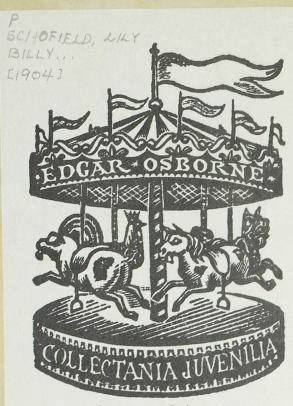


BILLY RUDDYLOX

AN

ANCIENT
BRITISH BOY

BY LILY SCHOFIELD



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THE OOGLEY OO BOOKS.

1. THE OOGLEY OO: a Story in 27 Coloured Pictures. By Gerald Sichel. With text by S. C. Woodhouse, M.A. (Oxon.).

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LONDON

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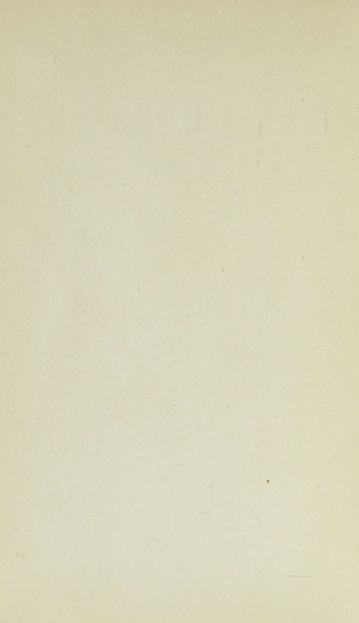
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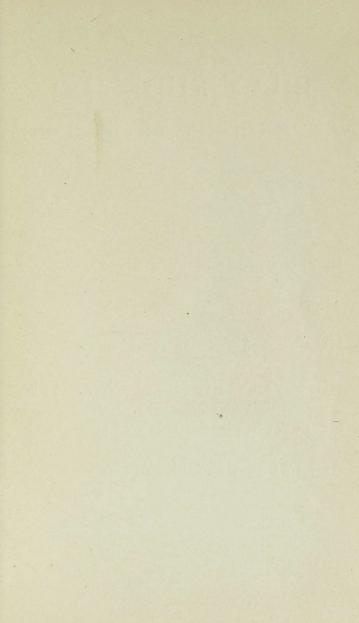
LILY SCHOFIELD

WITH 21 COLOURED PLATES

BY THE AUTHOR.

LONDON
SWAN SONNENSCHEIN & Co., Lim.
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BILLY RUDDYLOX

AN ANCIENT BRITISH BOY.

I.

In ancient Britain long ago

There lived a heathen child.

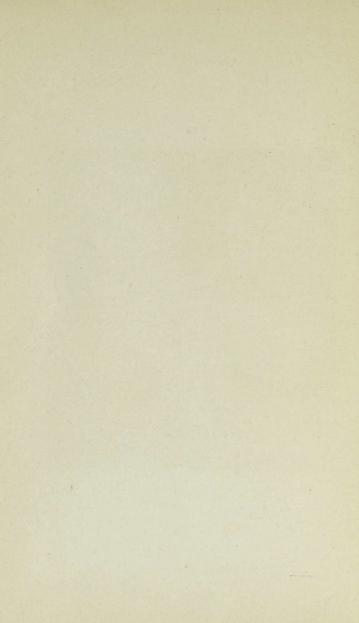
He was not neat or clean or nice,

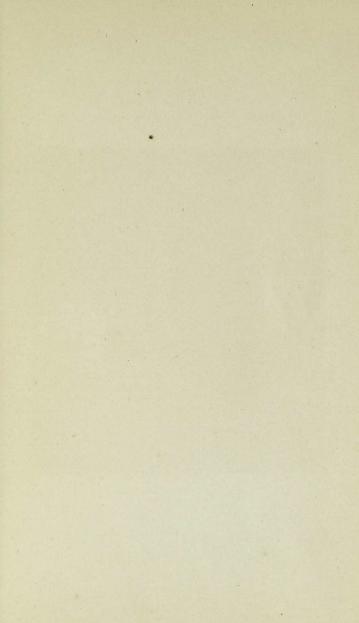
His ways were rude and wild.

He never paused to wipe his feet;

And oh! you should have seen him eat!









They called him Billy Ruddylox

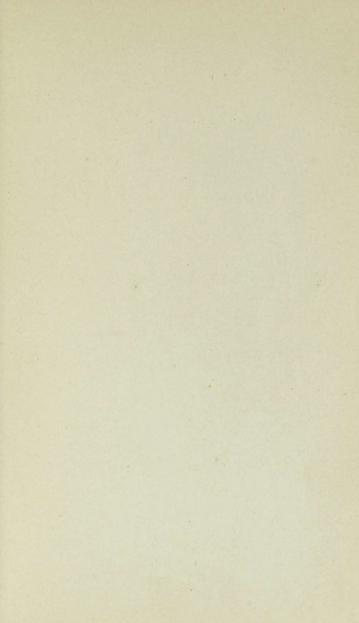
Because his hair was red,

It could be seen for miles and miles

Upon his little head.

And so they did not need a light When Billy went to bed at night.





III.

Now Billy was a wicked boy!

His parents strove, in vain,

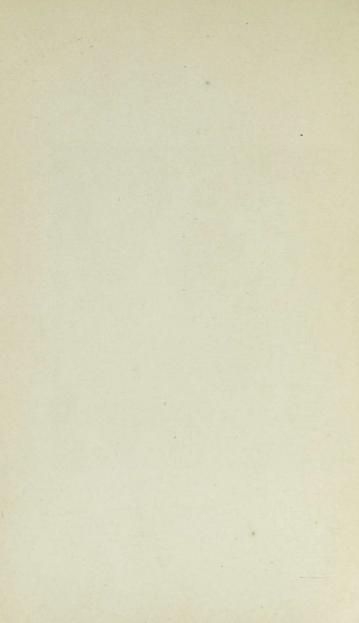
In precepts wise to nurture him.

Again and yet again

They said, "Oh why so young begin

To be so very fond of sin?"









IV.

One morning Billy Ruddylox

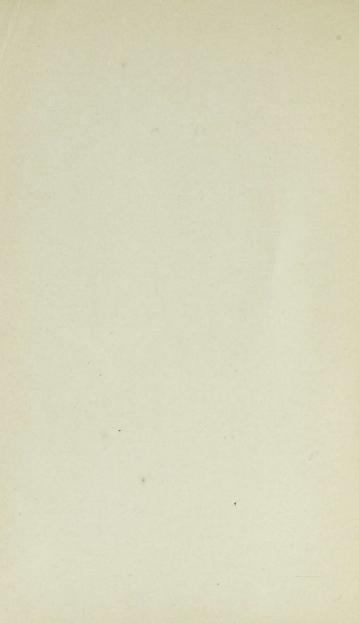
Decided forth to fare.

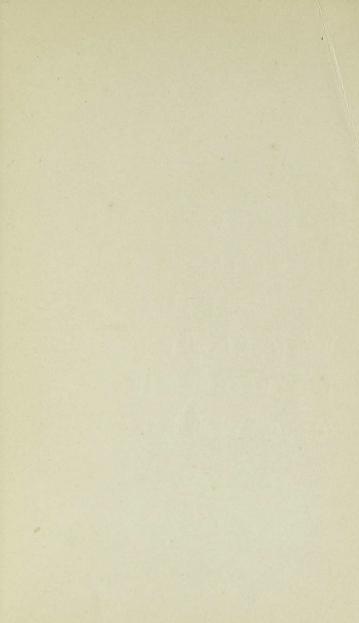
His mother said, "Of snarling wolves

Now, Billy, do beware."

"Yes, mater! right you are!" said he.

"You may expect me home to tea."





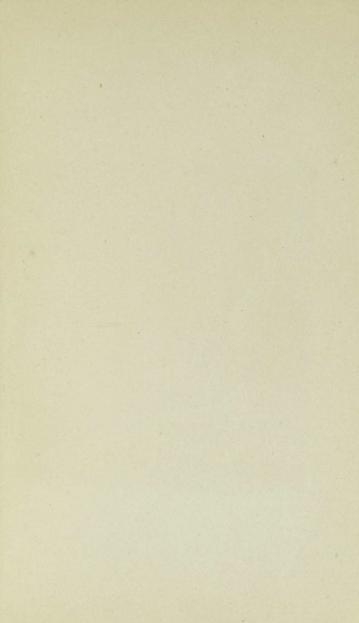
V.

The verdant woods allured him on,
Until a wolf he saw.

"I should so like to put," he said,
"An arrow in his paw."

It was no sooner said than done,
Then didn't Billy have to run!







VI.

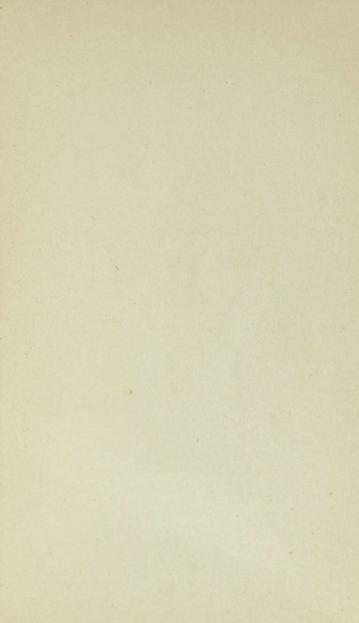
The wolf pursued the hapless child With dire intent to kill.

Then Billy saw an ancient stone
Upon a little hill.

"If I could climb up there," said he,

"That beast would have to wait for me!"

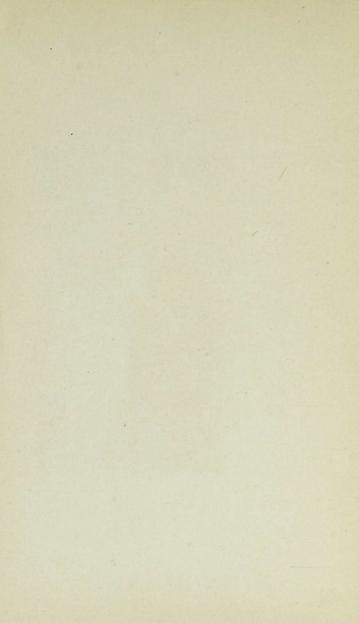


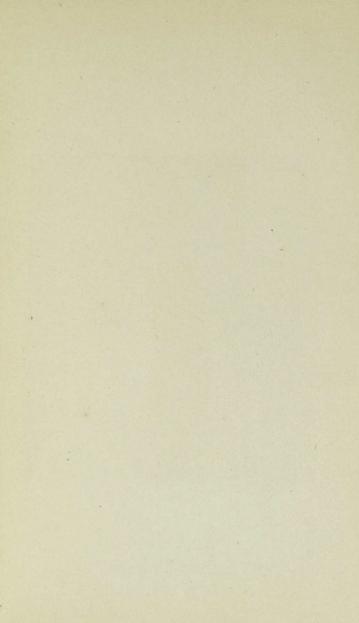


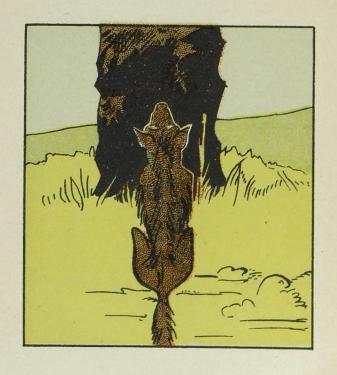
VII.

He scrambled up. The angry wolf
Took up his stand below.
Said Billy Ruddylox, "Oh dear!
I wonder when he'll go."





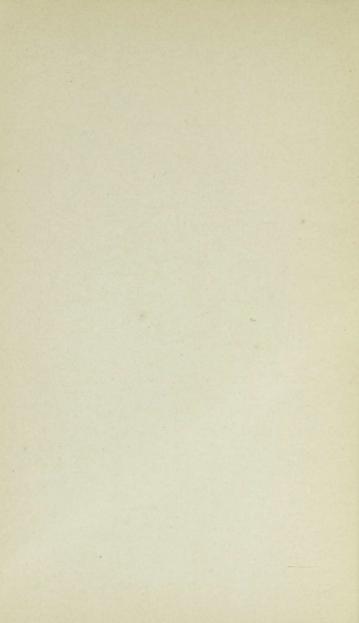


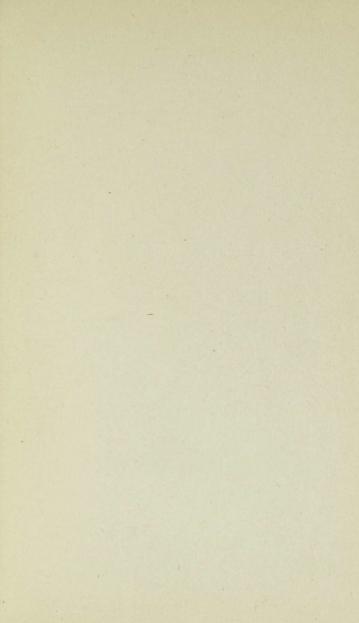


VIII.

The wolf replied, "Oh! don't you fret.

I'm not in any hurry yet."





IX.

This upright stone a cosy seat,

And one to choose was not.

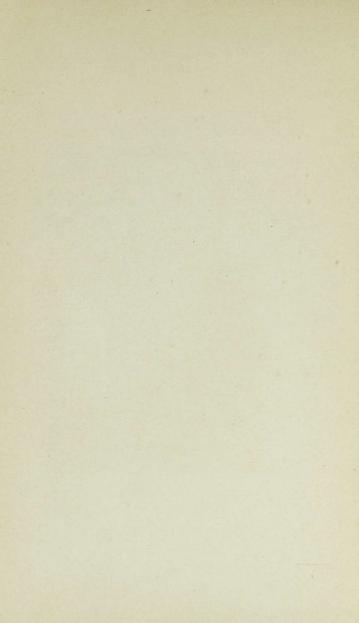
Nor was it easy just to find

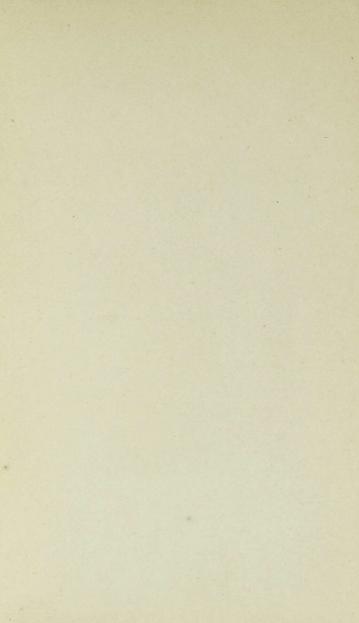
A comfortable spot.

Now Billy Ruddylox was wild;

The wolf still waiting only smiled.









That smile upset our hero so,

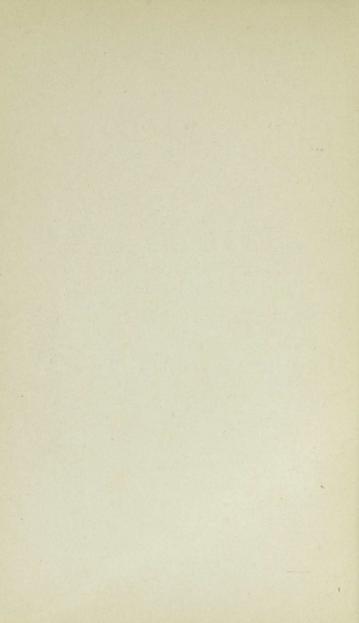
He toppled from his perch,

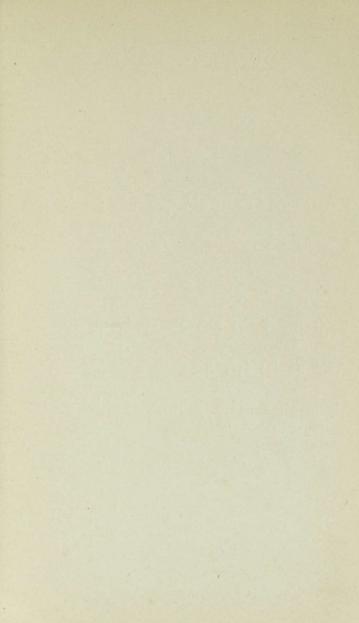
And wildly clutching at the air,

Fell over with a lurch.

His little shirt caught on the end,

And on it Billy did depend.





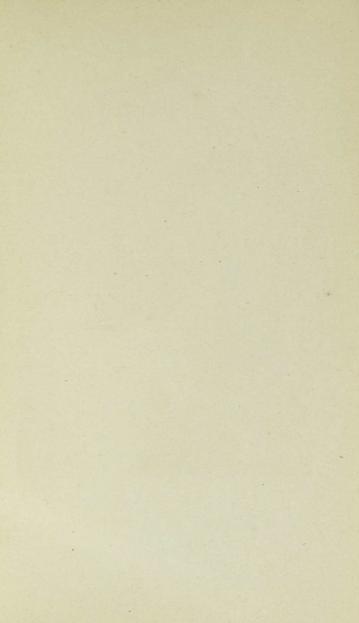
XI.

"Ah!" said the wolf, "so now you're fixed
I need no longer stay.
I will return, and eat you up,
Perhaps, some other day."

And so he left him all alone Upon that monolythic stone.









XII.

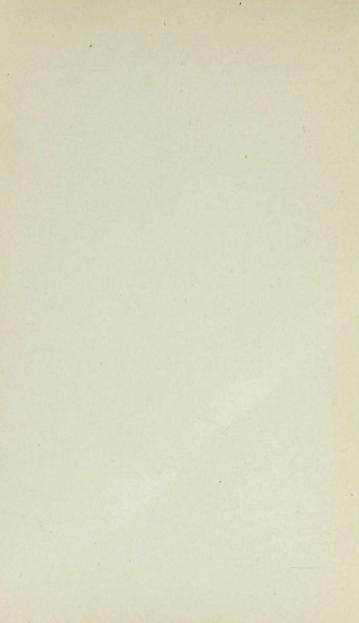
Attracted by his cries, there came

A Druid to his aid,

Who cut him down from where he hung,

With shining golden blade.

You've heard of Druids and their crooks, No doubt, in all your history books.





XIII.

The Druid said, "To every thing
However large be kind.

Go quickly home, and do not gibe
At every beast you find."

So Billy hurried through the wood:
Said he, "I really will be good."







XIV.

Beside the house, our hero spied

A wild boar fierce and big.

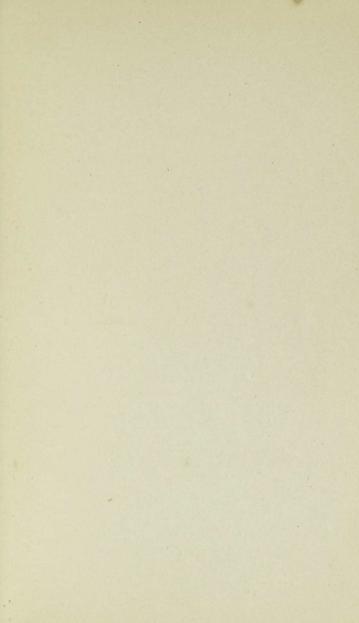
Of course he got behind a tree

And rudely shouted "Pig!"

To boars one never mentions that,

Nor do we talk of bacon fat!





XV.

When ancient Britons went to war

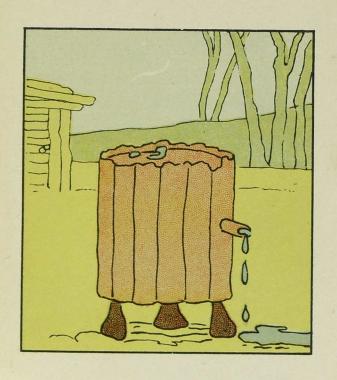
They streaked themselves with woad.

A tub of this delightful dye

Was found near each abode.

Now woad you know is just the hue

Of Reckitt's celebrated Blue.

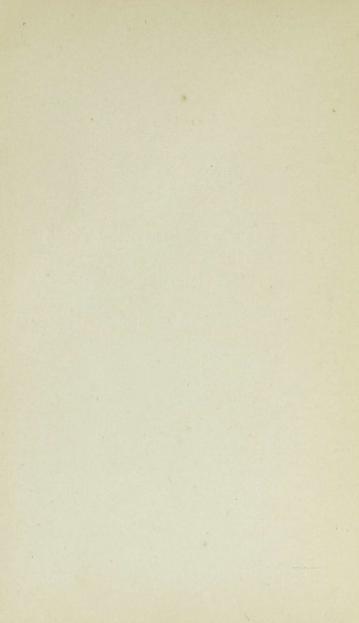


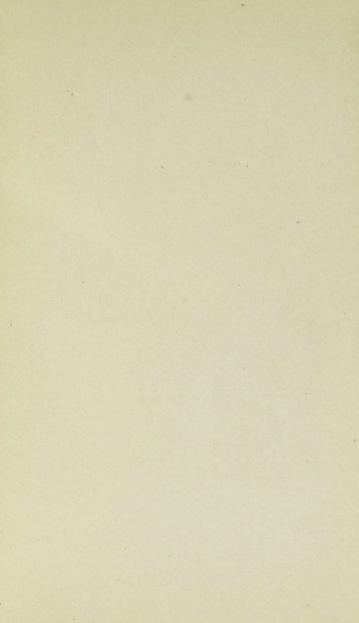




XVI.

This tub was near where Billy stood
When "Pig" he dared to shout.
The wild-boar charged, Bill jumped thereon,



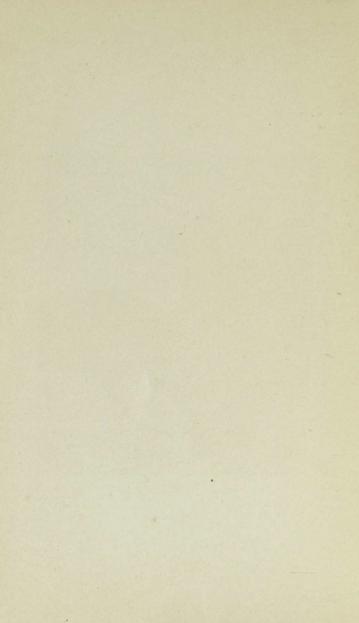


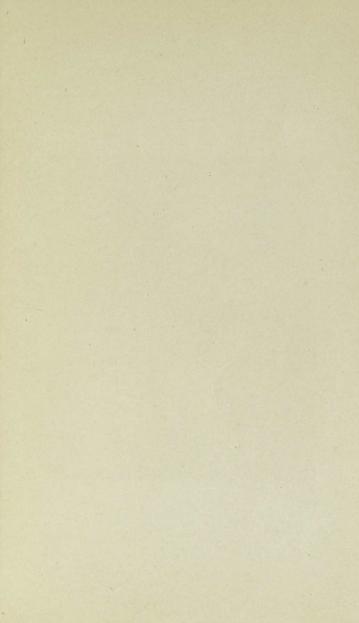
XVII.

The lid gave way—Oh what a sight!

I think, you know, it served him right.





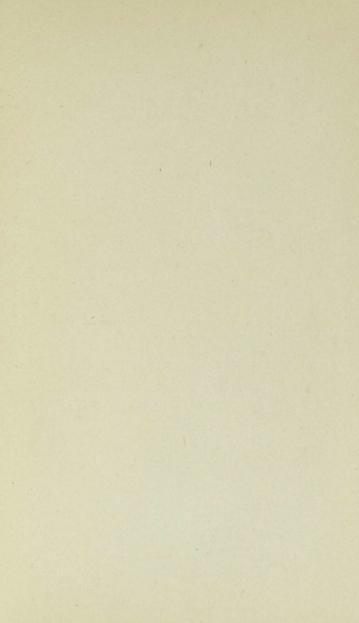




XVIII.

Then Billy and the precious tub
Capsized upon the spot.
He could not recollect which was
His head, and which was not.
But said, "It's such expensive dye,
I shall be beaten bye-and-bye."

Now Mr. Boar would gladly then
Have fallen on his foe,
But circumstances at the time
Delayed his doing so.
He said, "I'm greatly put about;
My tusks are in and won't come out."



XIX.

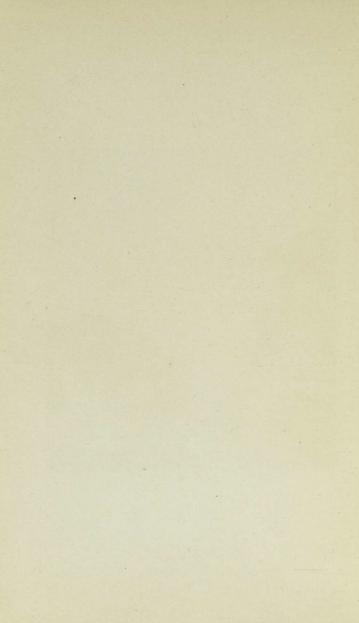
The wolf was strolling through the wood—
"Hulloa! what's that?" cried he.

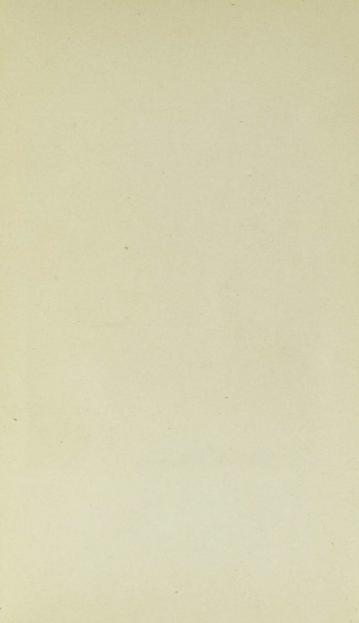
"Its legs are blue, but ah! the hair!—

It is mine enemy."

Though Billy ran, he sprang on him;
And bit a portion from his limb.









XX.

But strange to tell the wolf was seized With spasms very bad.

He kicked and groaned and shouted out,

"Whatever have I had?

I am inclined to think," said he,

"That woad has disagreed with me."







XXI.

In sorry plight the luckless boy
Rushed wildly through the door,
Only to find applied behind
Affliction more and more.
We will not on the sequel dwell—
Dear Billy Ruddylox, Farewell!







