

MUNCHAUSEN
XX

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Munchausen XX by W. G. Worfel & Richard Harvey Curties

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W. G. WORFEL & RICHARD HARVEY CURTIES

**MUNCHAUSEN
XX**

Munchausen XX

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by
THE BARON

*Being wondrous but veracious happenings which befell my
ancestors, here translated and for the first time printed
from manuscripts found most miraculously by myself*

CONTAINING, AS WELL, AND AS
PERSPICACIOUSLY SET FORTH, NOT
ALONE MY ADVENTURES IN SECUR-
ING THESE REMARKABLE DOCU-
MENTS, BUT A VERY ENTRANING
AND ENTERTAINING SERIES OF
THRILLING INCIDENTS THAT TOOK
PLACE IN MY LIFE PRIOR TO AND
WHILE SEARCHING FOR THE
GLORIOUS CREATURE WHOSE HUS-
BAND I BECAME AS A FITTING
CLIMAX TO A CAREER SO UNCEAS-
INGLY FRAUGHT WITH DANGER

*The full force of these heart-stopping episodes is brought nearer
and clearer to the reader who combines with the text the clever*

Illustrations

by
MR. RICHARD HARVEY CURTIS

CHICAGO

1904

F. A. B.

GENEALOGY
OF
Munchausen XX

1. Ka In begat
2. Fabel; who begat
3. Fa Ker; who begat
4. Pur Ju Ry; who begat
5. Fal Seh Ood; who begat
6. Tru Thless; who begat
7. Li Ing; who begat
8. Li Ur; who begat
9. Fay Re Tales; who begat
10. Fik Shun; who begat
11. Sto Ry; who begat
12. An, An Ias; who begat
13. Wha Pur; who begat
14. Ala Din; who begat
15. Sin Bad; who begat
16. El Ra Shad; who begat
17. Mun Chaus Sen (the elder); who begat
18. Mun Chau Sen (my grandfather); who begat
19. Mun Chau Sen (my father); who begat
20. Munchausen (myself).

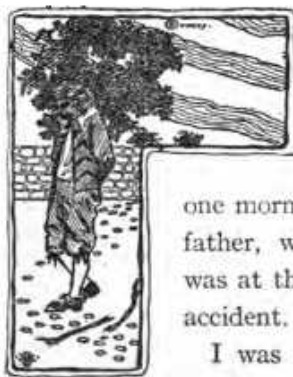
Ormsby 15/10/1937



Munchausen XX

I

Statement of the case, containing facts, figures, dates, and circumstances that constitute the reason for and the beginning of this history—my father's demise; his legacy; some youthful happenings incident to the legacy, the possession of which was exceedingly difficult.



WHEN I was about five years of age, I was summoned, one morning, to the bedside of my father, where I learned that he was at the point of death from an accident.

I was one of fourteen children—the fourteenth; seven boys and seven girls, the girls and boys alternating until I was reached.

I was very much surprised, upon entering the room in which he lay, to observe all the other members of the family leave, and close the door. This, I afterward learned, was by my father's special direction. While I had been favored by him in many things, it had seemed to me I was the recipient of more chastisement than any of my brothers; and, yet, I must say I was indulged much beyond my deserts.

I had one serious fault—at least, it was so considered by the good old dames of the neighborhood, who prophesied all manner of evils should befall me, in magnitude from being hung to being torn asunder by wild beasts, through all the gradations of torture that may flit through the mind governed by superstition.

I presume I might as well make a clean breast of the matter, in order that the reader may not be misled into a false conception of the situation in which I was placed during my boyhood days, and say that I was known, throughout that particular community, as the "Prince of Liars"; in fact, it had been said, and often in my very hearing, that Truth and I were total strangers, with no possibility of an acquaintance springing up between us.

Strange to say, my father never chastised me for failure to speak truly, and would, as I thought, look upon me with approval when I asserted as a fact something which could by no possible means have happened.

To continue the history.

My father motioned me to his side and handed me a package, saying:

"My son, here is a package which you must not open until your twenty-fifth birthday. Upon that day, you will open this package and read the instructions contained in it, and I ask you to follow those instructions closely. You must guard this package as you would guard your own safety and yield its possession to no one, not even for one moment."

I took it, observing that it was very light of weight and seemed certainly not to be momentous, if considered from that point of view.