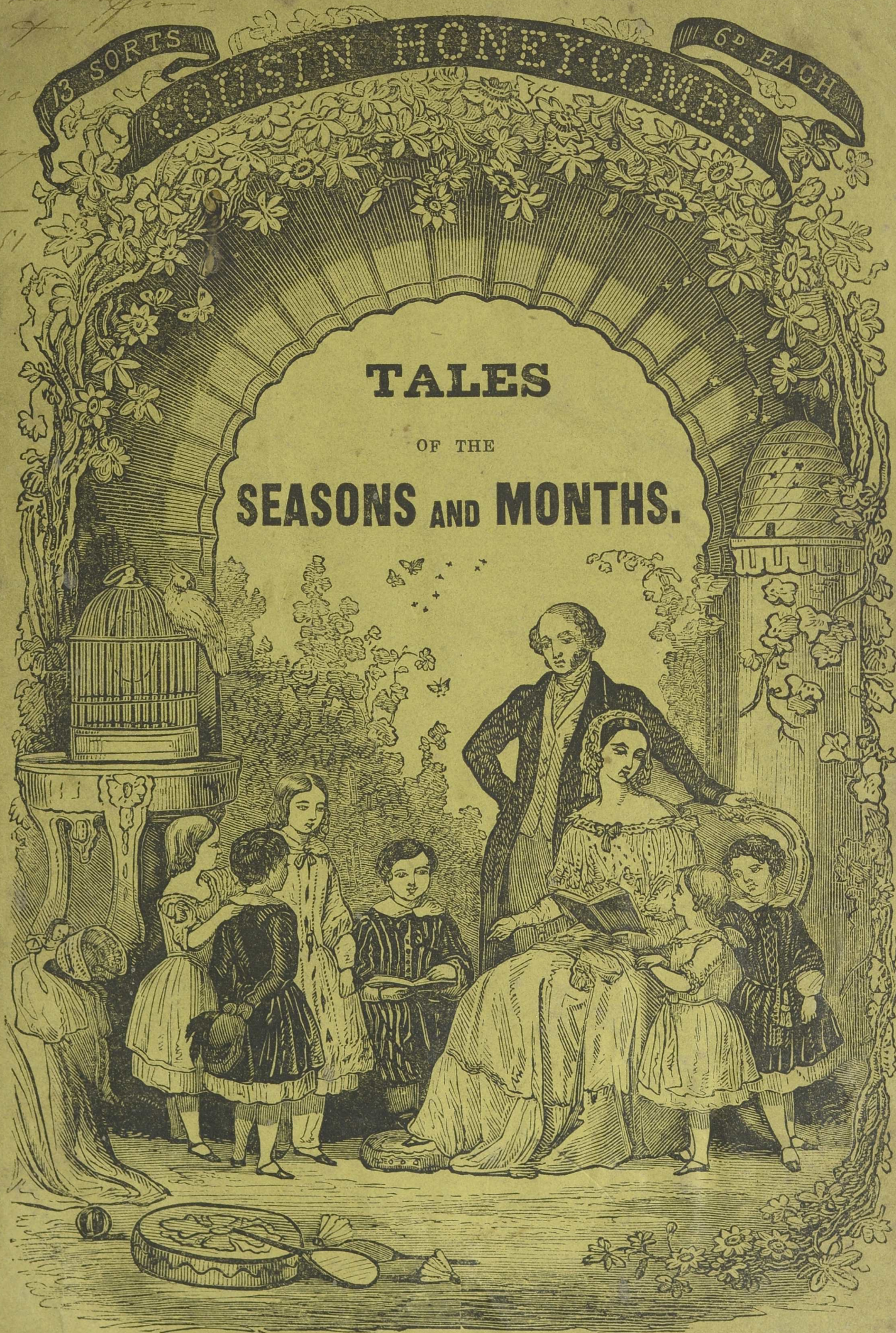


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LONDON:

THOMAS DEAN AND SON, THREADNEEDLE-STREET.



**COUSIN HONEY-COMB'S  
TALES OF THE SEASONS**



**AND  
MONTHS OF THE YEAR.**

LONDON:  
THOMAS DEAN AND SON, THREADNEEDLE-STREET





## JANUARY.

Cold winter rules with icy sway,  
The wind is loud and keen;  
Scarce does the sun his beams display,  
To light the dreary scene.  
The streams are covered o'er with ice,  
And school-boys, side by side,  
With merry shout, and glowing cheeks,  
Now o'er the surface glide.

## FEBRUARY.

The changeful winds now milder blow,  
The cold is less severe;  
The sun is shining on the snow,  
And brighter skies appear.  
The earth now, loosened from the frost,  
Again with moisture teems;  
And rivers, freed from icy bonds,  
Flow on in gentle streams.













## MARCH.

Rough winds whirl up the dust on high,  
 And blow both cold and strong;  
 The thrush and ring-dove now begin  
 Their sweet and plaintive song.  
 The busy bee rejoicing feels  
 That Spring draws nearer still;  
 Primroses peep beneath the hedge,  
 And violets by the rill.

## APRIL.

Now April, smiling through her tears,  
 Advances o'er the plain;  
 Cold Winter flies at her approach,  
 And Spring appears again.  
 Now bush and tree their blossoms show,  
 The cuckoos tell their tale;  
 And in the woods is sometimes heard  
 The lonely nightingale.









## MAY.

Sweet May is come! how cheerful now  
Doth every thing appear:  
There's apple blossoms on the bough,  
And field flowers every where.  
The birds sing blythely in the groves,  
The bees begin to swarm,  
And in their search for honey, light  
On every fragrant thorn.

## JUNE.

Now lively June her turn demands,  
Within the passing year;  
The farmer takes his flock of sheep,  
Their woolly coats to shear.  
And whilst around us, far and wide,  
The sun shines bright all day,  
Young lads and lasses throng the fields,  
To make the useful hay.





## JULY.

Now comes July, with ripening power,  
And from her sultry beam  
How gladly does the traveller rest,  
Beside some shady stream.  
Delicious fruits the orchard yields,  
The garden's trim and gay,  
The husbandman now seeks the fields,  
To carry home the hay.

## AUGUST.

Fair August next begins her reign,  
And darker grow the leaves;  
The farmer cuts the yellow corn,  
And binds it up in sheaves;  
The busy labourers throng the fields,  
And through the valleys roam,  
They load the waggons full of corn,  
And then they bear it home.









## SEPTEMBER.

September brings still choicer fruit  
Which hangs from many a bough,  
The sportsman now begins to shoot,  
The farmer minds his plough.  
To till the land for future crops,  
He must at once prepare;  
For if he fails in doing this  
He'll have no crops next year.

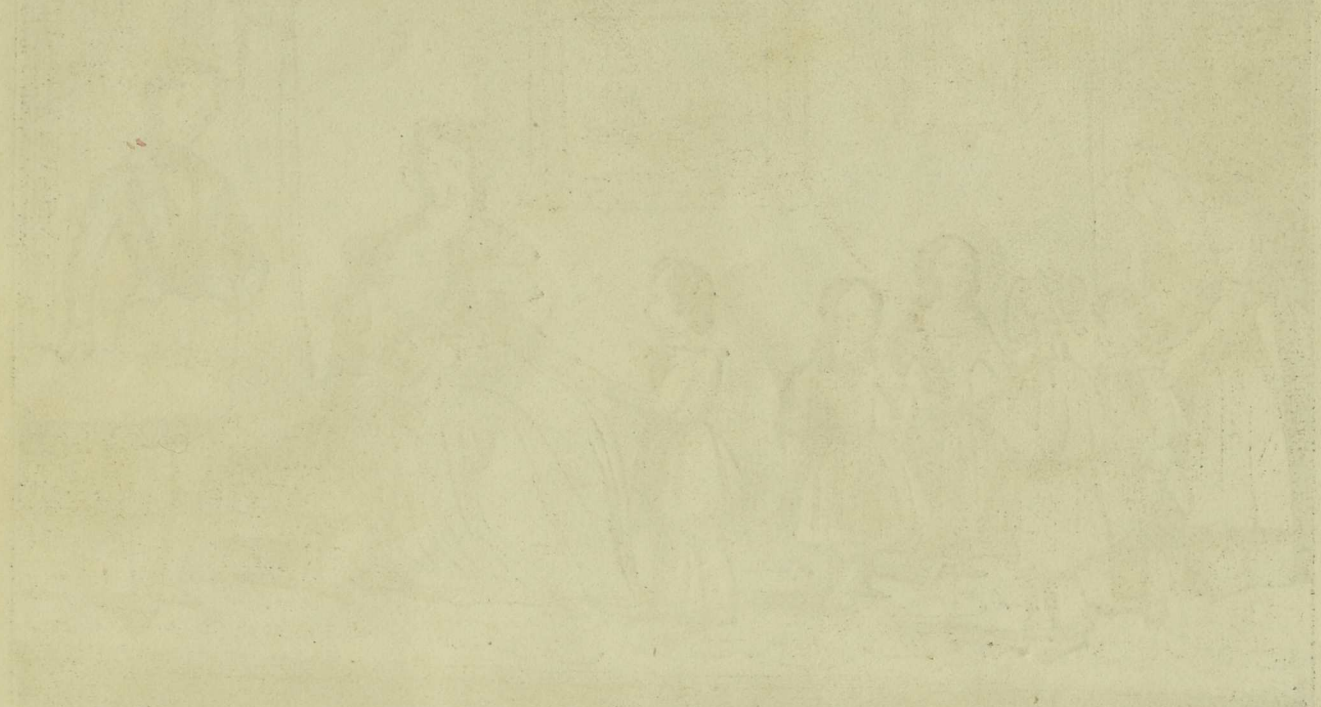
## OCTOBER.

'Tis Autumn, now, and soon again,  
Cold Winter will be here,  
The farmer still ploughs up his fields,  
And brews his Christmas beer;  
The huntsman now with hounds and horn,  
O'er hill and valley go.  
And little folks the hedges seek,  
Where ripe blackberries grow.









## NOVEMBER.

The leaves are falling off the trees;  
The weather's cold and drear;  
And children now at home must play;  
For Winter draweth near;  
Clouds often crowd across the skies;  
Long after day's begun;  
Thick fogs will frequently arise,  
And hide from us the sun.

## DECEMBER.

Now cold December holds the way;  
And chilly is the morn;  
The sun is seldom seen all day,  
And every leaf is gone;  
No bird re-echoes far and wide,  
His sweet and cheerful call;  
Save the lone robin, that resides  
Upon the mossy garden wall.





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The sun is seldom seen all day,  
And every leaf is gone.  
No bird re-echoes far and wide,  
His sweet and cheerful call,  
Save the lone redbreast, that resides  
Upon the moss-grown wall.





## CONCLUSION.

Whilst thus proceeds the passing year,  
Each month as it rolls on,  
Affords some change, reminding us  
How quickly time has gone.  
Then diligent we all should be  
Employing every hour,  
Providing for a future time,  
While yet 'tis in our power.

And as you see the farmer takes  
At proper time, good care  
To do all needful, to provide  
Against a future year;  
So you, whilst yet your childhood lasts,  
Should study all you can:  
And thus of wisdom lay up store  
For use,—when grown a man.



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