

# ÆSOP'S FABLES





The Cock Looked at the Glittering Jewel for Awhile

# ÆSOP'S FABLES

ARRANGED WITH AN INTRODUCTION

BY

BLANCHE E. WEEKES

ILLUSTRATED BY

JOHN FITZ, JR.

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For Little Folks

A CHILD'S GARDEN OF VERSES . . . . .	<i>Robert Louis Stevenson</i>
ÆSOP'S FABLES . . . . .	
CINDERELLA, LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD, AND JACK THE GIANT KILLER . . . . .	
DOG OF FLANDERS . . . . .	"Ouida"
THE LITTLE LAME PRINCE . . . . .	<i>Miss Mulock</i>
JACKANAPES . . . . .	<i>Juliana Horatia Ewing</i>
REYNARD THE FOX . . . . .	
RIP VAN WINKLE . . . . .	<i>Washington Irving</i>

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## INTRODUCTION

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**I**N the days of long ago, in old Greece, a little boy was born to humble slave parents. He was named Æsop. One would hardly expect that a boy born into a life of slavery would have much chance of becoming famous, or that several thousand years after his death his name would be known far and wide. Yet, this is what happened to this poor boy, and the way he became famous was through the fables which are found in this book, and which are known to the world as *Æsop's Fables*. They have been told and retold, read and reread by old and young for the past two thousand years.

When you read these fables, you will realize that Æsop must have been a clever and witty man. It was this wit and this cleverness that inspired his second master to give him his freedom.

By the laws of Greece, Æsop, as a freedman, could take an active part in public affairs and travel where he wished. He lost no time in making the most of his opportunities. He soon reached a high position, and was seen in the