must be searched by two of his officers, but he could trust these persons in my hands. I then took up the two officers and put them first into my coat pockets, and then into every other pocket about me, except my two tobs, in one of which there was a silver watch, and in the other a small quantity of gold in a purse. The gentlemen, having pen, ink, and paper about them, made an exact inventory of all the articles they found, and then desiring to be set down, they delivered it to the Emperor. In the left pocket they came upon my snuff-box, and being unable to lift it, I took it out. They then desired me to open it, which I did, when they both stepped into it; and the snuff flying up into their faces, set them sneezing several times. I need not say how very much surprised they were at all the articles, more especially a comb, which they described "as a sort of engine, from the back of which were extended twenty long poles," with which "they supposed the *man-mountain* combs his head."

When the inventory was read over to the Emperor, he directed me to deliver up my scimitar, and next one of the hollow iron pillars, by which he meant my pocket-pistols; and charging it with powder, at his desire I fired it into the air, to the great astonishment of all. Hundreds fell down as if they had been struck dead, and even the Emperor got a fright. I then delivered up the other pistol, with my pouch of powder and bullets, asking them to be very careful with the powder, as it would kindle with the slightest spark and blow up his imperial palace into the air. I likewise gave over to two of the tallest yeomen of the guard my watch, which they bore on a pole upon their shoulders. I then gave up my silver and copper money, my purse containing some gold pieces, my knife and razor, my comb and silver snuff-box, my handkerchief and journal-book.

My gentleness and good behaviour had gained so far on Emperor and court, and indeed on every one, that I began to think I should gain my liberty in a short time. I did all I could to please them. I would sometimes lie down and let five or six dance on my hand. I would even let the boys and girls play at hide-and-seek in my hair; and when the Emperor entertained me with several of the country's shows, I contrived to do my part by stretching my pocket-handkerchief tightly on to several poles till it was as tight as a drum, and when it was ready I asked the Emperor to allow a troop of twenty-four of his best horse to exercise on this plain; and so delighted was he that he ordered this entertainment to be repeated several days. He even one day asked me to lift him up, gave the word of command himself, and after an amount of persuasion got the Empress herself to allow me to hold her in her close chair within two

yards of the stage, from whence she was able to take a full view of the whole performance.

I should like to have told of their astonishment when my hat was found floating in the sea, which appeared in their sight as high as a man, and of my delight when I got it back, as well as many curious facts. One funny notion the Emperor took I may mention: he ordered his troops to march under my outstretched legs, the foot soldiers twenty-four abreast and the horse by sixteen, with drums beating, colors flying, and pikes advanced. The body consisted of three thousand foot and a thousand horse.

Though they loaded me with marks of kindness, I greatly desired my liberty, and petitioned many times for it. At last it was granted on certain conditions—namely, that I should serve the Emperor and help his subjects in various ways drawn up in the articles. These were read over to me, and I was ordered to swear to the performance of them. This I did with cheerfulness and content, although some were not so agreeable as I could have wished; but this proceeded wholly from Skyresh Bolgolam, the high admiral, who, for some reason unknown to me, was my mortal enemy. My chains were then unlocked, and I was at full liberty, the Emperor doing me the honor to appear in person during the whole ceremony. After many kind words he said he hoped I should prove a useful servant, and well deserve all the favors he had already conferred on me, one of these being a grant of meat sufficient for the support of one thousand seven hundred and forty-four Lilliputians. To all this I made due acknowledgment, prostrating myself on the ground. I was then permitted to pay a visit to the metropolis, which I did by stepping over the walls and walking sideways through the main streets, while all the inhabitants



GULLIVER CAPTURING THE FLEET.

kept indoors in case I should crush them, but crowded the windows and roofs to see me. I was also invited to view the palace, but as the gate was too low to allow me to pass through, I made two stools out of two of the tallest trees in the palace grounds, and with their help I was enabled to step into the court-yard, and by lying down on my side I could look into the open windows. There I saw the Empress and the young princes; the former, smiling very graciously upon me, gave me her hand to kiss out of the window.

One morning there came to my house a messenger from the Emperor, and standing on my hand he told me we were threatened by a quarrel at home and an invasion from abroad. The quarrel at home was something about wearing high or low heels, and cutting off the narrow end of eggs instead of the broad. As I was the subject of another country, I refused to mix myself up with this quarrel, but sent my respects to the Emperor, and let him know that I was ready, with the hazard of my life, to defend his person and state against the foreign enemy, who was coming against him with a great fleet. This I was enabled to do by what they were pleased to consider an extraordinary stratagem—namely, that I caused several of their largest cables to be handed over to me, as well as some bars of iron, and wading off with them to the harbor of the enemy, I fastened the chains securely to fifty of their largest ships, and drew them after me in spite of the arrows that were fired at me, many of them taking effect in my face and causing much pain. I was fortunate in taking them all safe to the royal port of Lilliput, where I was created a *nardac* upon the spot, which is the highest honor among them. This made the Emperor ambitious to spoil his enemy completely, and make slaves of them. I therefore was requested to bring the whole of the enemy's

ships into port; but this I stoutly refused to do, whereupon the Emperor could never forgive me, and he and some of his nobles were quite set against me. I however was able to render many valuable services to the Emperor—great in their eyes, though of no account in mine.

I had lived happy and contented for more than nine months and a half with them, and would no doubt have stayed longer; but hearing there was a design to accuse me of high treason, and that articles were drawn up against me, and an agreement come to to put out both my eyes, as well as to slowly starve me to death, I therefore made my escape to Blefuscu, and had a reception suitable to the generosity of so great a prince. Three days after my arrival there, while walking along the coast, I observed a large object floating in the sea. I waded in, and imagine my delight to find a real boat turned upside down. By the help of twenty of the largest vessels kindly lent me by the King, as well as two thousand men with ropes and engines, I made shift to turn the boat up, and found it was but little damaged. I received materials to fit it up, together with liberty to depart. In the meantime the Emperor of Lilliput sent for me to return, but his ambassador was informed I had found a prodigious vessel, able to carry me to sea, that I was now storing it, preparing for a start immediately. The vessel was carefully searched to see if no one had stowed themselves away. I then set sail on the 25th day of April, 1701, and arrived in the Downs, after a prosperous voyage, on the 13th April, 1702.

Mary Ann Hamilton



E. E. E.