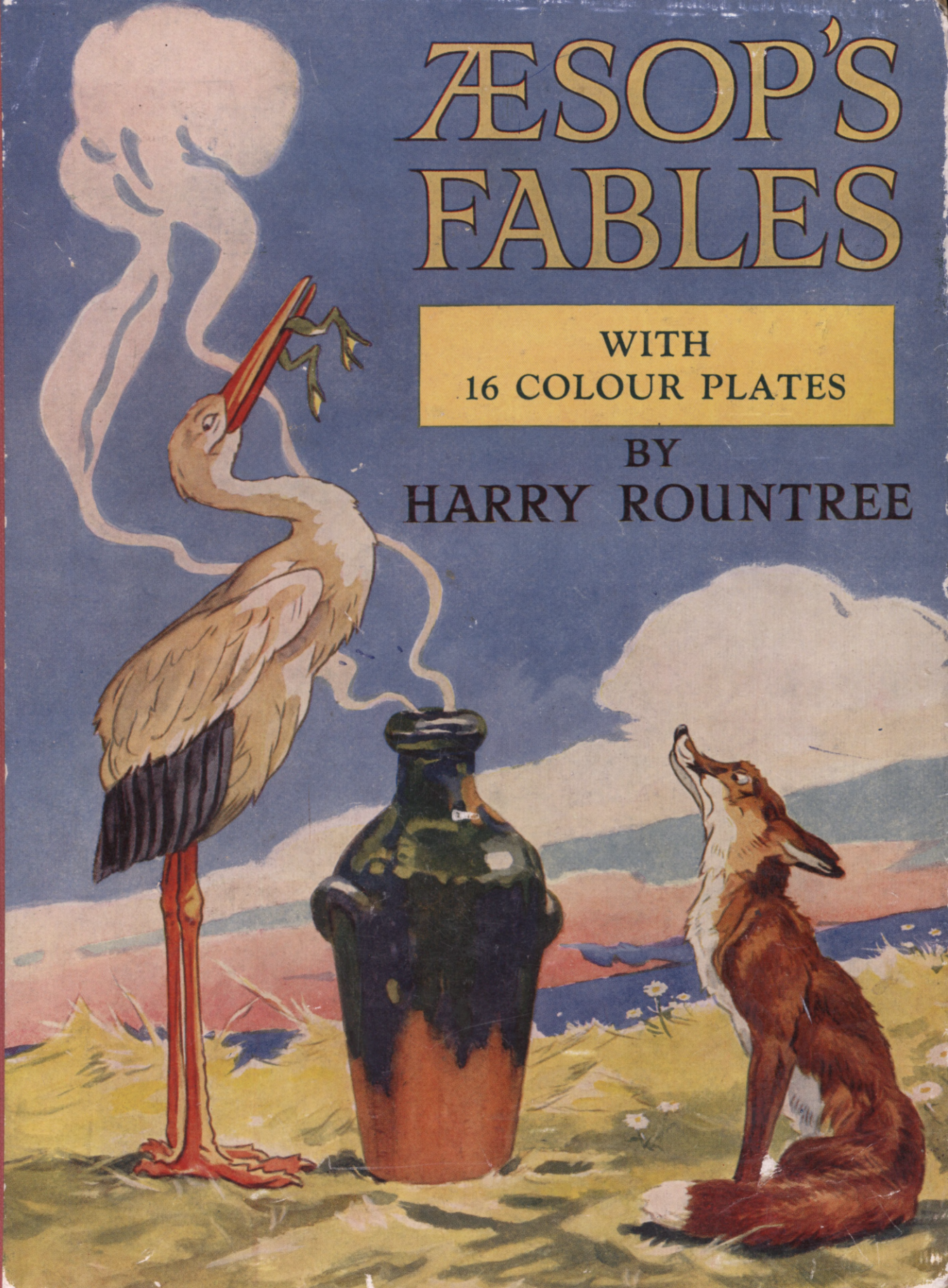


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“Then came all the other birds whom the jackdaw had robbed of their pretty feathers”. (page 121)

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BY HARRY ROUNTREE

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“The traveller and the Arab made such a noise with their shouts and blows that the donkey took fright and galloped away. So there they were left, not only without the shadow, but without the donkey.”

# ÆSOP'S FABLES

## THE DONKEY AND HIS SHADOW

**O**NE fine morning, in a sunny Eastern country, an Arab stood with his donkey at the door of an inn. The donkey was for hire ; and the Arab knew there were travellers sleeping at the inn who would be glad to engage such a fine animal to carry them across the desert. Sure enough, as the Arab waited, one of the travellers came out. Seeing the donkey, he asked if he could hire it. The Arab said " Yes," and the two agreed upon the sum that the traveller should pay for the donkey to carry him over the hot sands to the city.

They set off at once, the traveller and all his baggage on the donkey, the Arab walking behind. The Arab was used to the desert, and did not much mind the long tramp. He munched a green lettuce nearly as big as his head, and thought cheerfully of the money the traveller was to pay him at the end of the journey.

They moved on steadily for a time, the three of them—traveller, donkey and Arab. But, as the day wore on, the sun grew very hot, and they all got very tired. The traveller decided that he would like to rest for an hour or two, so he pulled up the donkey, got off its back, and, seeing that it threw a nice, big, cool shadow on the sand, sat down to rest in this shade.

There was no room for the Arab in the donkey's shadow, so he had to sit in the hot sunshine outside. For a little time he stared gloomily and resentfully at the traveller, while the perspiration trickled from his forehead. Suddenly an idea struck