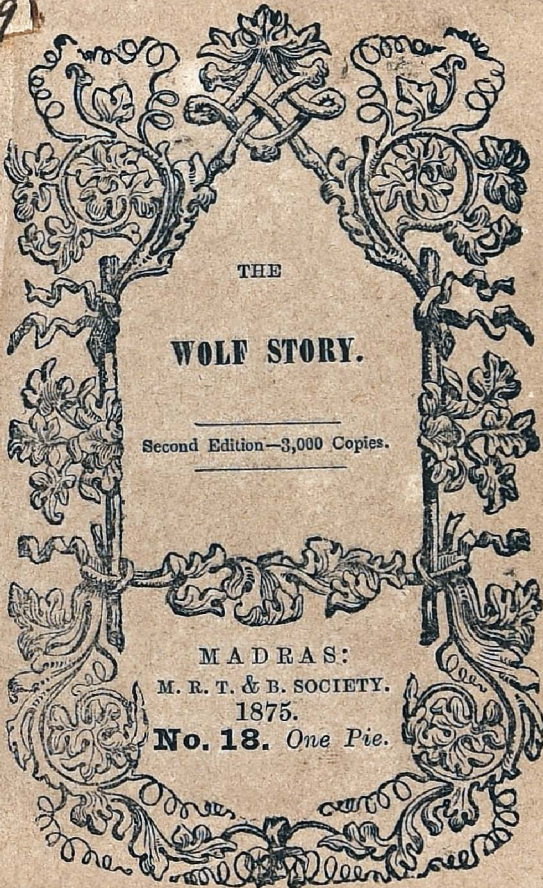


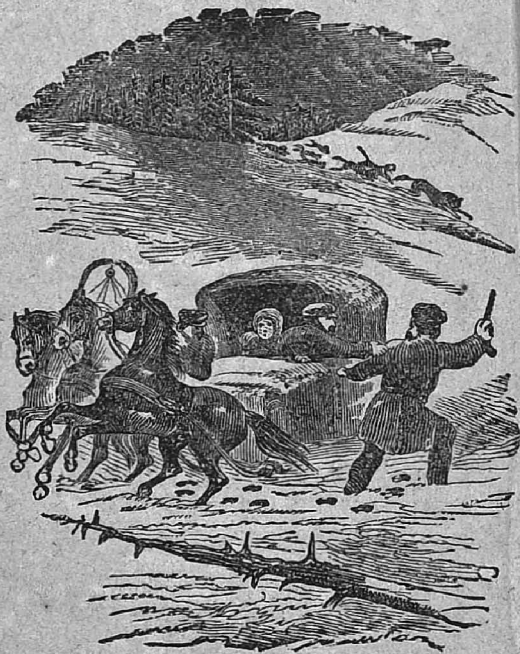
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THE
WOLF STORY.

Second Edition—3,000 Copies.

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THE WOLF STORY.

About a servant who allowed himself to be devoured by wolves to save his master.

Far away to the north-west, there is a very large empire, called Russia. It is very much colder than the country in which we live, and in winter the ground is thickly covered with snow. Many parts of Russia contain few inhabitants, and savage animals, as bears and wolves, are numerous. In winter especially, when food is scarce, the wild beasts become very fierce.

Some years ago a Russian nobleman was travelling in winter, with his wife and child, in the

interior of Russia. When he arrived at an inn about sunset, the landlord urged him to stay all night, for he had to pass through a forest in which fierce wolves were prowling about in great numbers. As his business was very urgent, the nobleman resolved to go on to the next station. He got four fresh horses and set off at full speed.

On the seat in front of the carriage, by the side of the driver, was a servant who had been born in the nobleman's family, to whom he was much attached, and who loved his master as he loved his own life. For some miles they glided along over the snow, and no sound was heard except the jingling of the bells attached to the horses. At last they came near

a dark and dreary forest. Soon afterwards a strange howling sound was heard. The nobleman knew well the meaning of this sound: it showed that they were pursued by a pack of wolves.

The nobleman said to his servant, "The wolves are after us. Tell the man to drive faster, and get your pistols ready." The postillion drove faster. The horses were galloping at the top of their speed; but the dreadful sounds came nearer and nearer. The nobleman tried to calm the fears of his wife and bade her trust in God. Claspings her child in her arms, she sat back in the carriage, committing herself and husband and daughter to the protection of God.

The wolves at last came so near that their long red tongues could

be seen in their open mouths, and their eyes gleaming with savage fierceness. The nobleman then said to the servant, "Do you single out one and fire, and I will shoot another; and while the rest are devouring them, we can get on." Two shots were fired, and the two foremost wolves lay dead on the snow. The other wolves instantly fell upon them and devoured them. In the meantime the carriage gained ground. But the taste of blood only made the savage beasts more furious, and they were soon up with the carriage again. Again two more shots were fired, and two more wolves fell and were devoured. But again the carriage was soon overtaken, and the station house was still far distant.

The nobleman then ordered the driver to loose one of the leading horses, that they might gain time while the wolves were eating him. He did so. The poor horse rushed wildly into the forest, and the wolves after him. He was soon caught and torn to pieces, and the wolves were after the carriage again. The second horse was sent off, and devoured like the first, and the wolves were coming up again.

At last the servant said to his master, "I have served you ever since I was a child: I love you as my own self. Nothing can save you now but *one* thing. Let *me* save you. I ask you only to look after my wife and little ones." Then, before the nobleman could prevent him, he jumped off the

seat into the midst of the blood-thirsty wolves. The two panting horses galloped on with the carriage, and got into the station just as the terrible pack were coming up to make their last attack. But the nobleman and his family were safe.

Next morning the nobleman went back to the place where his faithful servant leaped from the carriage. He found only the snow stained with blood, and the pistols lying on the ground. The faithful servant had been torn in pieces. The master erected a monument on the spot with this inscription, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friend."

Has any one died to save us? Yes. We were lost in the wilder-

ness of sin. Just as the wolves pursued the travellers, so God's law, which we had broken, threatened to destroy us. There was none to help and none to save like the Lord Jesus Christ, the incarnate Son of God, appeared. He threw himself before us ; He let himself be torn in pieces, in order that we might be saved.

All men, on account of their sins, became liable to death. We must either die, or some one must suffer in our stead. The Son of God was born in this world and died on the cross to save us. Pardon is freely offered by God to all who seek it in the name of his Son Jesus Christ.

The servant who died for his master showed great love, but what was it compared with the love

of Christ! Jesus Christ was not a slave, but the Son of the Highest, the King of kings, and the Lord of lords. The servant died for a kind master. Jesus Christ died for us sinners who hated him and had rebelled against his Father. Was ever love like this? Let us love Jesus Christ who first loved us. You can learn more about his wonderful life in the little books called Gospels, and from Christian Missionaries. Hear what the true Veda says, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved."

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$\frac{1}{2}$ *Anna.*

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