

## **654 The Three Agile Brothers.**

Three brothers are sent out by their father to acquire skills. The one who learns best will inherit the house [F660.1, H504]. The first becomes a smith, the second a barber, the third a fencer.

When they are asked to demonstrate their skills, the smith shoes a horse while it is galloping [F663.1], the barber shaves a running hare [F665. 1 ], the fencer circulates his sword so fast that he stays dry in a heavy rain [F667.1].

The father either chooses one of his sons, or, he leaves his property to all three of them.

Remarks: Documented in the Middle Ages, e.g. Gesta Romanorum (No. 196). Early tall tale see Philippe le Picard (No. 1).