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TRUE HISTORY

*1824*

OF

A LITTLE OLD WOMAN,

WHO FOUND

A SILVER PENNY.

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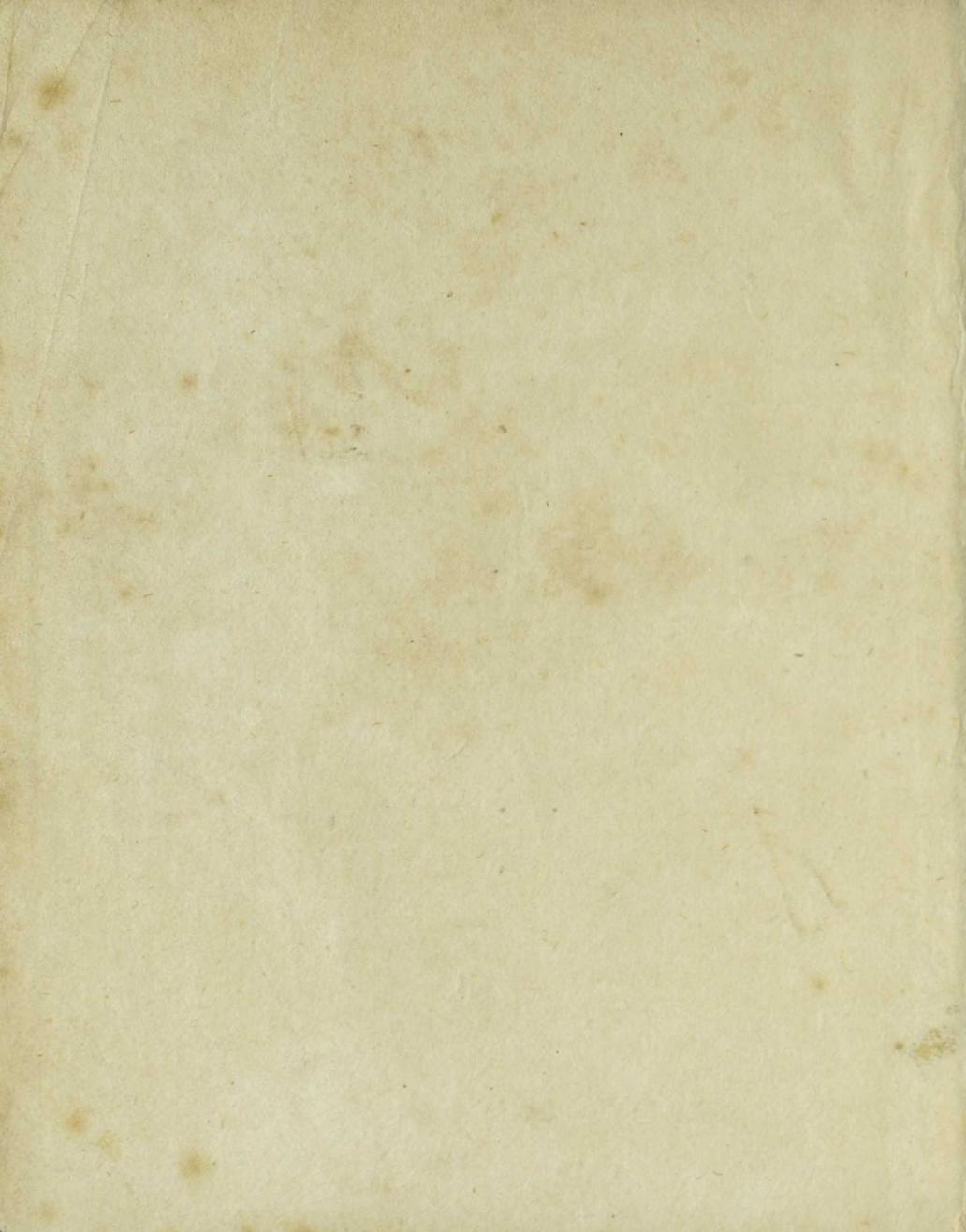
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A  
TRUE HISTORY  
OF  
A LITTLE OLD WOMAN,  
WHO FOUND  
A SILVER PENNY.

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“ ..... The thoughts of home  
“ Rush on her nerves, and call her vigour forth  
“ In many a vain attempt. ....”  
THOMSON'S *Winter*.

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*C. Squire, Printer, Furnival's-Inn-Court, Holborn.*

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1806.

**S**OME six years ago, (or perhaps it was more)  
As a little old woman was sweeping her floor  
She saw something glisten ; and, there on the ground,  
Adzookers ! a penny of silver she found.



*London, Pub. by Tabart & Co. May. 27-1806 New Bond St.*



*London, Pub. by Tabart & Co. May 27-1866, New Bond St.*

To market next morning she fail'd not to jig,  
And there, by good chaffering, bought a fine Pig;  
Whence the learned assert, (and in fact they say true)  
That pigs then were plenty, and pennies were few.





The pig it was stubborn, the pig it was strong;  
It squeaked and it struggled the whole way along,  
'Till they came to a stile — then good luck! what a pother,  
For pig wouldn't go either one way or t'other!



London, Pub. by Tabart & C<sup>o</sup> May 27 - 1866, New Bond St.



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At her wits' end was she, when a *Dog* came in sight,  
“ Honest Tray,” she exclaimed, “ take the trouble to bite  
My pig who won't cross yonder stile to the right ;  
Or else I shan't get to my cottage to-night !”—  
“ I bite him,” quoth Tray, “ sure you're running your rigs,  
I'll not injure a hair of his tail, please the pigs ;  
And I'd have you to know too,” he added with smiles,  
“ They're only lame dogs that *I* help over stiles.”

Upon this she trudged onwards, and chancing to meet  
With a *Stick* — “ Be so kind, *Stick*,” says she, “ as to beat  
That beast of a dog, who refuses to bite  
My pig who won’t cross yonder stile ; and I’m quite  
Afraid of not reaching my cottage to-night.”  
But the *Stick* answered *drily* — “ Both you and your pig  
May go and be hanged, for I’ll not stir a twig.”



*London, Pub. by Tabart & Co. May 27-1866 New Bond St.*



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Much vex'd at such rudeness still on went the dame,  
Till seeing a *Fire* — says she “ Mr. Flame,  
Oblige me by burning that ill-natured Stick,  
Who rudely declares, that the Dog he won't lick,  
Which refuses me plump Piggy-Wiggy to bite,  
Who yon stile won't go over; and now, by this light,  
I doubt I shan't get to my cōttage to-night.”  
But the Flame being saucy refused her its aid,  
And told her quite *spackishly*, “ Out you old jade!”





More displeas'd than before was the testy old wench,  
And finding a *Puddle*, says she, "Pr'ythee quench  
With your water that Flame which won't burn up that Stick,  
Which won't be so kind as that Dog just to lick,  
Which refuses my Pig a few moments to bite,  
Which won't cross the stile which (you'll own) isn't right,  
Since I can't (if he don't) reach my cottage to-night."  
But the water was sluggish, and said with a frown,  
"I'd not stir from this place though yourself 'twere to  
drown."



*London, Pub. by Tabart & Co. May 27-1866 New Bond St.*



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By this the Old Woman of anger was full,  
And meeting some cattle, made up to a *Bull*:  
Quoth she " Mr. Bull, be so civil and kind  
As to drink up that Puddle which stands close behind,  
Which won't quench the Flame which won't burn up the  
Stick,  
Which lazy itself won't that lazy Dog lick,  
Which my Pig, though I begged it, refuses to bite,  
Who won't cross the stile he's so little polite,  
And I fear I shan't get to my cottage to-night."  
But the Bull in this business behav'd like a Bear,  
And bellowed in French, " Allez ! allez ! ma Chere !"

The Dame still went on till a *Butcher* she met,  
 “ Mr. Butcher,” says she, “ be so good just to set  
 Your knife to the throat of the Bull in your view,  
 And slit me his windpipe a little in two :  
 For he won’t drink the Water which won’t quench the  
 Flame,

Which won’t burn the Stick (I declare it’s a shame)  
 Which won’t beat the Dog which is greatly to blame,  
 For it won’t bite my Pig, who that stile just in sight  
 Won’t cross, and I shan’t reach my cottage to-night.”  
 But the Butcher not only refused, but, in gig,  
 He asked her, “ Pray which of you two is the pig ?”



*London, Pub. by Tabart & Co. May 27-1856, New Bond St.*



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Enrag'd at this insult, a *Rope* soon she found,  
 And she dropt it a curtsey quite down to the ground :  
 Quoth she, " Madam *Rope*, let me beg and intreat,  
 That you'll follow the Butcher who went down that street,  
 And hang him up neatly ; his brains are so muddle,  
 That he won't kill the Bull who won't drink up the Puddle,  
 Which won't quench the Flame which won't burn up the  
 Stick,

Which won't be so kind as that Dog just to lick,  
 Which won't be so civil my Pig just to bite  
 Till he crosses the Stile, though the trouble's so slight,  
 And now I shan't get to my cottage to-night."  
 " To follow him now," quoth the *Rope*, " I've no leisure ;  
 But I'll hang up yourself with a great deal of pleasure."





Still on trudg'd the Dame till a *Rat* she espied,  
Peeping out of his hole: "Little Whiskers," she cried,  
" Pray gnaw yonder Rope, of ill-breeding so full,  
That it won't hang the Butcher who won't kill the Bull,  
Which won't drink the Water which won't quench the  
    Flame,  
Which won't burn the Stick which is greatly to blame,  
For it won't beat the Dog which my Pig will not bite,  
Which won't cross the stile let me say 'Black' or 'White,'  
And I fear I shan't get to my cottage to-night."  
But the Rat (who it seems was a cynical elf)  
Replied "Gnaw the Rope? go and gnaw it yourself."



*London, Pub. by Tabart & Co May 27 1808, New Bond St.*



*London, Pub. by Tabart & Co. May 27-1866, New Bond St.*

She was quite in despair when espying a *Cat*,  
She exclaimed in a passion “ Puss eat up that Rat,  
Who won’t gnaw yonder Rope who a saint would provoke,  
For it won’t take the trouble the Butcher to choak,  
Who won’t take the trouble the Bull just to slaughter,  
Who won’t take the trouble to drink up the Water,  
Which won’t quench the Flame, which won’t burn the  
Stick,  
Which refuses that vile mangy Cur just to lick,  
Which for all I can say Piggy-Wiggy won’t bite,  
Who won’t cross the stile out of obstinate spite,  
And I fear I shan’t get to my cottage to-night.”

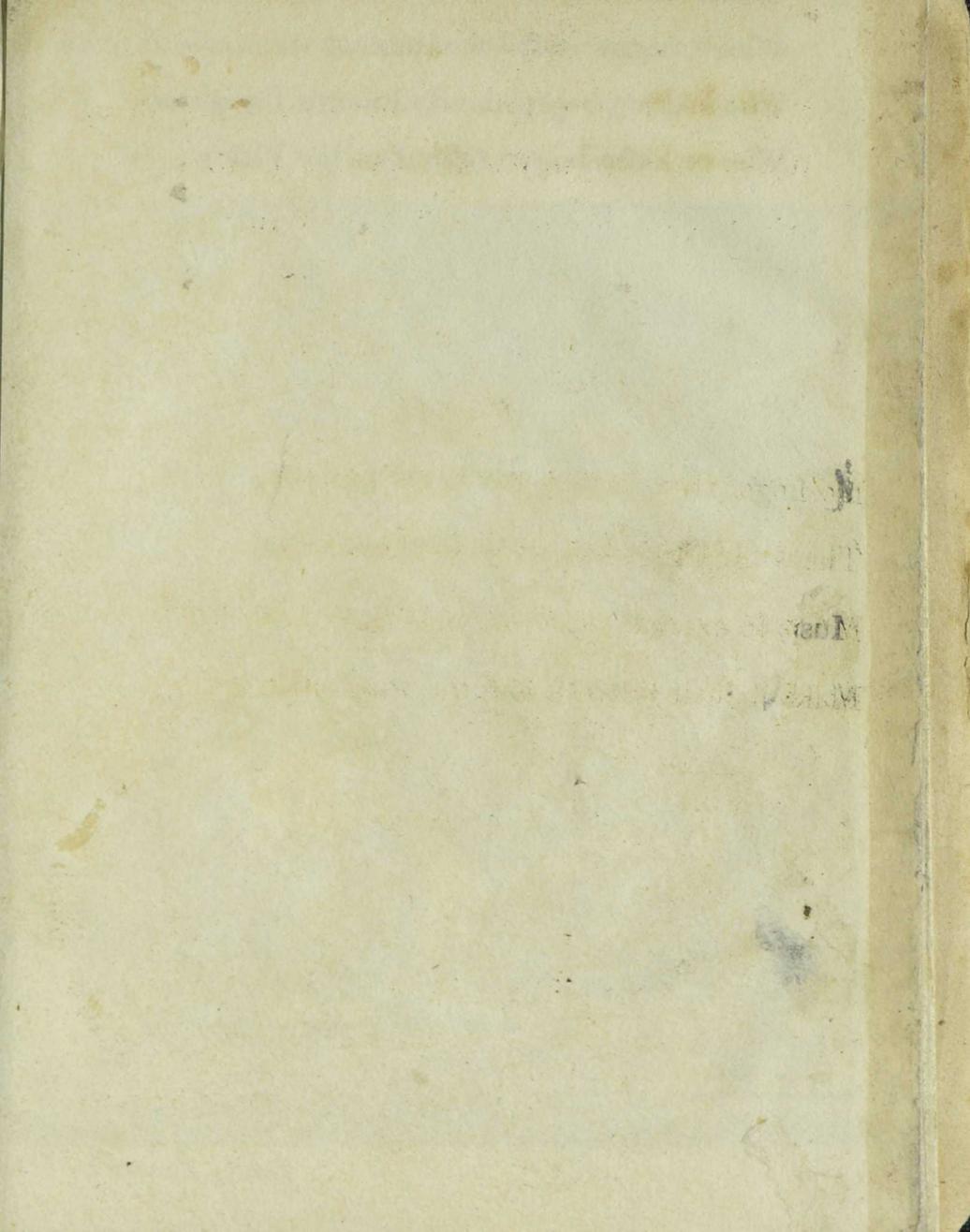
## MORAL.

No finger stirs, in vain you kneel and sue,

The work brings benefit to none but you:

~~Must~~, to exert themselves, your friends be won?

~~Make~~ it their *interest*, and the work is done!



No objection was made by the liquorish cat,  
Who began without speaking; to eat up the rat,  
Who as briskly began the rope for to gnaw,

Which began round the Butcher, its noose to draw,  
Who kicking, began the Bull for to slaughter,  
Who in haste, began to swallow the Water,

Which began to extinguish the flame as quick,  
Which began that moment to burn the stick,  
Which began in a hurry the Dog to lick,

Who began post haste the Pig to bite,  
Who began to jump over the stile in a fright,  
And so the old woman got home that night.



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