



SIX & TWENTY  
BOYS & GIRLS



PICTURED BY  
JOHN HASSALL



**Six-and-Twenty Boys and Girls**



# Six and Twenty Boys and Girls



Pictured by  
John Hassall

With Verses by  
Clifton Bingham

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Hassall





## AWKWARD ADA

**A**DA'S such an awkward thing!  
Asked the dinner-tray to bring,  
She is sure to let it fall—  
Smashing dishes, plates, and all!  
All her fingers are like thumbs;  
And when back from school she comes,  
Her two awkward, sprawly feet  
Almost reach across the street.  
Bumping here and there she goes,  
Treading on folks' tender toes.  
If you've corns, when she is there,  
Keep your feet beneath your chair!

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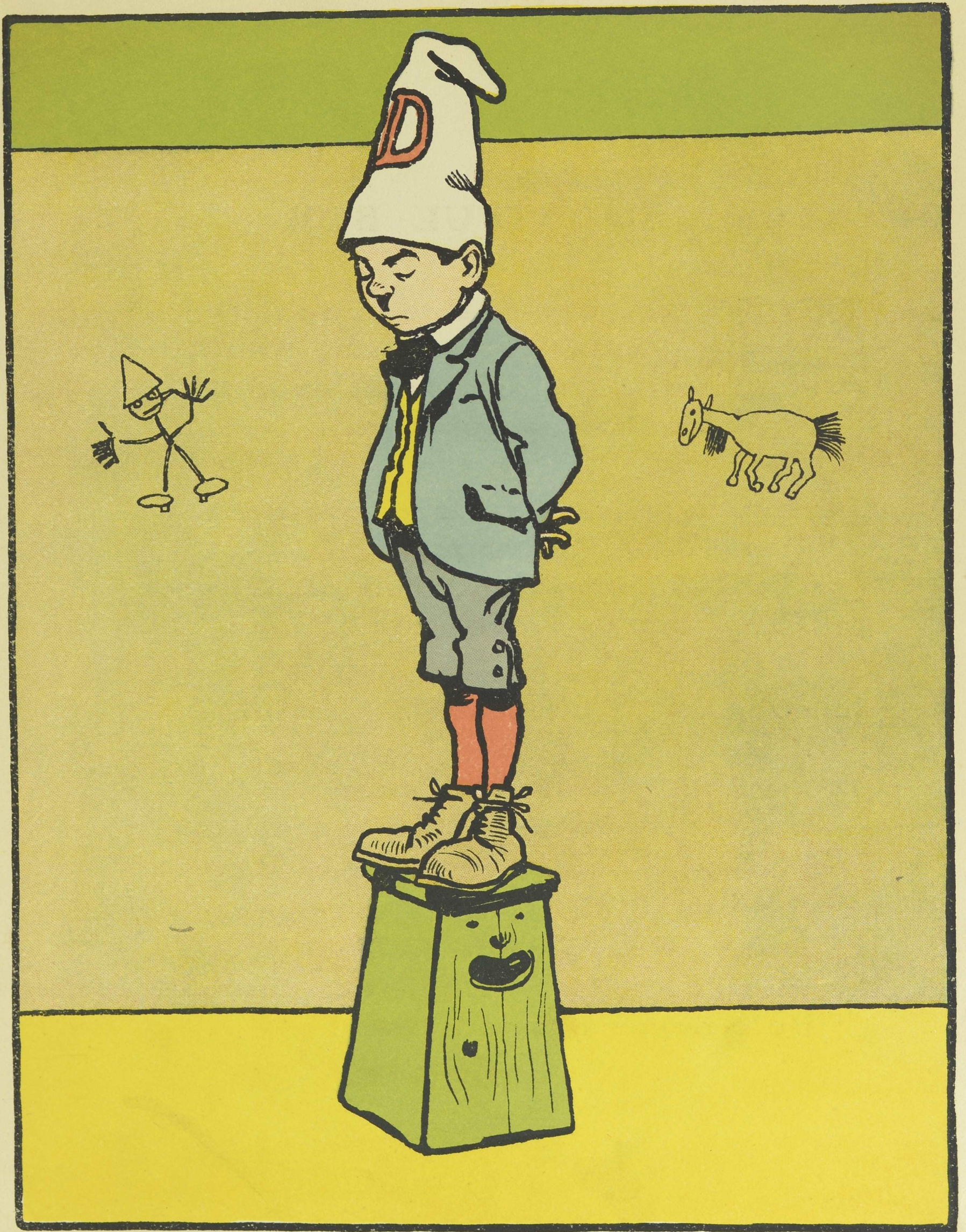
## BOASTFUL BOB

**W**HEN Boastful Bob to school first went,  
He bragged of what he knew,  
And of his learning's great extent,  
And all that he could do.

To him no task too hard could be,  
Too difficult no sum;  
His schoolmates wondered oft why he  
To school had ever come.

In spite of all his learning grand,  
It made him look a fool  
To be the very first to stand  
Upon the dunce's stool!

And when the playtime hour came round,  
Their jeering made him wince;  
He didn't know a thing, they found—  
He's never boasted since!











## CURIOUS CAROLINE

**I** HOPE the case of Caroline  
Will never be your own or mine;

To learn the how, the which, the why  
Of everything she saw she'd try;

In other folks' affairs she poked  
Her nose, until they grew provoked;

She pined to find the where, the what,  
The is it, or the is it not!

One fatal day she felt her nose—  
“Good gracious,” cried she, “how it grows!”

'T was long and pointed, sharp and keen,  
Which was not what it should have been.

A sadder case I never knew,  
For oh, it grew, and grew, and grew!

And now 't is like a spreading tree,  
As big as any tree can be.

The moral is, it seems to me,  
Beware of Cu—ri—os—i—tee!





## DIRTY DICK

**A** SADDER fate than that of Dick  
'T would puzzle you to find:  
He said that water made him sick,  
And dirt he didn't mind.

He never washed his hands or face,  
Nor had a bath like you;  
But dirty went about the place,  
And gloried in it too!

At last his parents found one night  
(It made them very sad),  
In him, with all his dirt, they quite  
A kitchen-garden had.

Potatoes from his fingers sprout,  
And green stuff from his toes;  
And water-cress all round about  
His neck and shoulders grows!











## ENVIOUS ELIZA

**E**LIZA was an envious Miss,  
Who always wanted that or this;

Though she had dollies three or four,  
She envied every girl with more.

She sighed for this, she pined for that,  
Her cousin's frock, her sister's hat;

No matter what the thing might be,  
"I wish I could have that!" said she.

One day when by her mother told  
Her little sister had a cold,

Cried she, "Why haven't I one too?"  
Which was a silly thing to do.

Eliza caught a cold next day,  
In bed a week she had to stay.

Beware of being envious,  
Or you, like her, may suffer thus!





## FIDGETY FRANK

**F**RANK never, never would keep still,  
His fidgets made his mother ill.

“Oh, do leave off!” the folks would say,  
“Or you will fidget right away!”

He wore out holes in all his boots,  
And in the knees of all his suits;

With fidgeting he grew so thin,  
He soon looked only bone and skin.

At bed-time, when he had his bath,  
He was no bigger than a lath;

He fidgeted in bed at night,  
Until he looked a shadow quite.

Thus bit by bit, from day to day,  
He fidgeted himself away;

And now he's got so tiny small,  
There's nothing left of him at all!











## GOOD-TEMPERED GRACE

**W**HEN you meet Good-tempered Grace,  
Note her merry, smiling face.

Happy as a girl can be,  
Never there a frown you see.

No one ever sees her pout  
When on errands she's sent out;

Never is a grumble heard,  
Nor a discontented word.

Round her all day long she throws  
Sunshine as she comes and goes;

Minding Baby, helping Dad,  
Making all the world seem glad.

If some little people knew,  
What good temper oft can do,

They would wear a smiling face,  
And be like Good-tempered Grace.





## HANDY HARRY

**H**ANDY Harry makes and mends,  
In this way his playtime spends.

When to play go other boys,  
He is busy mending toys;

If your dolly's arm you break,  
He a new one soon can make;

If you chance to break a chair,  
Bring it to him to repair.

Folks exclaim: "Oh, me! we never  
Knew a lad one-half so clever!"

"You could do the same," he'll say,  
"If you only knew the way."

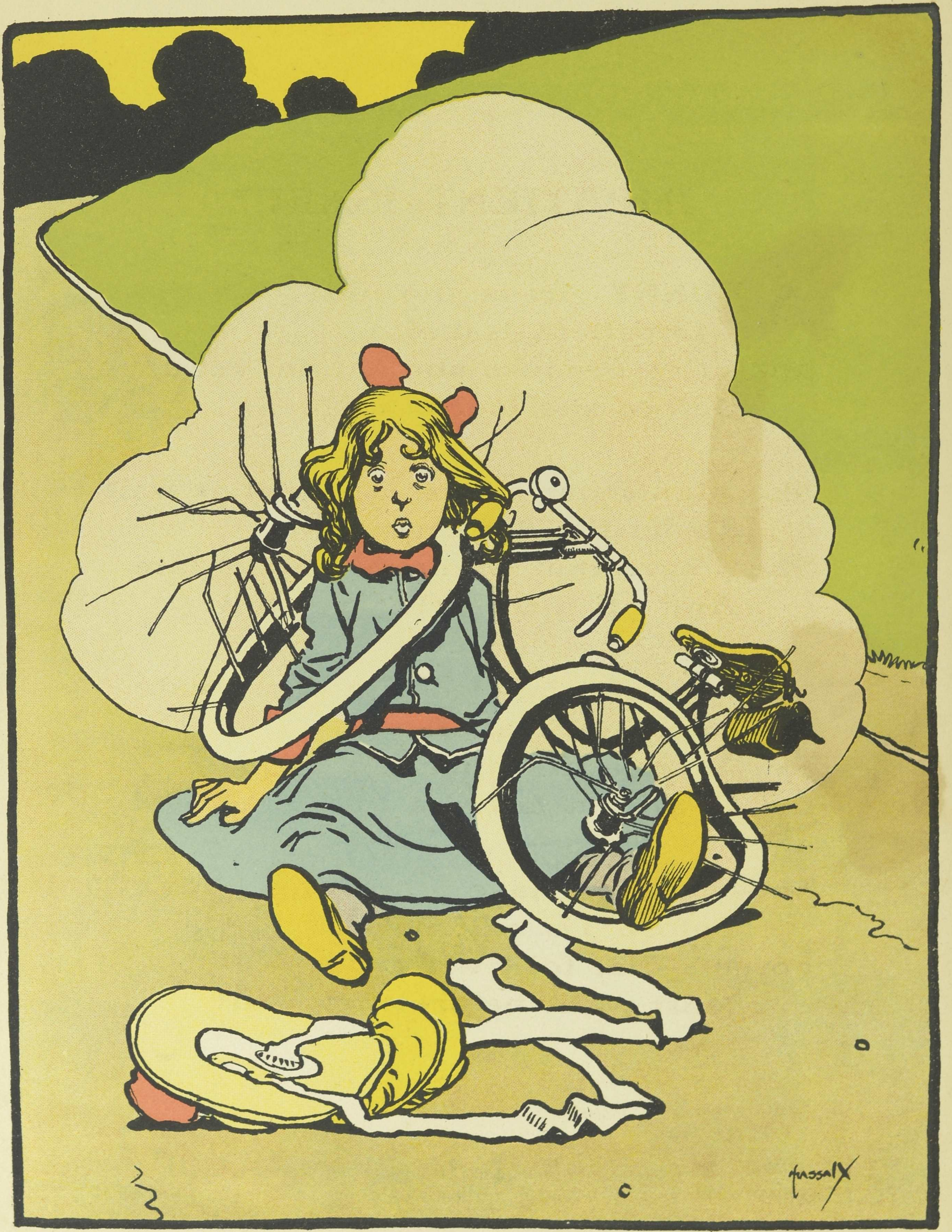
Making, mending as he goes,  
Daily to a man he grows;

He'll be great and clever then—  
Handy boys make useful men!











## IMPATIENT ISABEL

**A** FUNNY girl is she indeed,  
Impatient Isabel;  
She cries because she cannot read,  
Before she learns to spell.

She plants her seeds, but cannot wait  
To let the flowers grow;  
She's sure that dinner's always late,  
And all the clocks are slow.

One day she fancied she could ride—  
Impatient Isabel!—  
Her bicycle first time she tried—  
O what a fall she fell!

She wants to have a task complete  
Before 'tis half begun;  
Forgets that folk with little feet  
Must walk before they run!





## JOLLY JACK

**I**F you this merry lad should meet,  
You'll know he's Jolly Jack;  
You'll never hear him stamp his feet,  
Nor see his face go black.

It does one good to hear him laugh,  
And see his merry smile;  
Though sums perplex and schoolmates chaff,  
He's jolly all the while.

Come work or play, 'tis all the same,  
To laugh is his delight.  
To sit and sigh won't win the game,  
Or make the sum come right.

So, when you have a long, hard sum,  
And when the sky looks black,  
Just make the best of things that come,  
And laugh, like Jolly Jack.

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BOBBS

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## KIND-HEARTED KITTY

**T**HAN Kitty, nowhere you will find  
A little maid with heart more kind;

So fond of animals is she,  
She has a whole menagerie.

She has a dozen different pets,  
To feed them, too, she ne'er forgets;

They love her dearly, for they know  
Kind-hearted Kitty loves them so.

She's kind to many things besides,  
For love in her wee heart abides

For those that can and cannot speak—  
The poor, the sick, the small, the weak.

So through the happy day she goes,  
And love on rich and poor bestows,

And feels the perfect joy that springs  
From kindness given to all God's things.





## LAZY LAWRENCE

**L**AZY Lawrence loves his bed,  
Lies there like a sleepyhead,

When he's called he gives a snore,  
Turns, and goes to sleep once more.

When his sums at school are done,  
Out to play he'll never run;

Home to dinner he will crawl,  
Like a fat snail up a wall.

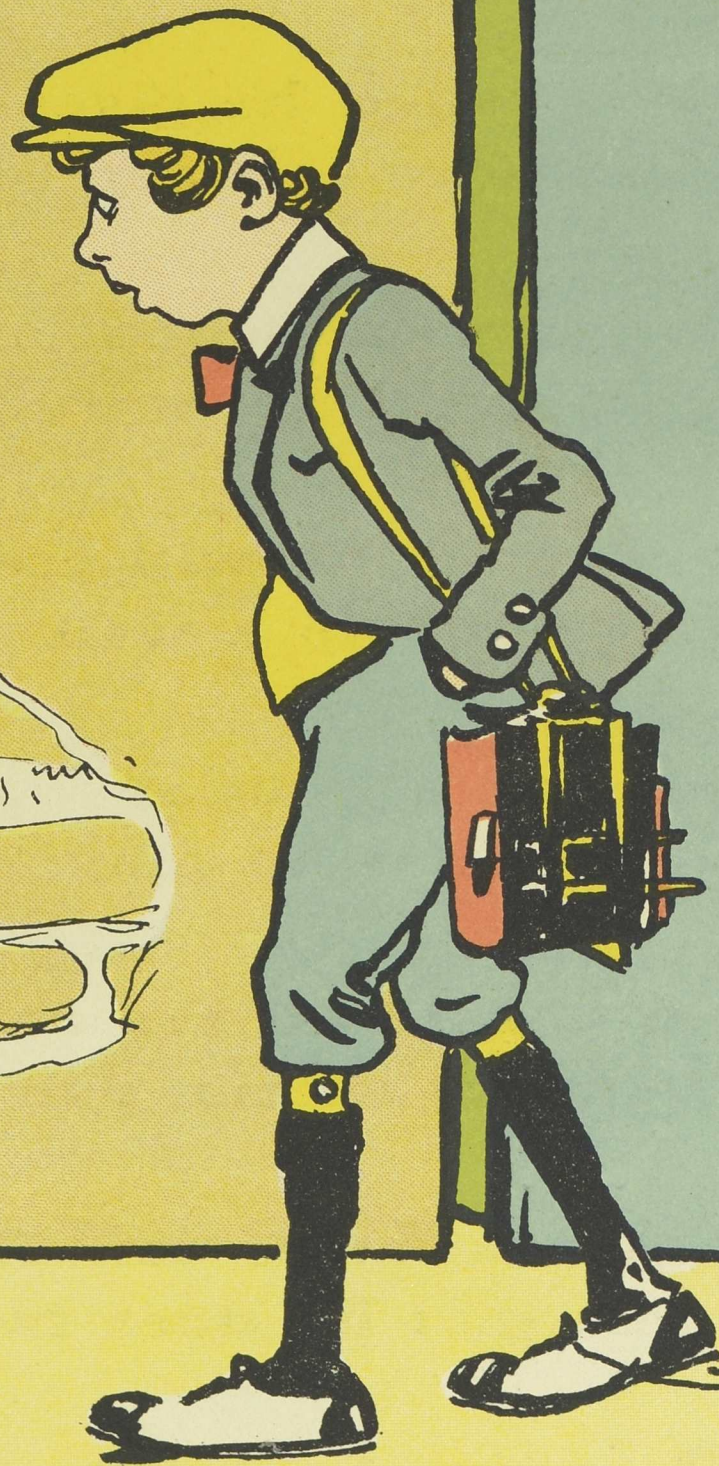
When he gets a holiday  
He's too lazy, far, to play;

Cricket, football, all are one,  
Lazy Lawrence cannot run.

Other boys ten sums can do  
In the time that he does two.

Be a man some day?—Oh, no!  
He's too lazy, far, to grow!

SCHOOL











## MISCHIEVOUS MARY

**I**F Mary you should meet one day,  
From her you'd better run away;

For you will soon discover that  
Some mischief she is always at.

She'll pinch your arm or pull your hair;  
Put cobbler's wax upon your chair;

Or in the dark, with sudden "Boo!"  
She'll try her best to frighten you.

She calls it fun to see you jump,  
And make your heart go bump—bump—bump;

But if such tricks on her you try,  
She does not like it, starts to cry!

She loves her silly jokes to play  
On everyone who comes her way;

Oh, Mary, if you only knew  
The nasty things folks say of you!





## NOISY NICHOLAS

**W**HEN Noisy Nicholas is in  
He fills the whole house with his din;

When Noisy Nicholas goes out  
The neighbours hear him yell and shout.

A big drum is his favourite toy,  
A blaring trumpet gives him joy;

And on the stairs each clamping sole  
Sounds like a tumbling ton of coal.

He is the selfishest of boys,  
And never thinks his noise annoys;

His mother cries, with aching head,  
"Thank goodness!" when he's gone to bed.

Both in the house and out of it  
He isn't liked a little bit;

In fact, no one at all felt sad  
When Nicholas the toothache had!











## OBEDIENT OLIVE

**O**LIVE is as good as gold,  
Always does as she is told;

When upon an errand sent,  
Off she scampers, quite content.

When her bed-time hour comes round,  
Ready she is always found;

Not a grumble, not a pout—  
Kiss and blow the candle out!

Doing, with a face so bright,  
Just what Mother says is right;

That's the reason why, you know,  
Everybody loves her so!





## PARTICULAR PAUL

**Y**OUNG Paul is so particular,  
From crown of head to feet  
(A thing that some boys never are)  
He is so clean and neat.

His clothes are always nicely brushed,  
His boots, too, look so trim;  
His hat is never bent or crushed,  
Folks are quite proud of him.

Although he loves to romp or play  
As much as any boy,  
To feel untidy, he would say,  
He never does enjoy.

Some boys I know (I won't say where,  
Or mention who they are)  
Would look much nicer if they were  
Like Paul, particular!











## QUARRELSOME QUEENIE

**S**EE her with her angry face,  
Is she not a sad disgrace?

Queenie Quarrelsome's her name.  
Queenie, Queenie, fie for shame!

If it's not a game she knows,  
Soon her face with anger glows;

Nobody with her will play,  
From her they all run away.

Indoors, outdoors, 'tis the same,  
Queenie Quarrelsome's her name.

Vexes brothers, sisters, nurse,  
And her mother, which is worse!

There's but one thing to be done,  
Find a cupboard, nice dark one,

Put her on the highest shelf—  
Let her quarrel by herself!





## RECKLESS ROBIN

**Y**OUNG Robin is a reckless lad,  
His rashness makes his mother sad;

Forever trying some new feat  
The boys around for miles to beat;

He'll go and skate when ice is thin,  
And then, of course, will tumble in;

He'll climb the very highest tree  
That in the orchard he can see;

Then fall, and, lying on the ground,  
With broken arm or leg be found!

Whene'er the neighbours hear a crash,  
They say: "That's Robin being rash;"

And when they bring him home some day  
With broken neck, they'll only say:

"He won't be reckless any more;  
Surprised it didn't break before."











## SULKY SUSAN

**S**ULKY Susan has no friends,  
All alone her time she spends;

While the others romp and play,  
She prefers to sulk all day.

Sulks because it isn't fine,  
Sulks because the sun will shine;

Sulks to get up when 't is light,  
Sulks to go to bed at night.

Such an ugly, sulky face  
Is a cloud upon the place;

All the cats and dogs, they say,  
When they see it, run away!

Oh! her face is such a sight,  
It's no wonder they take fright;

If you saw her coming, you  
Would be very frightened too!





## TEASING TOM

**T**EASING Tom's the worst of boys,  
Loves to break his sister's toys;

Frightens her and thinks it fun,  
Pulls her hair and makes her run.

Likes to torment, vex, and tease  
Every cat and dog he sees;

When he gets a scratch or bite,  
Everyone says: "Serve him right!"

Once, however, at the Zoo,  
Just to show what he could do,

Thomas thought he'd tease the bear,  
Though the keeper said: "Take care!"

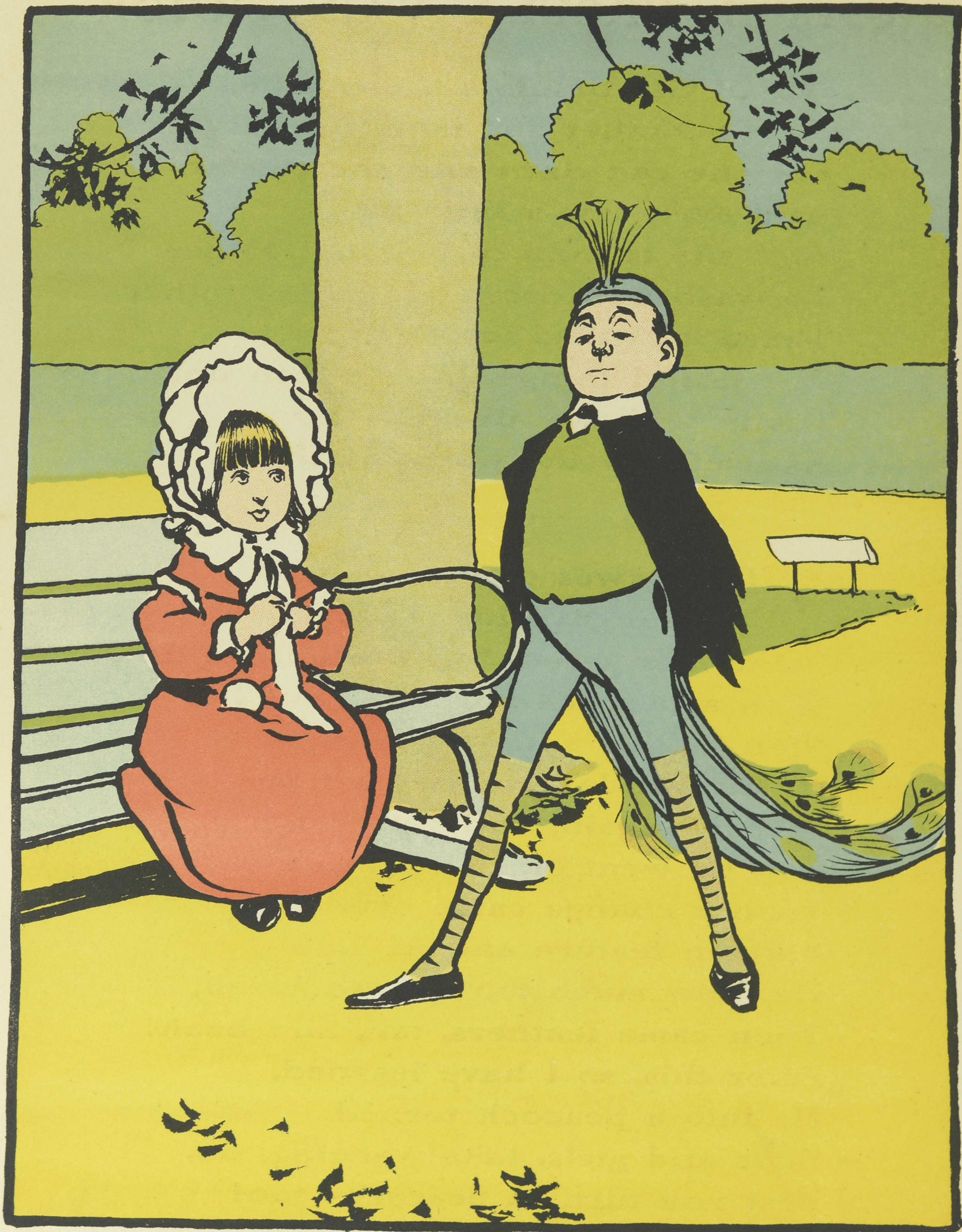
Master Bear was much too quick,  
Tore his coat, and Tom felt sick;

Gave him such a dreadful fright,  
And of teasing cured him quite.











## USEFUL URSULA—VAIN VICTOR

**T**HOUGH Ursula's a tiny mite,  
To Mother she is useful quite;  
For she can darn and she can knit,  
And even sew a little bit.  
And she is fond of helping Mother  
To wash and dress her baby-brother.  
There isn't time to tell to you  
The useful things that she can do;  
I only wish we all could be  
As useful in the world as she.

---

**V**ICTOR was so very vain,  
Oft he gave his mother pain;  
"Oh!" she cried, "what shall we do  
With a peacock-boy like you?"  
Vain of this and vain of that,  
Of his Sunday clothes and hat,  
Warned again, and yet again,  
Still he went on being vain!  
Soon a change came over him,  
Both in feature and in limb;  
He grew much too vain to speak,  
Then came feathers, tail, and beak!  
After this, so I have learned,  
He into a peacock turned.  
Boys and girls, take warning, do,  
Lest you turn to peacocks too!





## WHINING WINIFRED

**B**E the weather wet or fine,  
Winifred can only whine;

Nothing's pleasant, nothing's right,  
Morning, afternoon, or night!

Whines because the sun's too hot,  
Whines though all she wants she's got.

Whines at school and whines at play,  
Whines, indeed, all through the day!

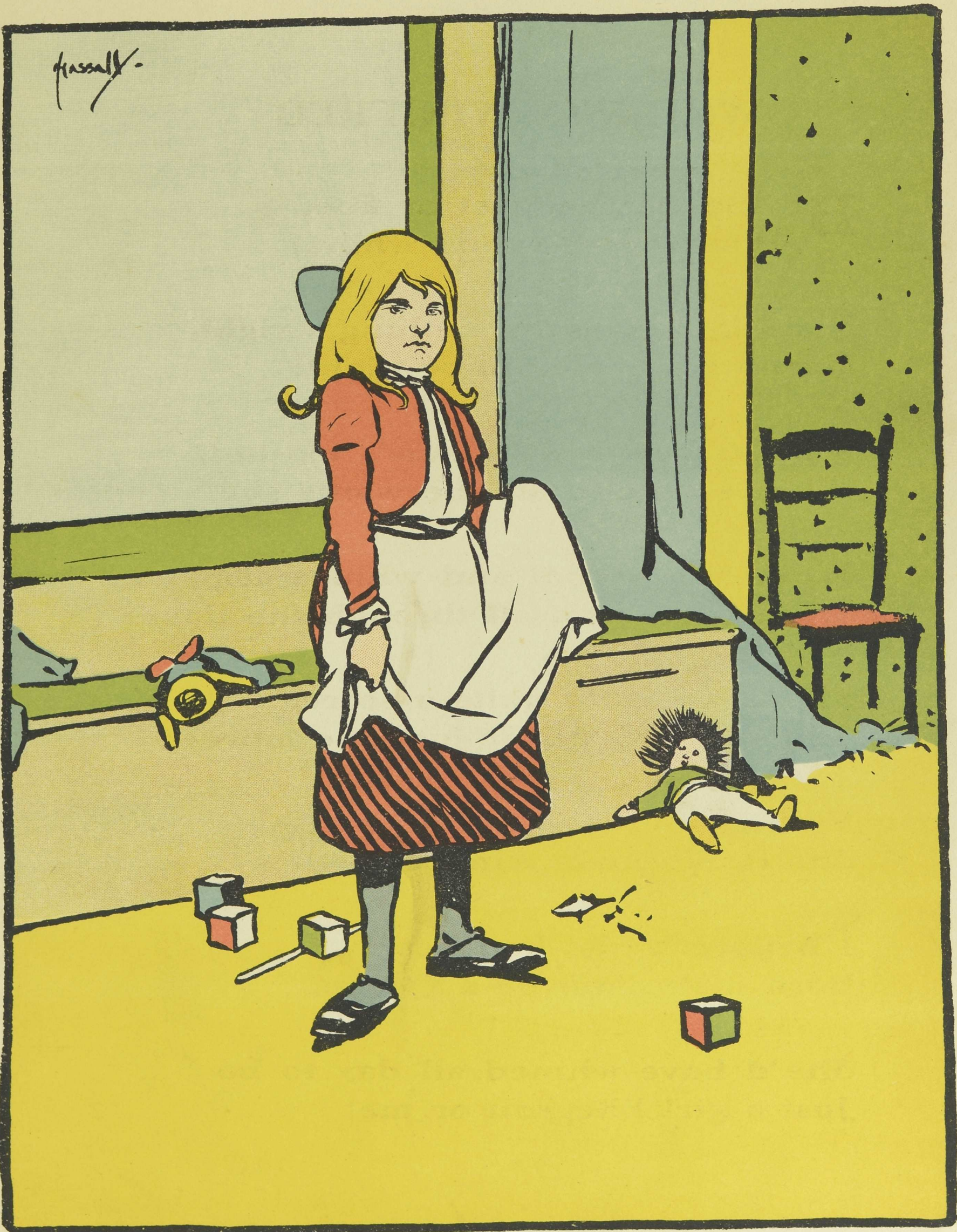
She has dollies quite a score,  
Still she whines for just one more;

Whines to rise, to go to bed—  
She is Whining Winifred!

I believe if she had been  
Born a Princess or a Queen,

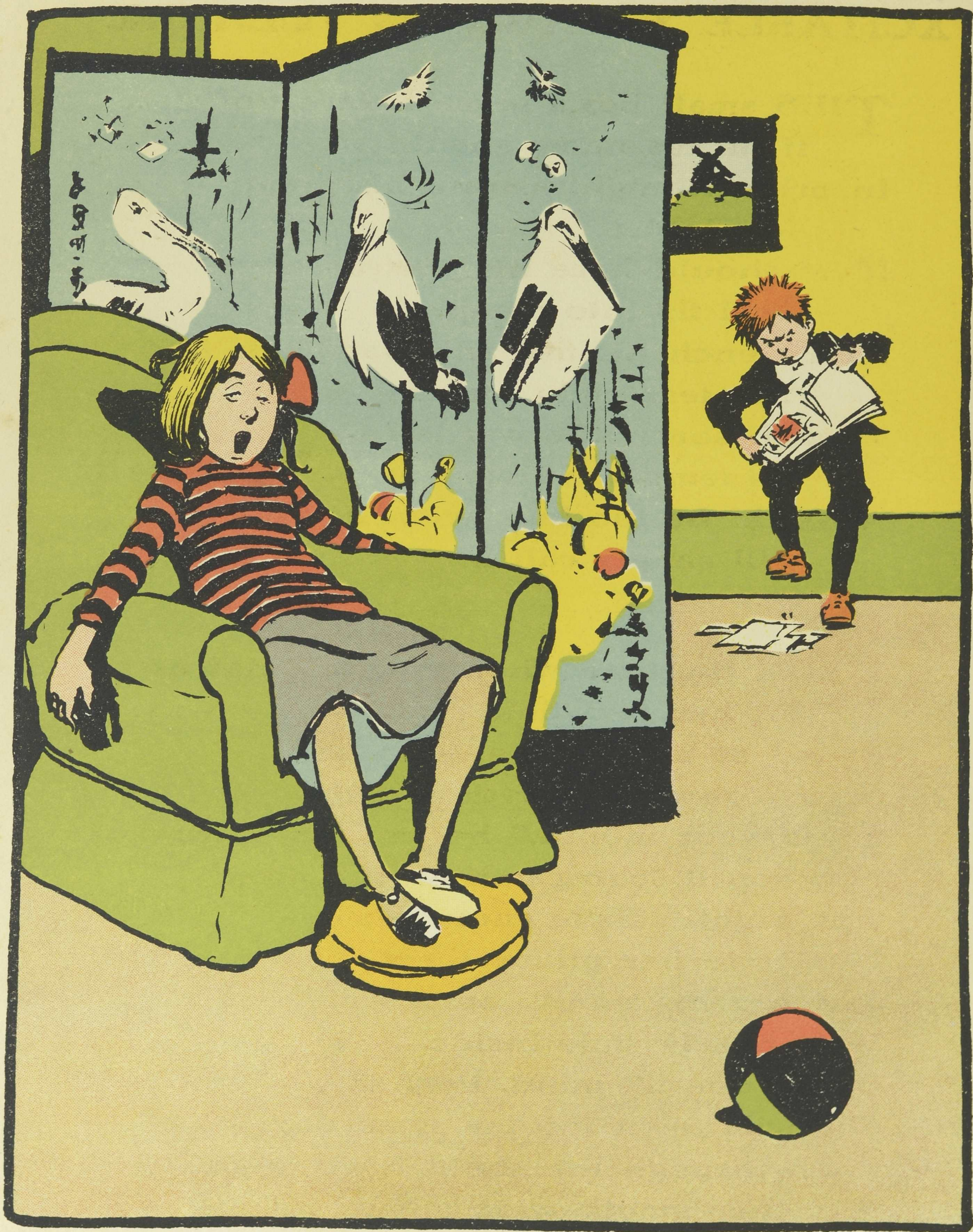
She'd have whined all day to be  
Just a girl like you or me!

Massally -











## XCITABLE X—YAWNING YOLANDE

**T**HIS small boy's name I dare not state;  
If he his name should see  
In print, it might arouse his great  
Xcitabilitee.  
If he should here his portrait meet,  
He'd fly into a rage,  
And clench his fist, and stamp his feet,  
And tear right out this page.  
Though sorry afterwards he'd be,  
His temper we won't vex,  
'T would be too late when done, so we  
Will simply call him X.

---

**F**ROM the time when morning dawns  
Till her bed-time comes she yawns;  
Yawns at breakfast and at tea,  
Such a yawning girl is she.  
"Shut your mouth," her mother cries,  
"Or you'll soon catch all the flies!"  
One night, as she snoring slept,  
Mousie to her pillow crept,  
Saw her big mouth open wide,  
Very nearly stole inside.  
If she doesn't mind, they say,  
She will yawn too far some day;  
Then through life she'll have to go  
With her mouth wide open—so!





## ZEALOUS ZACHARIAH

**T**HIS lad with an uncommon name,  
At lesson-book or any game

So zealous was, he loved to be  
At quite the top of every tree.

He always tried his very best,  
At task or play, to beat the rest,

And made the others idle feel,  
He played and studied with such zeal.

For, be it work or be it play,  
"Be zealous" is the truest way;

While others grumble, he who tries  
To do his best will gain the prize.







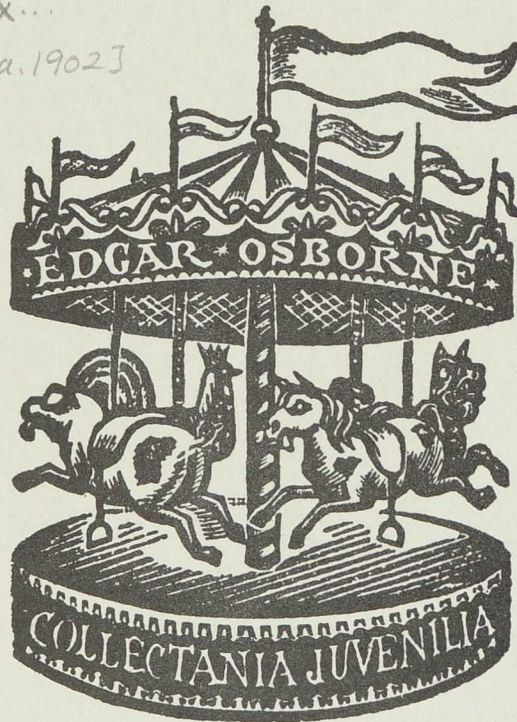




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