



T was on a beautiful afternoon, in summer weather, that a very short, comical-looking man, wearing a long and remarkable waistcoat, entered a pretty country town. Now his waistcoat was not only remarkable for

its queer pattern, but for its unusual number of buttons, which, being metal ones, glistened in the sun, to the great delight of all the young beholders.

He had a monkey on his shoulder; and together they attracted the attention of several boys and girls who were enjoying their half holiday; when with a pleasant voice, and smiling face, he began speaking in the following manner:—



Now, boys and girls, I'm just arrived,
My name is Ros-co-odd-mi-dod;
Jacko and I have just contrived
A way to teach without a rod:

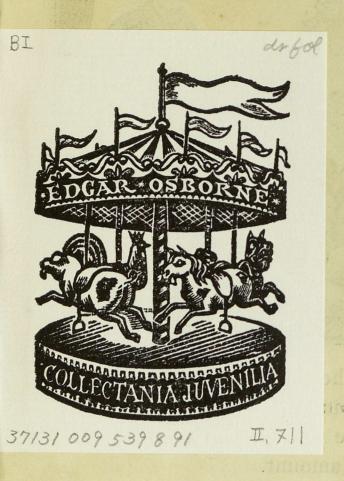
'Tis quite a funny way, and sure;
Jacko, besides a grin and nod,
Jabbers his native language pure,
Assisting Ros-co-odd-mi-dod.

Now is the time, said the man, to learn something worth knowing; for where is wisdom, if I and Jacko do not possess it? We know the Alphabet from the beginning to the end:—A is the first letter, and Z is the last. We can name all the nine figures and count up to a hundred; and should any kind little boy or girl give Jacko an apple, a nut, or a penny, he can find his way to his mouth or his pocket, without the help of a candle. But as some of you may be as wise as ourselves in these matters, we will try your abilities a step beyond them.

So all you who wish to know the Pence Table, stand on my right hand; and you who do not wish to know it, stand on my left. Well! I declare, you have all moved to my right, Jacko and all. Now, range yourselves in a half circle, and do not laugh more than you can help.

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Four farthings make a penny; and he that has many,
Twelve pence to a shilling may count;
And add more unto it, whene'er he can do it,
'Till his wealth becomes large in amount.

If no money we have, 'tis no trouble to tell,
But if sacks full of pence in should flow,
For Jacko, myself, or for you, it were well
That we the Pence Table should know.

So on with your laced coat, which matches my waistcoat;—
And, Jacko, if any should err,
Step into his place, as a mark of disgrace:
"Tis a punishment such must incur.

Has any one of you had to count twenty, lately? "Yes," said Fanny, "I had to count the roses on our new bush, and there were exactly twenty."—That's right; your name ought to be Rose.

If you'd a penny for each rose,
Now growing on the tree;
That twenty pence, as Jacko knows,
Would one and eight pence be.

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Thirty is next in order—Who can say something about thirty? "I," said James, "Philip, the shepherd, asked me to count the lambs he was driving this morning. It was very difficult, because they were moving, but I managed to do it, and there were just thirty."

The shepherd tends his sheep all day,
And for the care he'll take,
Just thirty pence shall be his pay,
Which two and six-pence make.

Little Mary spoke next, and said, "I can speak of forty." Bravo! go on, said the short man in the long waistcoat. "We have, at home," said Mary, "twenty little chickens, and twenty little ducks; and two twenties are equal to forty." Right, my little lady.

There's twenty chicks around the pool,
Where twenty ducks you see;
And forty pence, as taught at school,
Will three and four pence be.

Now, Fanny, you little Rose, can you mention any thing of number



fifty? "Only that the mile-stone near our house has fifty miles marked on it," said Fanny. That will do, said the short man.

Friends now oft greet each other's smiles,
By railway's speedy aid;
And fifty pence clear fifty miles,
By four and two pence paid.

I see that smiling little fellow in the middle has something to say for our next number, sixty: let us hear it. "I have counted the buttons on your waistcoat," said William, "and there are just sixty." Your counting is correct, said the man proudly; and Jacko looked as though he thought so too.

My buttons placed in triple row,
The garment's price will tell;
A penny each,—and sixty show
Five shillings, very well.

I see I've a customer for the next number; the young gentleman next

have a solin that the mile stone mear that house lies fitty miles promited the compatible of the second of the second of world of the second of the the cut we health outself hand to become must one blue the user of patertors A The state of the second the caractis pilos allient; William State - State various A The More way that hide over transmissing turning the distinguished by the contract of the



to Fanny. This little fellow said, "In the school I am in, there are seventy boys." That will do, beautifully.

Seventy boys dividing their sense
Between their books and play,
Will soon find out—that seventy pence
Will five and ten pence pay.

Why do you all stop,—is eighty a puzzler? Jacko, you must assist. "No, no," said Frank, "I can do it: A bricklayer placed a ladder against our house, this morning, which had exactly eighty steps." That is quite as good as any thing Jacko could say.

This the Ladder of Learning, name
With eighty rounds from earth:
If each step to a penny came,
'Twere six and eight pence worth.

James was now ready with the number wanted, saying, "The squire's hounds went out this morning, and I know their number is ninety."

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Nincty hounds in chase, tally-ha!

I'll venture nincty pence,

(Which seven and sixpence is, you know,)

They'll seamper five miles hence.

The next munice is an important one, —ten fings ten, are a bunified.
Several voices called out all at the same time, "One hand of paracoante sight and four pence."

If all the boys together shout,

Sisting,—one hundred pence
Are eight and four pence—none con dodle.

Nor anystake offence.

Proceeding again, listle Enuny, tell me something relating to one bundren and ten. Planny was pleased to be asked, and awas ready with the norther soying to and X are one handred and ten, thus VCX "

Taken the Herean number were:

Ton was X;—a brundred C;

And one bandred and ten pages are

Nist and two-ponce to a X.



Ninety hounds in chase, tally-ho!

I'll venture ninety pence,

(Which seven and sixpence is, you know,)

They'll scamper five miles hence.

The next number is an important one,—ten times ten, are a hundred. Several voices called out all at the same time, "One hundred pence are eight and four pence."

If all the boys together shout,
Saying,—one hundred pence
Are eight and four pence—none can doubt,
Nor any take offence.

Speak up again, little Fanny, tell me something relating to one hundren and ten. Fanny was pleased to be asked, and was ready with the number, saying, "C and X are one hundred and ten, thus, CX." There's a thoughtful little maid.

Letters the Roman numbers were;

Ten was X,—a hundred C;

And one hundred and ten pence are

Nine and two pence to a T.



The last number I shall make Jacko think about: so Jacko took off his cap, and making a low bow to his master, chattered something; and though the little folks did not understand him, yet they laughed heartily at Jacko's droll ways; and the good-natured little man, in the long waistcoat, explained that Jacko meant to say,—

One hundred and twenty pennies
Though they ten shillings make,
They'll not induce his master
Poor Jacko to forsake,

Now, boys, I see you are ready for a huzza! but before you shout, be sure to recollect all that has been said,—so,

Get this by heart, as off we start,

For should we stay, you would adore us;
And brains and eyes we must surprise,

In other towns that lay before us.

12 pence make 1 shilling.

24 pence make 2 shillings.

36 pence make 3 shillings.

48 pence make 4 shillings.

60 pence make 5 shillings.

72 pence make 6 shillings.

84 pence make 7 shillings.

96 pence make 8 shillings.

108 pence make 9 shillings

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