









Right opposite sat Mr. Lussy Cat too,  
Both watching the Fire which burnt very blue.

THE  
FARM YARD  
QUADRILLE.

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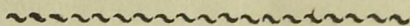




THE  
FARM YARD QUADRILLE.



ONE cold winter's night on a hearth rug there  
sat,  
Huddling close to the fender a handsome Tom  
Cat ;  
Right opposite sat Mrs. Pussy Cat too,  
Both watching the fire, which burnt very blue.



After licking their whiskers, and blinking their  
eyes,

And looking exceedingly thoughtful and wise ;

Mrs. Pussy broke silence, and thus she began,

“ My dear I have borne it as long as I can ;

“ But really my patience no longer will hold,

“ Nor can I endure all the things that, I’m told

“ Are reported in scandal ’gainst us and our  
race ;

“ From every tongue and in every place.

“ Now my mind is made up, that to bring things  
about,

“ If people our fashion or consequence doubt,





- “ We must shew that we’re equal to them in our  
style,  
“ And thus put a stop to such mischievous guile :  
“ And why should the Badgers and Beavers  
and Hogs,  
“ And Ferrets and Squirrels and Pole Cats and  
Dogs,  
“ Be talked of as famous for concert and ball,  
“ And we two be sneered at as nothing at all ;  
“ I warrant that we are as noble a race,  
“ As any one animal tribe in the place ;



“ What d’ye think of your grandfather, Old Dr. Purr?

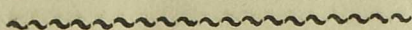
“ My aunt, Lady Whisker, what think ye of her?

“ My cousin was ‘ Dame Trott’s’ most wonderful Cat,

“ I’d be glad just to know what they all say to that.

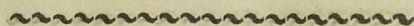
“ Illustrious Whittington, Mayor of the Town,

“ Why Whittington’s *Cat* was his sceptre and crown—



- “ Besides, just to finish all farther disputes,  
“ Are we not all descended from Great ‘Puss in  
Boots?’  
“ Then let’s shew our neighbours what things  
we can do,  
“ And if they give Assemblies, let us give them  
too —  
“ Oh do, dear Papa, said the eldest Miss Kitten,  
“ For, indeed, in our case it is equally fitting ;  
“ And ’twill be so charmingly pleasant and nice,  
“ To shew ourselves grand to the young little  
mice.





So after a little more mewling and purring,  
A little debate, and a little demurring ;  
It was settled to give a good ball (but not masked)  
And a good supper too—but then who should  
be asked ?—

“ There’s General Badger, and young Captain  
Ferret,

“ We’ll have him, my dear, he’s a beau of some  
merit ;

“ And rather good-looking, and very well  
bred,

“ To be sure, ’tis a pity his eyes are so red—



“ Then there’s young Mr. Spaniel and young  
Mr. Cur,

“ The latter is snappish and pert to be sure ;

“ And then we must have Mrs. Rat and her  
daughter,

“ And her old country friend, Mr. Rat of the  
water.

“ The Rats—dear Mamma—no, indeed, that  
won’t do,

“ If you’re fully agreed to have young Ferret too.

“ Oh dear yes, my love, on so merry a night,

“ They’ll not think of shewing their malice or  
spite ;



“ With music and dancing all discord will end,  
“ And each prove to each quite a cordial friend.  
“ But, oh, dearest mother, don’t ask Dr. Mole,  
“ He’ll only come grumbling out of his hole ;  
“ Complain of the light, and the fire ev’ry spark,  
“ And wish himself snug at his home *in the dark*.  
“ And pray, dearest mother, don’t ask Dr. Hog,  
“ He’s so vulgar and gruff, and he’ll eat all our  
    prog ;  
“ And he’ll bring Mrs. Sow, and she’s grunting  
    and gruff,  
“ With all their young children, and more than  
    enough.





“ My dear (said Ma'am Pussy) pray do not  
talk so,

“ For you surely are old enough now to allow

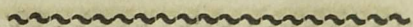
“ How unwise it would be in your Father and I,

“ To shew a great rudeness towards the whole  
sty—

For although Dr. Hog is a very great Bore,  
And of squeaking young Pigs they will bring  
half a score,

“ They're as good kind of folk as you see in the  
place,

“ And quite to exclude them would be a  
disgrace—



“ And another thing too you’d forgotten, my  
Jenny,

“ They’d probably bring their rich cousin from  
*Guinea,*

“ A travelled young dandy, worth oceans of  
gold,

“ And very much sought after, so I’ve been  
told.

But come—it would tedious be to relate,

The whole of the family’s previous debate ;

Suffice it to say, that their project it thrived,

And at last that the long talked of evening  
arrived.



Farmer Blunderbuss lent his farm-yard for the  
night,

And his own stable lantern to yield them its  
light—

Some elegant straw was laid down on the  
ground,

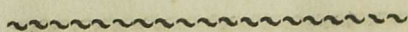
The cleanest and nicest that there could be  
found.—

The Party assembled—all those before nam'd,  
And others for fashion or elegance famed—

Then came the musicians, and each took his  
stand,

Two dogs and a pig, an harmonious band.





The Pig, a young genius, who squeaked very  
nicely,

And squeaked all the airs of quadrilles so  
precisely,

That she was quite sought by the *Ton* as a  
squeaker,

And good Mrs. Puss was *obliged to bespeak her*.

The second musician, a lively young cur,

Barked in very good time, and could quaver  
— and slur.

The third was a mastiff, who growled a fine bass,

And filled up the chords with a wonderful  
grace.—





Page 15.

Now Miss Eleanor Greyhound so slender and tall  
Arrived and she gracefully opened the Bull.





Now Miss Eleanor Greyhound, so slender  
and tall,

Arrived, and she gracefully opened the ball

With young Mr. Poodle, just come from afar,

With a wig of stiff curls like a judge at the bar.

Then came little Miss Lap Dog, a slight invalid,

Who so long had been coddled, she felt half  
afraid ;

Who shiv'ring and quite *hòrs de combat*

appear'd,

And whined for the lap where her youth had

been rear'd.

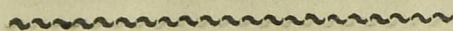


Then young Mr. Squirrel so nimble tripped in,  
So alert that he longed for the dance to begin ;  
He talk'd of his haunts among beech-trees  
and oaks,  
And came quite prepar'd to *crack nuts* or crack  
jokes.

Then a stranger *recherchè* from Newfoundland  
came,

Both portly in size, and of very great fame—  
Mrs. Bunny from Hutch Common next was  
announc'd,

And her two lovely daughters with petticoats  
flounc'd ;



Both, young wild and pretty, and both dress'd  
in white,

Indeed they were thought quite the *belles* of the  
night.

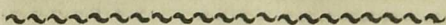
“ Now do not keep thinking of parsley, my  
loves,”

Said their mother “ and do not keep *nibbling*  
your gloves ;

“ And when you're invited to dance or to  
play,

“ Don't huddle together and scamper away.”





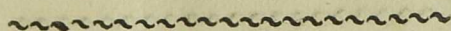
Well, Mrs. Mouse followed, and all her young  
mice,

And thus was the Farm Yard well filled in a  
trice.

And now thro' the yard doth the music re-  
sound,

And for ev'ry fair dancer a partner is found ;  
For hours they dance on, and without being  
tir'd,

For who feels fatigue when they think they're  
admir'd.



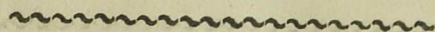
When, lo ! a mysterious whisp'ring is heard,  
And looks of alarm—What can have occur'd ?  
A something has happen'd—oh ! what can  
it be,

Mrs. Rat she is fainting—she swoons—only  
see—

“ Dear me, is it possible ? young Captain Ferret,  
“ Whom all have esteemed as a beau of great  
*merit,*

“ Has eloped with no less than the elegant  
daughter,

“ Of our worthy good friend, *Mr. Rat of the*  
*Water—*



“ You don’t say so, ’tis terrible—what must we do ?

“ Then the ball must break up, and it’s only just two.

“ Ah,” said old Mrs. Sow, “ ’tis exceedingly wrong,

“ I suppose that she came without any *Chaperon*.”

And she *cloaked* up her party of pigs, one by one,  
Who begged yet to stay and see more of the fun—

“ What go before supper, Mamma, I am sure,

“ That this is a whim that *Papa* won’t endure ;

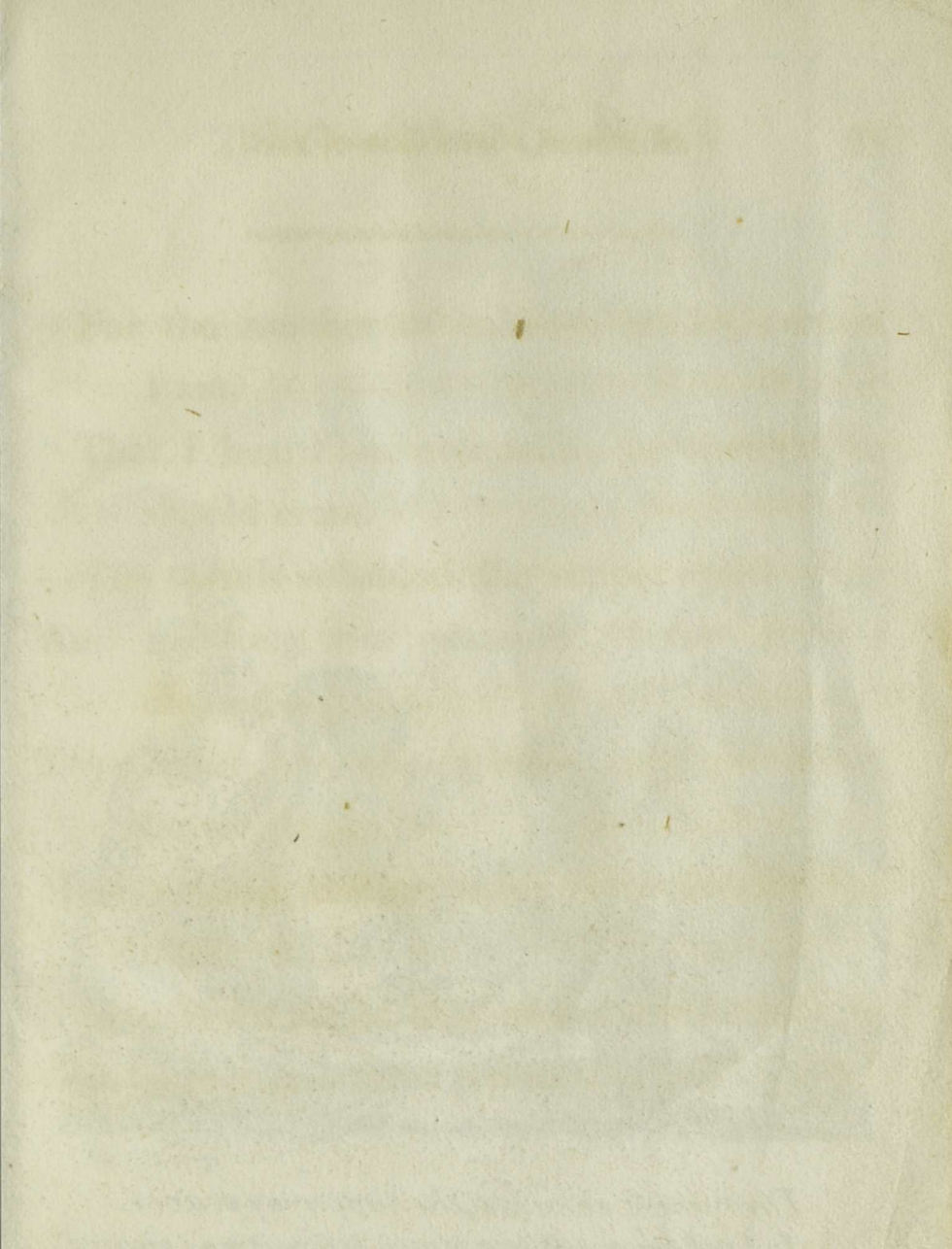




Page 17.

*And She Cloaked up her Party of Pigs one by one,  
Who begg'd yet to stay and see more of the Fun.*









Page 18.

*The tumult subsided, the Supper appeared,  
And not long was examined before it was cleared.*



“ For the number of cabbage stalks, certain  
I am,

“ That I heard him computing he thought he  
should cram.”

—The tumult subsided, the supper appeared,  
And not long was examined, before it was  
cleared—

Tripe, paunches, choice bones, and raw meat  
for the dogs,

Meal, pollard and acorns, and greens for the  
hogs ;

New *milk* for the kittens, and water for all,  
Was there ever a nicer repast at a ball !



The supper now ended, they danced as before ;  
And amused themselves thus for an hour or  
more—

When now the first tokens of day-light appear'd,  
And a sweet little carolling songstress was heard ;  
“ Hark ! what's that,” said they all, “ 'tis the  
lark of the morn,

“ Come to tell us that day is beginning to  
dawn ;

“ And chanticleer too is beginning to sing,

“ On purpose to tell us the very same thing”—

Perceiving the sun had begun to appear,

A setter came forward, “what's this that I hear !





“ Is it morning? my master will surely want *me*,  
“ For I promised him not to be out after three ;  
“ As he settled to go out a shooting at five,  
“ And it’s nearly that time now, as I am alive.”

So saying, he paid his respects and departed,  
For though somewhat forgetful, he still was *true*  
*hearted*.

A house dog who had, for the sake of this ball,  
Deserted his post in the great servants’ hall,  
Felt anxious, in consience, to hasten and see,  
If mischief had happened, while dancing was he.  
And each having duties at dawning of day,  
With thanks, either *trotted* or *scampered away*.

FINIS.

*By the same Author,*

THE  
**GOOD-NATURED BOY.**

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ALSO,

**THE ILL-NATURED BOY.**

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