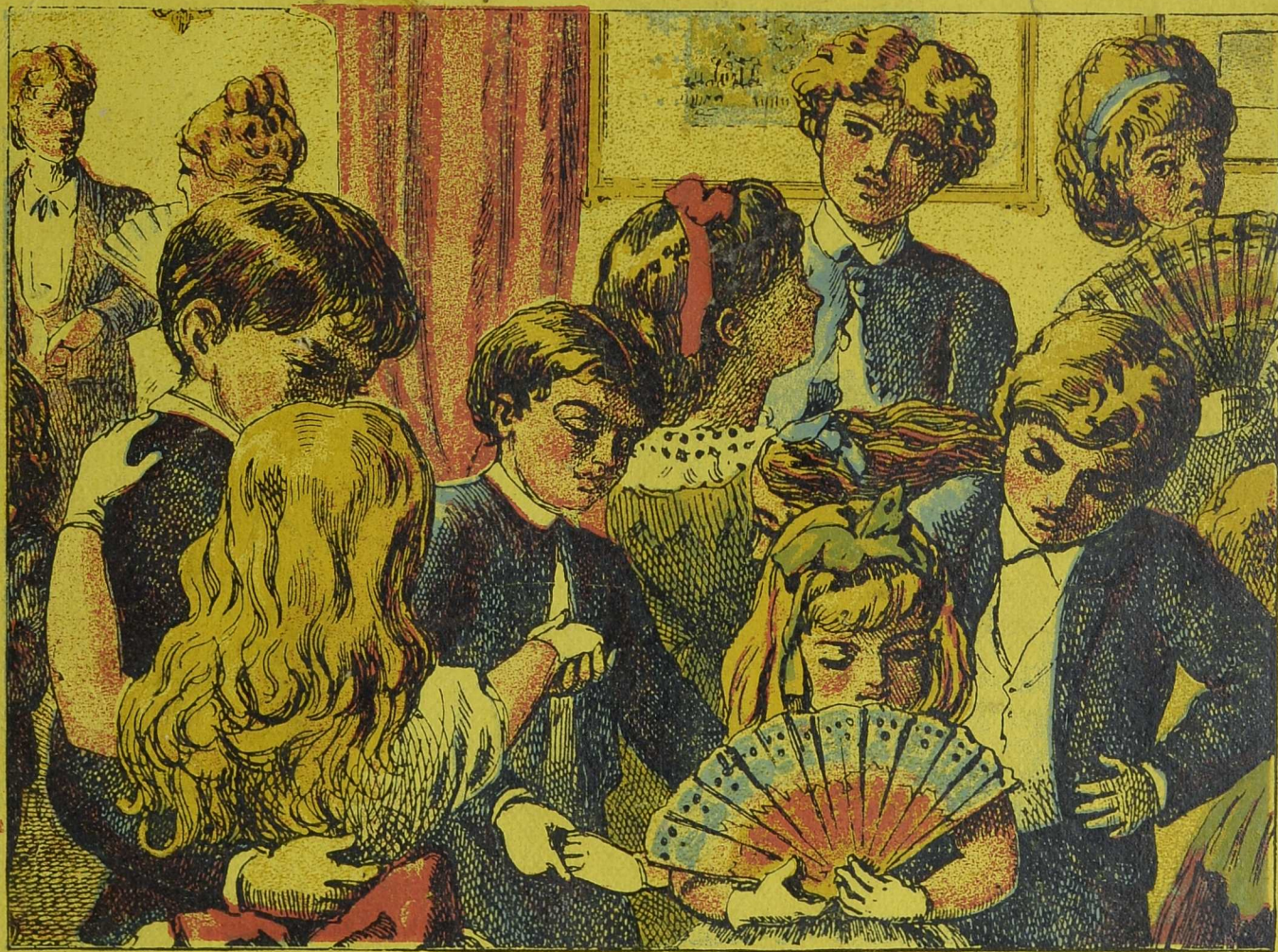


The BIRTHDAY PARTY



LONDON,
FREDERICK WARNE & CO.

Madge Collier

July 18 72

Arthur
Collier

IT is May Cecil's birthday, and good
kind Mamma

Has a gift for her darling, and so has
Papa;

And to add to her pleasure another
delight,

She will have a grand ball for her
playmates to-night.

"Oh, Mamma, what a dear doll!"
cried glad little May;

"It is her birthday too, for she's
quite new to-day;

And, Papa, what sweet flowers,
how fragrant and bright!

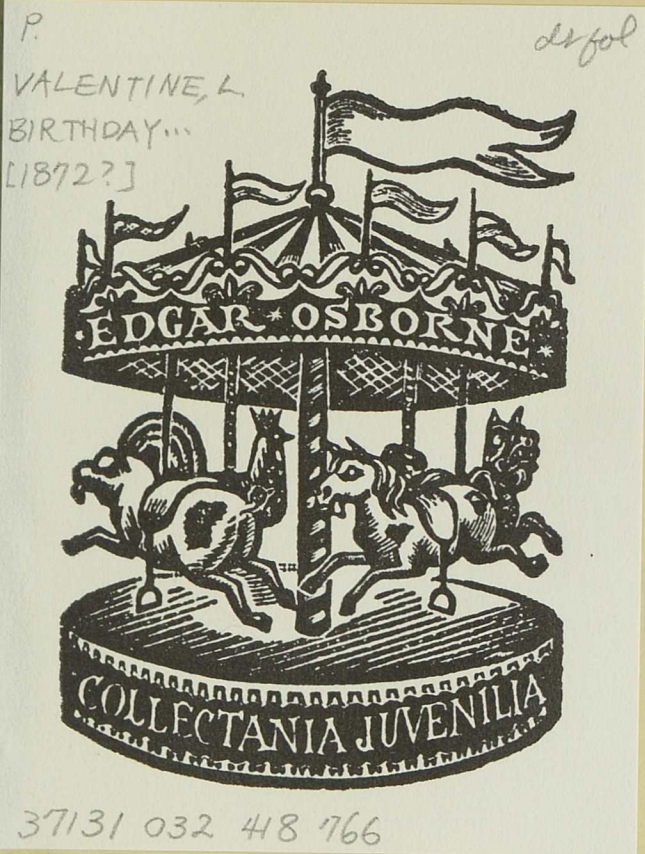
For my bouquet, of course, for the
party to-night."

Then she kissed them, and thanked
them, and fluttered away

To show Nurse her flowers, and
with Dolly to play.

NOW the guests are arriving;
May mimics Mamma,
As she grasps her grand bouquet,
the gift of Papa,
While four-year-old Fanny, and
her cousin, John Hay,
Wish their friend "Many happy
returns of the day."
And behind them come all the
young children from Leigh,
Ada proud of her fan; Harry shy, as
you see;
And so many more guests May's
party attended,
The child was quite glad when the
greetings were ended,
Tea and coffee brought in, and the
games well begun,
And all shyness forgotten in laugh-
ter and fun.





BY-AND-BYE from the ball-
room they hear a glad sound,
The dance music begins; off the
little ones bound,
And Mamma, and Aunt Helen, so
patient and kind,
For each shy boy and girl a good
partner find.
Cousin Arthur himself — though
quite twenty years old—
Very busy in helping them all, they
behold;
While Aunt Sophy dances with
small Baby Annie,
And Harold rejoices to gallop with
Fanny.
The glad music rings out, and they
dance with fresh glee,
And merrier children there scarcely
can be.



LILY GREY gallops well ; little
Katie, in blue,
Is most gracefully dancing with
young Cousin Hugh ;
Johnny Howard, who thinks him-
self quite a young man,
Is pretending to flirt with the child
with a fan ;
And George Noble is telling the two
little Fords
Of the grand game of cricket
they're playing at Lord's.
Good humour and kindness are
seen everywhere,
And bright smiles wreath the lips
of each happy child there.
Through the course of your lives,
children dear, you will find,
That happiness waits on the good
and the kind.



NOW the supper is ready, the
tables are spread

With rich cakes, creams, and jellies,
and wines, white and red,

With ripe fruit and blanc-manges,
with custards and ice;

With sweetmeats and crackers,
and everything nice.

With gay smiles and bright glances
the guests gather round,

And fun, frolic, and mirth at each
table abound.

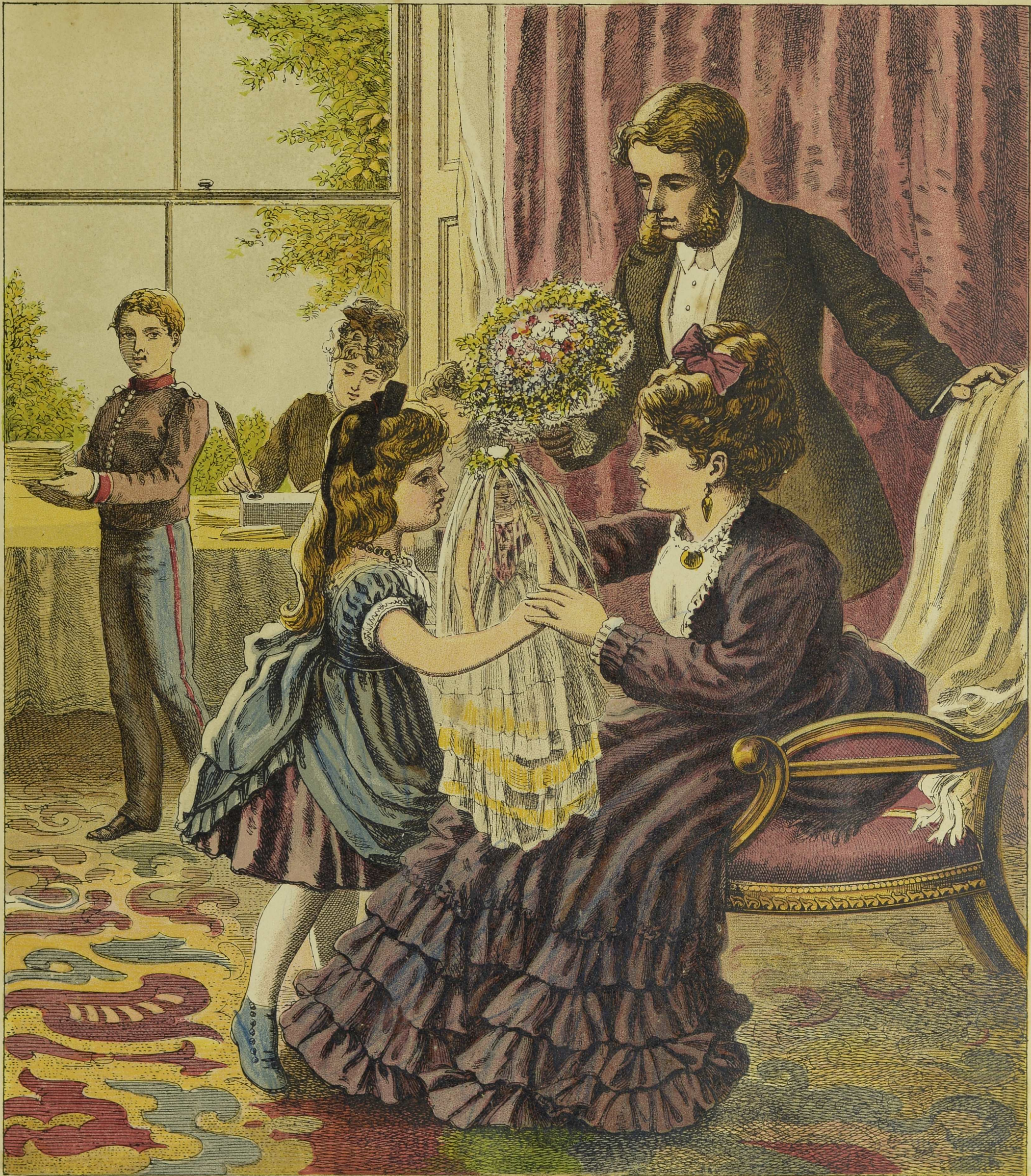
They drink health to May Cecil;
next crackers they pull;

Plates very soon emptied were soon
again full;

Strange mixtures were eaten, both
in earnest and fun;

Cracker mottoes amused them
when supper was done.





BUT, alas, all our pleasure must
finish at last!

Soon the hours of May's birthday
will sleep with the past,

For the carriages come, and good-
byes must be said;

It is time for the dancers to go home
to bed.

The cloaking and shawling's begun
in the hall:

Little Amy is helped by her kind
brother Paul;

And the dear little people all kissed
and thanked May

For the pleasure they'd had on her
happy birthday.

And Mary Bell whispered, "Indeed,
May, my dear,

I wish that your birthday would
come twice a year!"

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