THE TRAVELS AND SURPRISING ADVENTURES OF BARON MUNCHAUSEN

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The Travels and Surprising Adventures of Baron Munchausen by Rudolf Erich Raspe

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RUDOLF ERICH RASPE

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OF

BARON MUNCHAUSEN.



THE

TRAVELS

AND

Furprising Adventures

OF

BARON MUNCHAUSEN.

NEW YORK: AMERICAN BOOK EXCHANGE, 55 BEEKMAN STREET.

1879.

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TO THE PUBLIC.



AVING heard, for the first time, that my adventures have been doubted, and looked upon as jokes, I feel bound

to come forward and vindicate my character *for veracity*, by paying three shillings at the Mansion House of this great city for the affidavits hereto appended.

This I have been forced into in regard of my own honor, although I have retired for many years from public and private life; and I hope that this, my last edition, will place me in a proper light with my readers.

2.4 2000

(v)

TO THE PUBLIC.

AT THE CITY OF LONDON, ENGLAND.

We, the undersigned, as true believers in the *profit*, do most solemnly affirm, that all the adventures of our friend Baron Munchausen, in whatever country they may *lie*, are positive and simple facts. And, as we have been believed, whose adventures are tenfold more wonderful, so do we hope all true believers will give him their full faith and credence.

GULLIVER. \times SINBAD. \times ALADDIN. \times

Sworn at the Mansion House 9th Nov. last, in the absence of the Lord Mayor.

JOHN (the Porter). .

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INTRODUCTORY NOTICE.



O many different opinions have obtained respecting the authorship of "The Travels of Baron Munchausen," and the motives for writing that work, that it seems desirable to append

some explanation on both these points to the present edition.

The general opinion appears to be that expressed by a writer in Notes and Queries (No. 68, 1851): "• The Travels of Baron Munchausen' were written to ridicule Bruce, the Abyssinian traveller, whose adventures were at that time deemed fictitions." But the writer of the above article offers the best evidence for correcting this opinion; for he goes on to say, that he had for years sought a copy of the work, and had at last been successful, and describes it as "the second edition, considerably enlarged, and ornamented with twenty explanatory