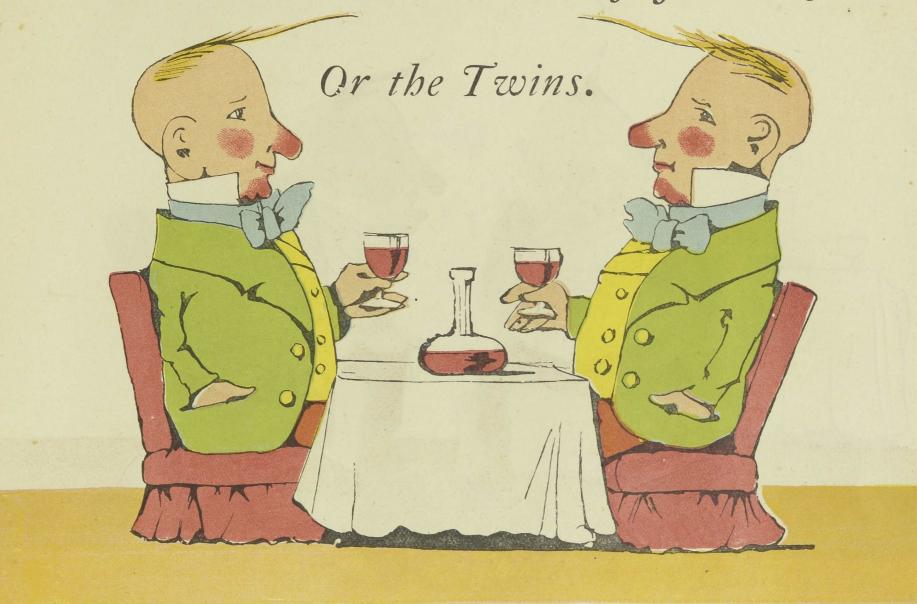


The Curious Adventures of Jim & Joe,





Twins were the brothers Jim and Joe, And one looked like the other so That it was said, "Not e'en their mother Could tell one from the other brother;" In fact, they scarce knew one another. Jim was so very much like Joe, That him from t'other none could know; Whilst Joe so much resembled Jim, That none could t'other tell from him. To complicate these matters more, Garments alike they always wore; If Jim's cravat one day was blue, Why, Joe's was of that colour too; While, should the coat of Jim be green, Joe in a like one would be seen. The very chairs they sat in, too, Were always of the self-same hue; E'en Joe's umbrella, as you see, Fitted his brother to a T. In fact, in everything save name, They were, I tell you, just the same.

Jim & Joe, or the Twins.



Things went on with them very well, Till, as I am about to tell, Disasters sad one day befel. They'd dined together as before, Their glass of wine had lingered o'er, And then, as would not seldom hap, They'd drowsy grown and ta'en a nap. It happened that, so very deep On this occasion was their sleep, When they awoke, such its effect, Not e'en themselves could recollect, Howe'er they puzzled, of the two Which one was which, or who was who! No sign there was to give a clue; The same green coat and necktie blue On each one met each other's view. Thus in a most undoubted stew Joe went to bed, and Jim went too,-

Perhaps the best thing they could do.

Jim & Joe, or the Twins.



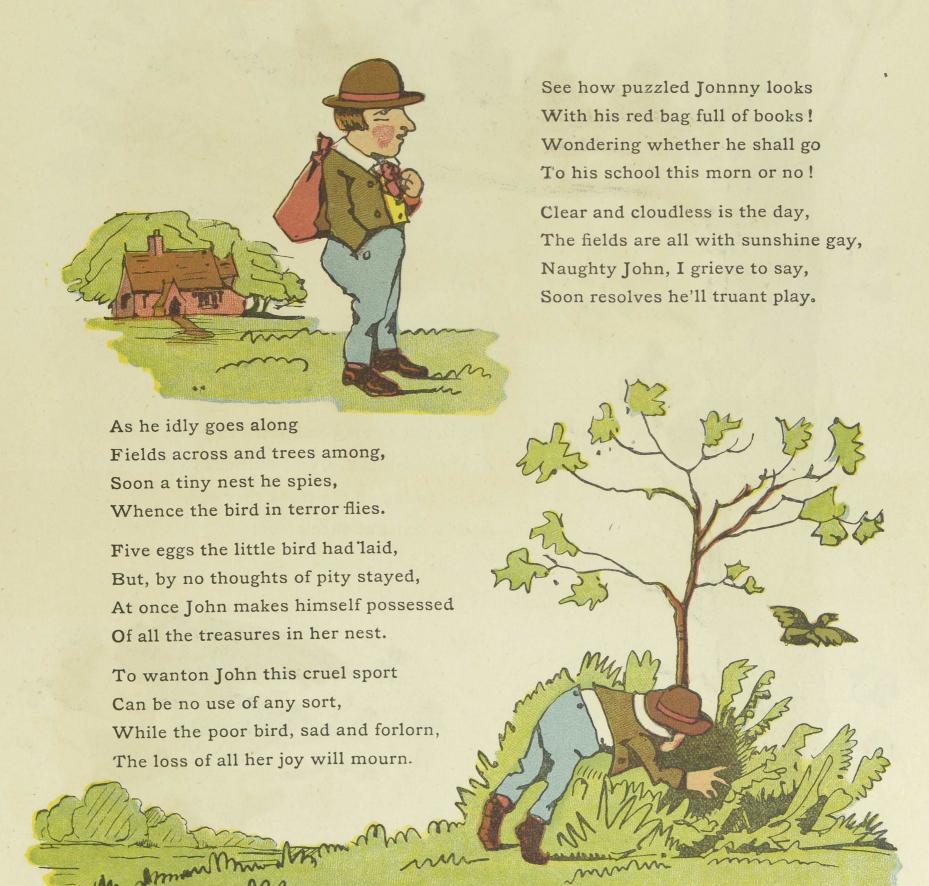
Jim & Joe, or the Twins.



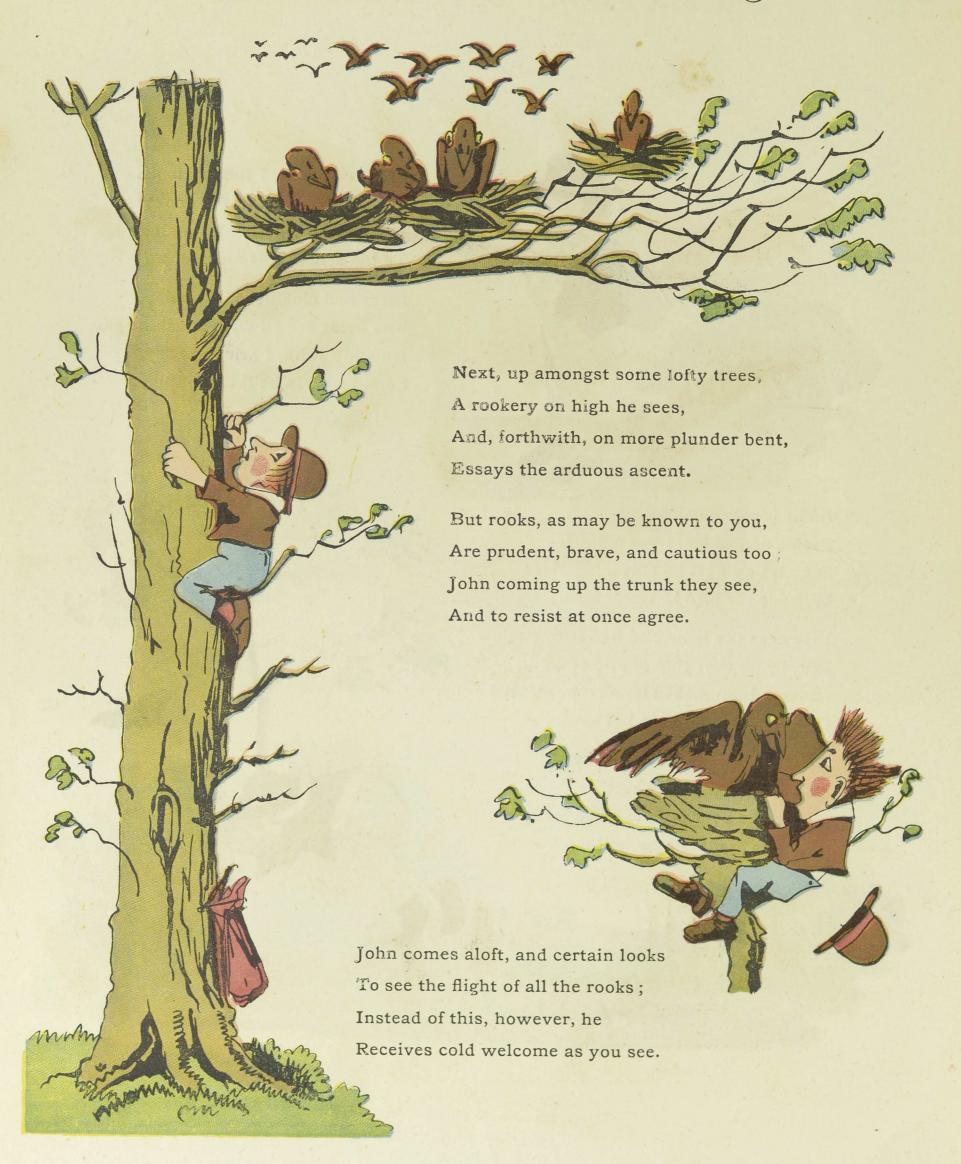


How else these brothers would have blundered In this way, may indeed be wondered. But such mistakes were such a bore, They could not stand them any more; And so resolved, with all their might, To try and set the matter right They went to work one early moining, All meals or relaxation scorning; They thought with neither rest nor stay, They puzzled through the livelong day; And thought they on with such good will That evening found them thinking still; They thought all day, sat up all night, Striving to set the matter right. Now, where there is a will, they say, Of some sort there is found a way; Hence, after day and night spent so, In restless wanderings to and fro, In anxious thought and wonder, lo! Jim recollected he was Joe.

An Account of Cruel Johnny's Bird-nesting.



Cruel Johnny's Bird-nesting.



Cruel Johnny's Bird-nesting.



Ah, what is this! an awful sight!

The rooks indeed have taken flight,
And, that he the world may view,
Have taken Johnny with them too.

See, one rook holds him by the hair,
And yet another, I declare,
Has got him firmly by the seat,

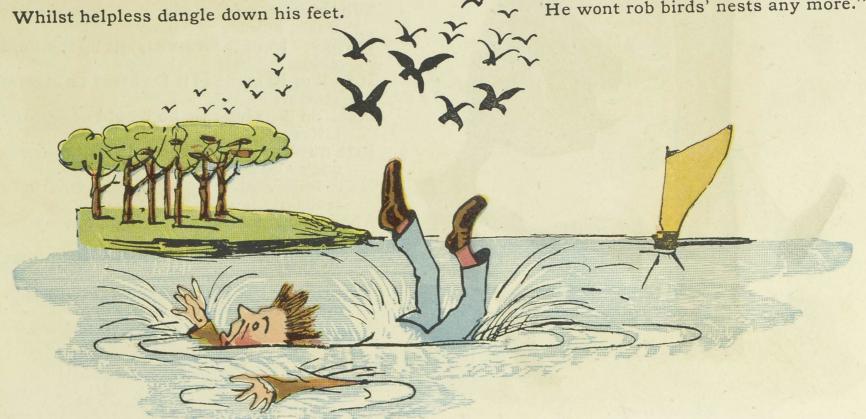
Up and onward still they go
Until a lake they see below,
Then, all at once, they loose their grip
That John may have a cooling dip.

Into the water splash he fell,

If drowned or not, I cannot tell.

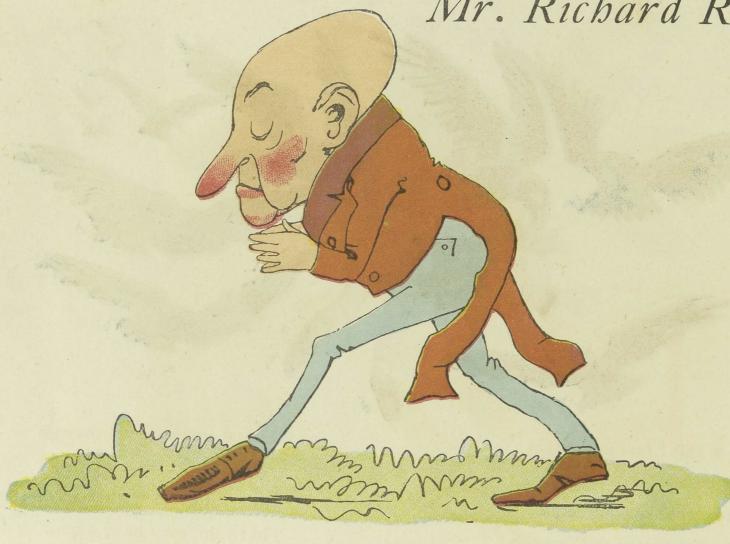
The circling rooks above cry, "Caw,

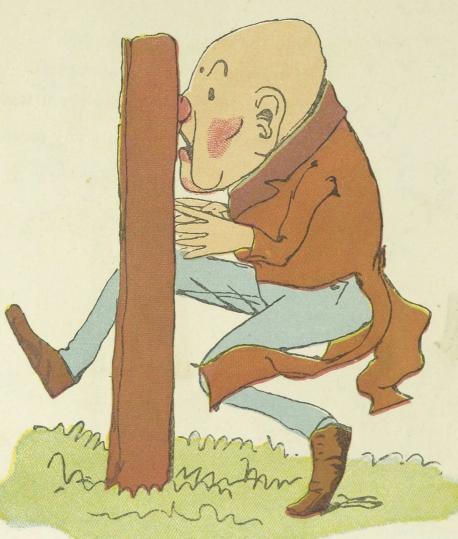
He wont rob birds' nests any more."



The Strange Adventures of

Mr. Richard Rabbits.





Above you see a man, called Mr. Richard Rabbits,

Who was in every way most punctual in his habits;

his habits;
When once he'd made a rule, whatever might betide,

might betide,
He never from it swerved, but by it would abide.

If well or ill came of it that was to him no matter,

So as he kept his rule he would accept the latter.

Just now he's made the rule that, wheresoe'er he goes,

He'll follow always straightly wherever leads his nose.

Above you see him walking at a somewhat rapid pace,

His nose goes on before him, as sometimes is the case.

Now it chanced on this occasion that against a post he went,

And so his poor old nose got very badly bent.

The Adventures of Mr. Richard Rabbits.



But by such little trifles never is he moved.

He doesn't feel himself; his nose, of course, is flat.

What matter? this old gentleman is not upset by that.

"If I don't feel myself to-day at all," says he,

"'Tis, after all, but right I should unselfish be.

If, having had a blow, my poor old nose is sore,

What, then? my poor old nose has oft been blown before;

Still shall I hope again to smell with it and snore:

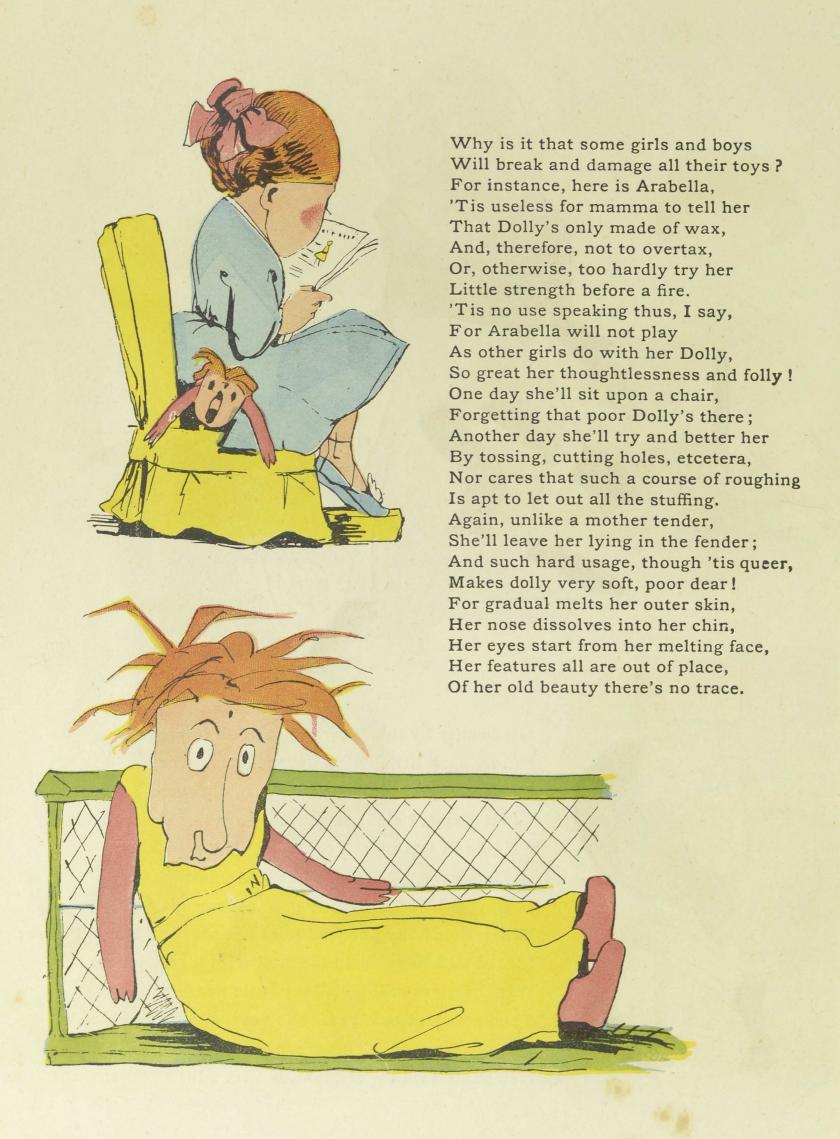
It is sufficient still for all my little needs."

Then constant to his rule the queer old man proceeds.

But this time, as his nose was not a little bent,

He couldn't follow straight, but round the corner went.

Robert & Arabella, who broke their Toys.



Robert & Arabella.



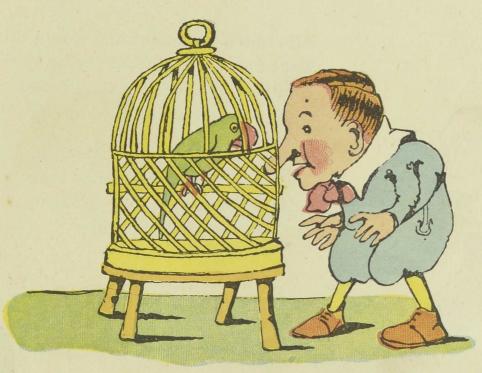
Here, too, is Master Robert, who,
Whene'er he's given something new,
Is quite sure in a day or two,
Or three, at all events, to break it.
He likes to see things smashed, I take it.
His horse is broken, his drum cracked,
His soldiers long their stands have lacked,
His whip no longer has a lash,
There's nothing Robert will not smash.

Despite this heap of maimed and slain, Still two survivors yet remain-A lovely Doll, called Mary Anne, And a yellow Tiger from Japan. Yet even they cannot foretell How long in safety they may dwell. One day spoke lovely Mary Anne Thus to the Tiger from Japan-"Tiger, I live in daily, almost hourly, dread; I cannot sleep in peace within my bed; Robert, I grieve to say, for wanton sport, Will break the strongest toy that e'er was bought: Whilst Arabella, kinder not a whit, Will cruelly broil a doll, or on it sit; Nor does it need much wisdom to divine That such a lot may very soon be mine. Too cruel, too barbarous, by far, Both Robert and his sister are. Hear this, my Tiger brave, and please to note That you and I are in the self-same boat." With pitying ear the yellow Tiger heard her Relate her tale of violence and murder, Wagged his straw tail and vowed he'd see If by some means he could not set her free.

Robert & Arabella.



Inquisitive Peter.



Peter must needs peep and pry,
And put his thumb in every pie;
Such a habit he has got
Of touching what concerns him not!

To Polly's cage he one day goes,
And, thinking she is in repose,
He stupidly must interpose
Between the wires his ugly nose.

It is my province to disclose

How Polly, being a bird morose,

And thus waked sudden from her doze,

Grew wroth, and bit him through the nose.

See how he wriggles in his pain,
Roars out, and sobs, and roars again!
It is no joke, you may suppose,
To have a hole bit through one's nose.





His nose for months is very sore,
And red and swollen; and, what is more,
A poultice large he has to wear
To soothe it and keep out the air.

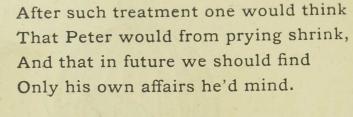
And now whene'er he goes about

The street boys all deride and shout—

"Look at Peter, there he goes,

With a poultice on his nose!"

Inquisitive Peter.

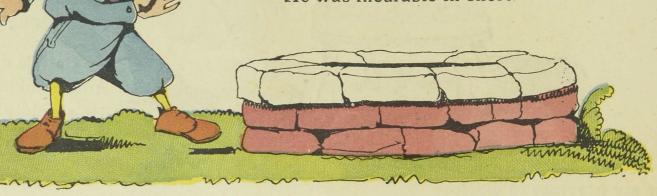


Alas! I cannot thus report.

Not e'en by sad experience taught

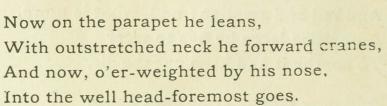
Was he to see his folly brought:

He was incurable in short.



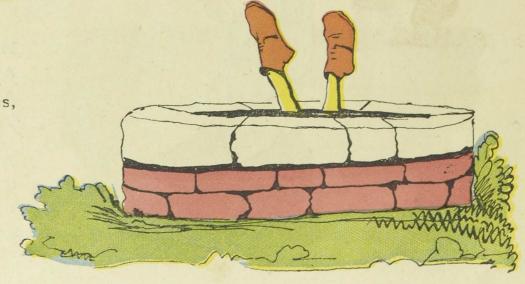
Still to his meddling ways addicted,
He one day, as is here depicted,
Does to a neighbouring well repair,
Now what can be his business there?

When there, of course, he needs must peep,
To find out if the well is deep,
Looks down and thinks he'd like to know
What there is in the dark below.



Marinam ...

Alas! alas! how sad his fate, And now all warning is too late; Yet this is true, at least he'll own,— "'Tis better to let well alone."



The Tale of Disobedient Tom and Jane.



Disobedient Tom and Jane.

Mamma, all in a fright and fuss,
Hurries them both to Doctor Buss,
Who gives out his opinion thus—
"You've been, my little children sweet,
To put it mildly, indiscreet;
And I must now your cases treat.
You've swallowed, if I rightly hear,
A pint of lotion very near;
Some chilblain ointment, and a lot
Of what was in a blacking pot,
A compound which, we doctors know, promotes
The growth of mushrooms in young people's
throats,
Mixed with the vernich too it tends

These things you've swallowed, Tom and Jane, Who then can wonder you're in pain? Therefore, at bed-time, must be taken Eight pills, besides a draught well shaken; And then, instead of usual drink at dinner, For the next month you'll take a pint of senna. This treatment may have, I expect, A somewhat lowering effect; But if young people such stuff swallow Some little doctoring, of course, must follow."



The Story of Obstinate Harry.



This is naughty little Harry,
He will linger thus, and tarry
Far behind, while poor Aunt Jane
Begs and threatens all in vain.

Already it is growing late,
And so Aunt Jane no more will wait,
But goes and leaves him to his fate,
Which served him right at any rate.

Still obstinately Harry stands,
Puts in his pockets both his hands,
Declares his Aunt Jane may reprove him,
But nobody shall ever move him.

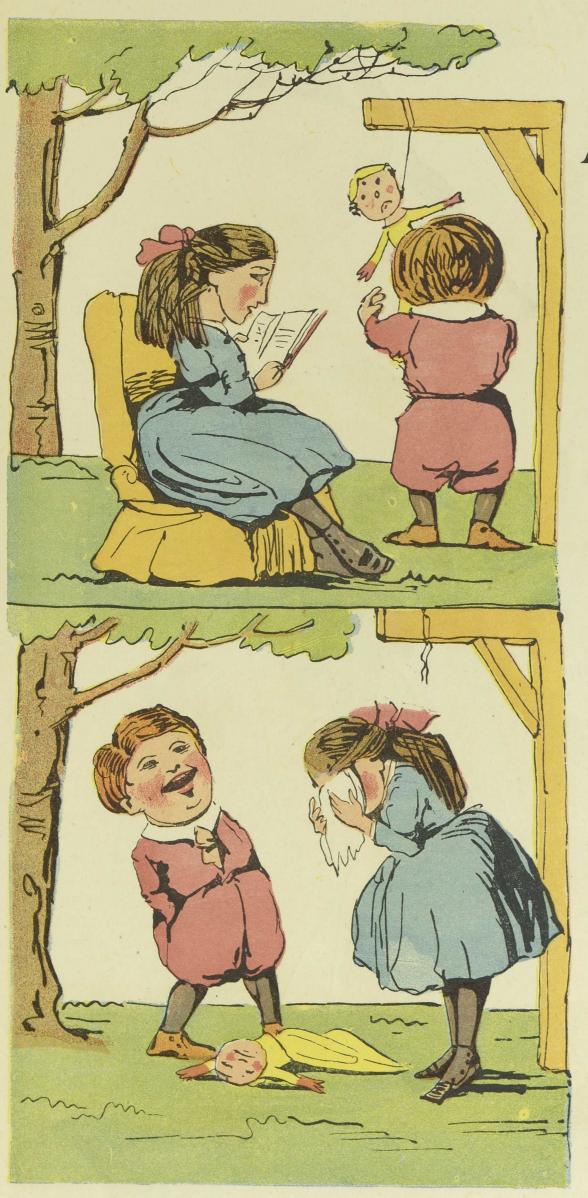
Then, as he speaks, right through his boots
His feet begin to throw out shoots,
And, to his terror and surprise,
He cannot move howe'er he tries.

He tries to lift his feet in vain,
The earth his tendrils firm retain,
Whether he wishes it or not,
He is now rooted to the spot.



Obstinate Harry.





The Story of Heartless Richard.

A sad tale now I have to tell
Of Richard and his sister Bell,
How idle Richard's cruel sport
To Bell but woe andsorrow brought.
Whilst Bell was quiet with her book
Her brother Richard came and took
Her sweet doll Catherine away,
And, as indeed I grieve to say,
Fastened about its neck a string,
And hung it to a beam, poor thing!
Oh, what Bell's sorrow! How she
grieves!

When she the awful deed perceives;
When she looks up, her story ended,
And sees her Catherine suspended,
And recollects she died unfriended,
Not e'en in her last moments tended
By her fond hands; whilst grief is
blended

With indignation at her brother Dick,
Who for her doll had done the trick;
And while she weeps and mourns
thus sadly,

Richard conducts himself but badly—
The weeping mother's tears derides,
And jeers the little corpse besides.
Oh! such a tale of wrong and pain
I hope I ne'er may tell again.

Heartless Richard.

Now, as it happened, that way came
The Giant Dutch-Doll, Grim by name.
Bell's lamentations loud she hears,
Stalks to the spot and sees her tears,
Then, looking down, the body spied,
And guessed how Catherine had died:
How from a beam she'd lately dangled,
And thus, in course of time, been
strangled;

Then quick she knew that for his fun
Richard this awful deed had done.
Him, standing by in wild alarm,
She threw across her wooden arm,
And though he screamed, and though he
cried,

With stalwart arm the rod she plied.



Screaming Susan.



Screaming Susan.





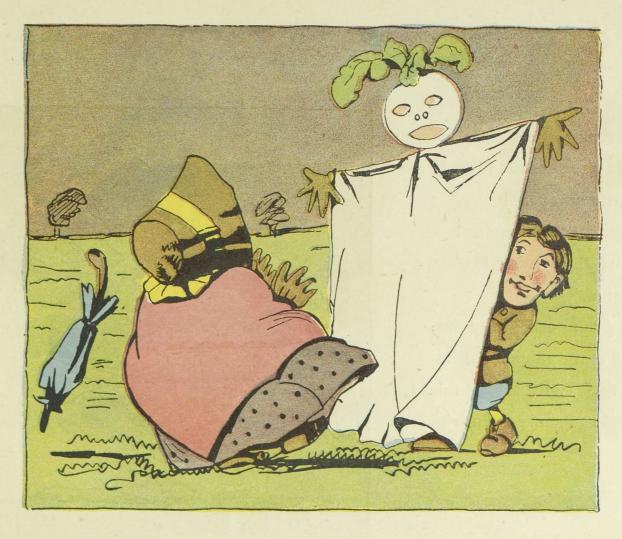
Then the good neighbours say—" It seems That Susan ne'er will stop her screams; The place we can endure no more While she continues thus to roar; Her parents both have from her gone; Let us now do as they have done." Then one by one, with rapid pace, They all forsake the noisy place, And Susan, as below is shown, Is left to scream and cry alone. Oh! hers was then a lonely plight When, by degrees, came on the night; Her screams are hushed in growing fears; She calls aloud, but no one hears; The empty houses, round about, Re-echo back her piteous shout.

William, who loved to Frighten.



This is William, whose great delight
Is to cause somebody a fright.
A kettle, as I grieve to say,
He's fastened to the tail of Tray;
The dog in terror runs away,
Whilst William much enjoys the sight
Of poor Tray's panic-stricken flight.

One evening, too—so cruel his tricks!
A turnip he proceeds to fix
With an old sheet on two crossed sticks,
And thus a ghastly object made,
With which Dame Hobbins he waylaid,
And frightened her near into fits,
Nay, almost out of her poor wits.



William, who loved to Frighten.



When farmer Hobbins comes to know
His poor wife had been frightened so,
He very, very angry grew,
And vowed the boy such tricks should rue.
At once he dons his wife's red shawl,
Her petticoats, her dress and all,
Then on his head he puts her bonnet,
The one with yellow ribbons on it,
And thus arrayed in woman's clothes,
To William's haunts he slyly goes.
Now William fails to recognise
Good farmer Hobbins in disguise,
And, thinking there's more fun in store,
Displays his bogey as before.

But what his horror and disgust,
When rude aside the sheet is thrust,
And, to his infinite amaze,
The angry farmer meets his gaze!
Says Hobbins, "Why, young Master
Will-i-am,

You must indeed suppose I silly am,
If this you think could me afright."
Then cross his back, with all his might,
He plies his stick, as served him right.



