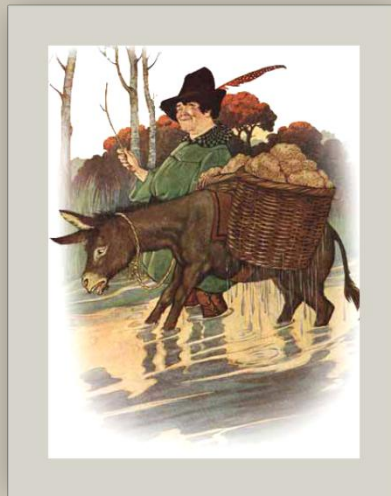


Aesop's Fables

45. THE ASS AND HIS BURDENS 驴和他的担子



A Pedlar who owned an Ass one day bought a quantity of salt, and loaded up his beast with as much as he could bear.

一个小贩养了一头驴，有一天，他买了一批盐，几乎全都驮到了驴的背上。



On the way home the Ass stumbled as he was crossing a stream and fell into the water.

在回家的路上，经过一条小河时，驴不慎落水。



The salt got thoroughly wetted and much of it melted and drained away, so that, when he got on his legs again, the Ass found his load had become much less heavy.

盐巴全都落入水中打湿了，其中一部分盐已经溶化，被水流冲走，所以，当他再次驮起盐巴，驴发现自己的担子明显轻了很多。



His master, however, drove him back to town and bought more salt, which he added to what remained in the panniers, and started out again.

然而，他的主人又赶着他回到镇上，买了更多的盐，添加到原有的那些货物上，重新出发。



No sooner had they reached a stream than the Ass lay down in it, and rose, as before, with a much lighter load.

等来到小河边，驴再次掉入水中，又起来，如上次一样，驴背上的担子又轻了许多。



But his master detected the trick, and turning back once more, bought a large number of sponges, and piled them on the back of the Ass.

主人察觉出了驴的鬼把戏，再次赶着他回到镇上，这次主人买了一些海绵，绑到驴背上。



When they came to the stream the Ass again lay down: but this time, as the sponges soaked up large quantities of water, he found, when he got up on his legs, that he had a bigger burden to carry than ever.

当他们又来到小河边，驴又故技重施，可是这一次，因为海绵遇水膨胀，等站起身后，他发现背上的担子更重了。



You may play a good card once too often.

好牌只能用一次，多了就无效。



Sweet dreams!
Good Night!

