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The One Hoss Shay: Illustrated (Paperback)

By Oliver Wendell Holmes

Createspace Independent Publishing Platform, 2017. Paperback. Condition: New. Howard Pyle (illustrator). Illustrated. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. The Wonderful One-Hoss Shay is a perfectly intelligible conception, whatever material difficulties it presents. It is conceivable that a being of an order superior to humanity should so understand the conditions of matter that he could construct a machine which should go to pieces, if not into its constituent atoms, at a given moment of the future. The mind may take a certain pleasure in this picture of the impossible. The event follows as a logical consequence of the presupposed condition of things. Oliver Wendell Holmes, (1809-1894) American physician, poet, and humorist notable for his medical research and teaching, and as the author of the Breakfast-Table series of essays. There is a practical lesson to be got out of the story. Observation shows us in what point any particular mechanism is most likely to give way. In a wagon, for instance, the weak point is where the axle enters the hub or nave. When the wagon breaks down, three times out of four, I think, it is at this point that the accident occurs. The workman should...



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