BOOKS FOR THE BAIRNS.—No. 154

MAID MARIAN;

OR

THE ROSE OF LOVE.

A Musical Play

FOR HOME PARTIES OR SCHOOL ENTERTAINMENTS.

By MARION ADAMS.



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MAID MARIAN;

OR,

THE ROSE OF LOVE.

A Fairy Play in Three Scenes.

BY

MARION L. ADAMS.

MUSIC BY

ERIC WOLF.

Suitable for Performance Indoors or in the Open Air.

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"BOOKS FOR THE BAIRNS" OFFICE,

39, WHITEFRIARS STREET, LONDON, E.C.

MAID MARIAN;

OR,

THE ROSE OF LOVE.

Characters.

LETTICE.

JOAN.

MAID MARIAN (ROBIN'S Sweetheart).

ROBIN HOOD (an Outlaw).

LITTLE JOHN)

(Robin's Friends).

FRIAR TUCK

KING RICHARD I.

HUMPTY DUMPTY (Cousin to LETTICE and JOAN).

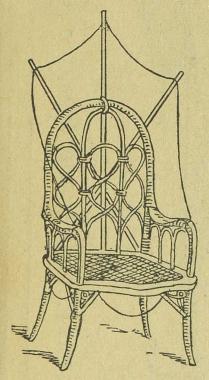
FAIRY CHRISTABEL (Fairy of the Well).

In this play the parts of Friar Tuck and the King can be taken by girls, if no boys are available, as they both wear long robes. Humpty Dumpty may also be taken by a little girl.

PREPARING FOR THE PLAY.

The many stories which have grown up around the old legends of Robin Hood and the merry men of Sherwood Forest are ever dear to the boys of Britain, and not less so to the girls, because of the romance of Maid Marian. In this little play, which does not pretend to follow the lines of elaborate works like Tennyson's "Foresters," or Mr. Lewis Waller's popular play "Robin Hood," Mrs. Adams has, nevertheless, introduced the leading characters of the old ballads, and supplied us with a book which will doubtless be as pleasing to our young friends as the plays which have already been printed in "Books for the Bairns," and are detailed on another page of this book.

For "Maid Marian" the scenery is very simple, and if two or three painted backgrounds of woodland scenery (or even one) can be hired for the performance, the rest will be easily supplied. If the wishing well is constructed out of wooden

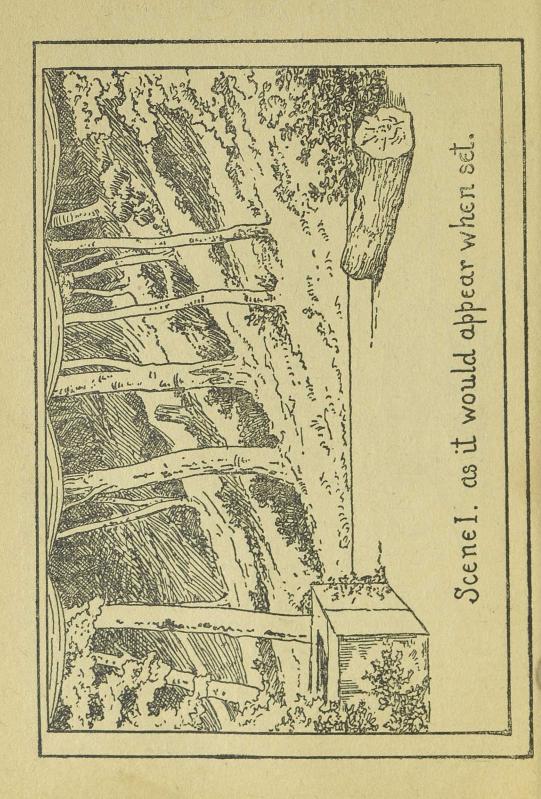


If the wishing well is constructed out of wooden boxes, it would be better to fasten them together with laths to prevent their slipping out of place; and as the fairy is to come up out of the well, three sides only of the well might be made, so that Christabel may be able to slip into the open side at the back from behind the stage, otherwise she must be concealed inside the square before the curtain rises, and remain in hiding until her appearance is due. To make the May Queen's throne in Scene II., an ordinary cane armchair might be used, with an upright attached to the back and two others placed crosswise, as in this diagram. With this framework the floral decoration of the throne is easy.

For the dresses it is suggested that Lettice and Joan should wear long dresses, while the head may be covered with the veil characteristic of the period, the hair flowing loose under the veil. Maid Marian is dressed as a peasant girl—quite a simple gown in contrast to the more courtly robes of Lettice and Joan. Robin Hood and Little John should have huntsmen's dresses of Lincoln green, with caps decorated with feathers, and of course they carry bows and arrows. Friar Tuck should be well padded to look fat, and wear a cassock and pointed hood. The King might be effectively dressed in blue-grey sleeves and trunks,

to imitate chain armour under the white garment, on which is fastened the templar's cross (red), and he should carry a belt and sword. Over all this he wears a long loose garment when he first appears on the stage. Humpty Dumpty should be all in white, with the exception of his yellow stockings. His eggshaped hat might be made out of a bowler hat, by cutting away the brim and painting the crown with two or three coats of white enamel. The fairy should wear the traditional fairy's dress.

This play, like those which have preceded it, is supplied with appropriate music to lend variety and charm to the proceedings. If, however, a shorter performance is required, the songs and choruses can all be scored out of the books before rehearsal without spoiling the effect to any great extent. When the music is used, the full piano score may be obtained for one shilling from Messrs. Egerton & Co., Savoy House, 115, Strand, London, W.C.



MAID MARIAN.

SCENE I.—THE WISHING WELL.

Background to represent a woodland scene. The wishing well on the right of the stage may be made of wooden boxes, covered with ivy, moss, &c., the sides being firm enough to sit on. Make it as pretty and picturesque as possible.

OPENING CHORUS.

The opening chorus should be sung by all the characters, except Humpty Dumpty. During the singing, Robin Hood's men waylay and rob first a Norman Baron and then a Monk, who walk across the back of the stage. It would be better to get two boys otherwise unconnected with the play to impersonate the Baron and the Monk, for they have nothing to say; they only gesticulate and angrily resist being robbed. If, however, no other boys are available, the parts can be taken by Maid Marian and Little John, who might wear long cloaks over their other dresses. The Baron should wear chains (curtain chains will do) and a gilt purse attached to his belt; while the Monk might wear a brown dressing gown, with leather bag attached to the cord and tassel with which the dressing gown is fastened. Robin Hood looks on calmly while the men are deprived of their money, and makes a courtly bow as Little John leads the victims away.

| | KEY C. | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------------------------------|------|-------------|--|--------|-----|--------------|-------------------------|--------|------------|--------|
| 2 | Three bars Instrumental. | | | | | : | .s | d | .,m | :f | .1) |
| 4 | | | | P 15 5 6 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 | | | Come Come | THE RESERVE AND PORT OF | | me, | my my |
| 1 | s ,f .m | :- | .s | d' | .t ,d' | :r1 | .t | d' | | :- | .s) |
| 1 | merry men, On Merry men, A - | | this | the | first | of | May. | | | We Ride | |
| 1 | d' .m | f | .1 | s ,f | .m | :- | .s | di | .t ,d' | :r1 | .t) |
| 1 | Sax-ons no - ble | will | go | hunt | -ing | | Proud | Nor - | man | lords | to - } |
| 1 | d ¹ | :- | .ml | r | 3. | :1 | .r | S | .t | :1 | .r) |
| 1 | day. | | Toll Let | | | | Ere For | | - ing | thro' kind | |

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| | | good, Says Rob | in | Hood. | | | Oh! | ho! | we | must | not) |
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| drove us to the kind-ly we re- lieve them, It sure-ly can-not grieve them, For $D.S.$ $ \begin{cases} $ | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| take their gold be - cause it is our own. | , | () | | 71 | | | | | | | D.S. |
| take their gold be - cause it is our own. | | 1' :m' | r' | :1 | | t | .,1 :s | .rl | d _i | : | |
| | } | | | | | 001100 | it is | our | own | | |
| The will hand it to the poor. | | we will | hand | it | | | ver to | 1 2000/05 | poor. | | |

Enter Humpty Dumpty with a basket slung over a stick.

HUMPTY DUMPTY (shouting).
Come on! (Aside.) Oh! girls are such a nuisance!

LETTICE (calling from behind the scenes).

Humpty!

HUMPTY DUMPTY (despairingly).
There they go again!

LETTICE and JOAN (together).

Humpty Dumpty! Dump—ty!

HUMPTY DUMPTY.

Come on!

(LETTICE and JOAN run in, holding up their long skirts.)

LETTICE.

My skirt caught in a bramble, dear.

HUMPTY DUMPTY (crossly).

Why do you wear such long ones? (Pointing to the well.) Look here—

Here's the old wishing well. Now, wish away! Wish for some common-sense, that's what I say.

JOAN (sitting down by the well).

What you say, Humpty, is nearly always rude.

(Looking round and clasping her hands.)
Oh! what a dear, romantic, lovely spot!

LETTICE (sitting on a tree-trunk L.). We'll have a picnic here.

HUMPTY DUMPTY (aside).
I knew they would.

Lettice (to Humpty Dumpty):
Open the basket. Let's see what we've got.

Humpty Dumpty (opening it reluctantly).

Nothing. There's some milk, and bread and cheese.

Lettice (jumping up to look inside).

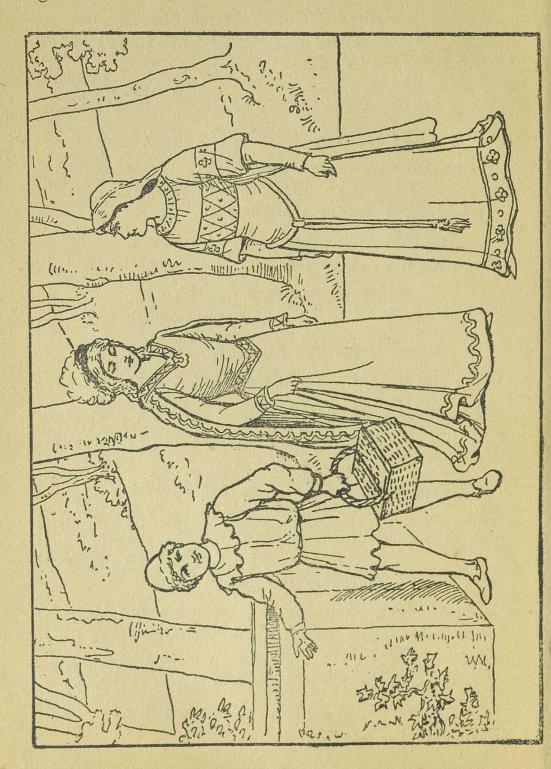
He's eaten all the plum cake, if you please,
And half a chicken. Oh, you greedy, greedy!

(Shaking him.)

HUMPTY DUMPTY.

I didn't. The cook must have forgotten to put it in. (Joan begins spreading the cloth, &c., on the grass.) There was a slice of ham. I threw it away because Joan doesn't like it.

LETTICE (tapping him on the head). He's eaten everything!



HUMPTY DUMPTY (plaintively).

Don't whack me!

I am so brittle, Lettice! You will crack me!

Joan (teasing him).

Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall—

HUMPTY DUMPTY (flying at her).

Drop it!

JOAN (laughing).

No, you dropped, I believe.
(Sings.) Humpty Dumpty had a great fall,
Not all the king's horses nor all the king's men
Could set Humpty Dumpty up again.

Humpty Dumpty (spinning round like a top and stamping his foot).

I never did! There never was a wall. There were no horses, and I didn't fall!

(Tearing his hair.)

It's all a wicked story. (Aside.) I can see This tiresome pair will be the death of me.

JOAN.

Never mind, Humpty, it was only fun.

(Kneeling by the well and looking down into it.)

What shall we wish for?

LETTICE (taking two pins from her dress).

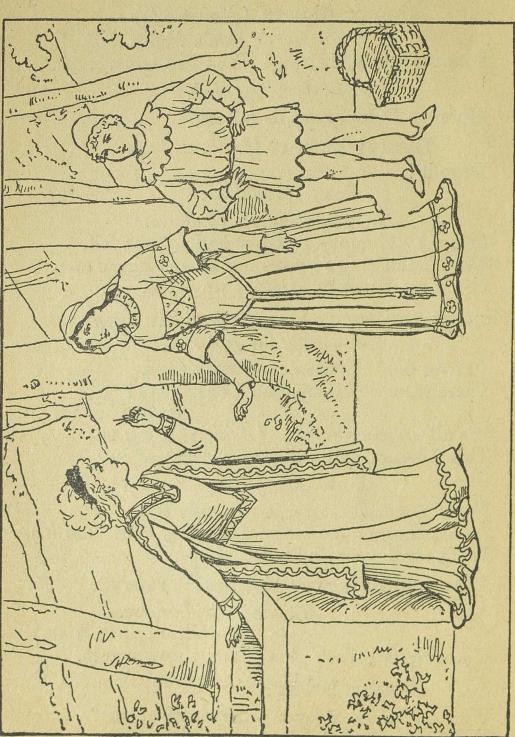
This is how it's done.

(Gives one to Joan.)

Here are two silver pins. You throw one in.

HUMPTY DUMPTY (horrified).

What! Throw away a precious silver pin? And I as poor as Job! It's sinful waste!



Scene I. LETTICE (to JOAN): "Here are two silver pins."

LETTICE.

What are you going to wish for, Joan? Make haste.

Joan (hesitating).

I'm—not quite sure.

HUMPTY DUMPTY.

Take your time, my child. Think it over. Let's see. (Calculating on his fingers.) We've been here about a month. If you make up your mind in three hours, thirty days, and two years, you won't be more than fifty when we get home.

SONG.—"THE WISHING WELL."

LETTICE, JOAN, and HUMPTY DUMPTY.

(A little dance may be introduced after the last verse.)

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KEY EZ.
                                 | :d :r |m :- :m |m :r :m
                                 1. Shall we wish for wings like the
                                  2. Shall we | wish we were twice
f :- :- |f :- :r |f :s :t |l :l :r |s :- :- |- :- :s
           ies, To car-ry us ev-er so far;
                                                                  Be -
         ty, Or wish to be twice as good?
                                                              We can
1 :- :d' |s :1 :s |f :s :f |m :d :r |m :- :m |m :r :d
      the trees and the clouds and the moon, To the furth - est gold - en
      as rich as the King, youknow, Or as brave
                                                      as
                                                          f :r
s :- :- |- :d :r |m :-.m:m |m :r :m
                                              f :- :-
          Shall we wish for a ship
                                         to
                                              take
             We can ask for a mar - ble pal
f :s :t |1:-:r |s:-:- |-:s:s | f:m:r |s:fe:s | wayo'er the sea so | blue | To the | land that lies west of the | land that lies west of all |
d':-:1 |s:-:d |m:f:s |m:-:r |d:-:-
set - ting sun, The landwhereour dreams come true? gifts would be, The mag-ic - al fair - y rose.
```

LETTICE (slowly, dropping her pin into the well).

I wish . . . people to love me . . . (Bending over the well.) Do you hear,

Kind fairies? (To the others.) Joan, the water

is so clear.

HUMPTY DUMPTY (jumping on to the ledge). Does Truth live at the bottom?

Joan (leaning over it).

So they say,

But if she does, she's not at home to-day. (Drop-ping her pin.)

Please, fairies dear (slowly), I want to see the King.

Humpty Dumpty (waving his stick over her like a fairy wand).

Granted! Go up with the other cats!

JOAN.

The other cats?

HUMPTY DUMPTY.

A cat may look at a King—Mieau!
There isn't much harm in that!
But you may bet your penny a week
The King won't look at the cat.



Joan (scornfully).

I don't get a penny a week. You forget I'm the daughter of a Saxon earl.

HUMPTY DUMPTY.

A penny a week is what you get. Twopence if you don't cry when they wash your hair on Saturdays. Don't teach me! I know all about children.

(Recites, waving his stick dramatically.)

She thinks her father's a Saxon earl,
When she walks abroad in state,
But at home she's Joan with a penny a week,
And she goes to bed at eight.

(Joan rushes at him and takes his stick away.)

LETTICE.

Come and help to pack the basket, Joan. And do go away, Humpty.

HUMPTY DUMPTY.

Well, Joan has lost her chance, she can't wish twice.

Why couldn't she have asked for something nice?

LETTICE (softly).

Hush! Hush! What is that sound?
(Stands up. Bells and soft music behind the scenes.)

The fairies hear us!

(Pauses, holding up her hand.)
Listen, their magic music is quite near us!

(FAIRY CHRISTABEL rises from the well. The music continues while she hands Lettice, Joan, and Humpty Dumpty each a branch of hawthorn.)

SONG.—"SUMMER'S COMING."

LETTICE, JOAN, HUMPTY DUMPTY, and FAIRY.

(During this song Christabel sits on the edge of the well, and they form a group round her, waving the flowery branches.)

glad to meet her, Sum - mer's com - ing.

FAIRY (holding out a rose).

This is the rose of love. Whose shall it be?

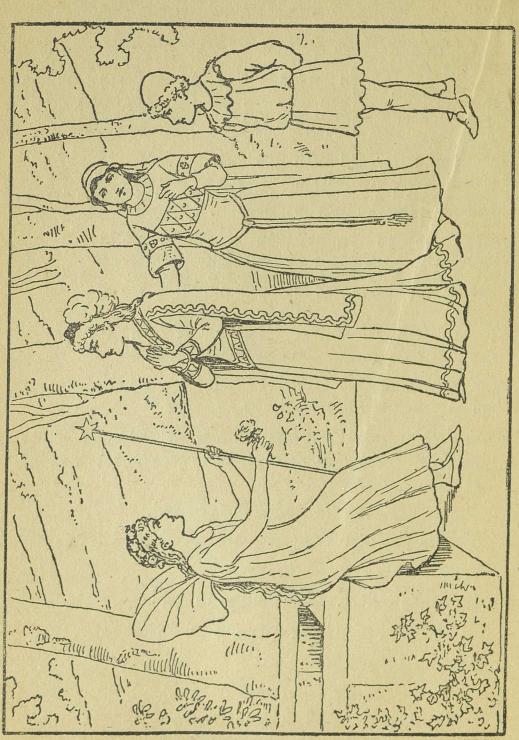
JOAN.

I am the eldest. It belongs to me!

HUMPTY DUMPTY (trying to snatch it).
I'm the youngest.

FAIRY (drawing it back).
Who behaves the best?

This magic gift is for the worthiest.



Scene I. FAIRY: "This magic rose is for the worthiest,"

HUMPTY DUMPTY.

I'm much better than Joan!

JOAN.

Who stole the ham?

HUMPTY DUMPTY (weeping).

I'm much the best and worthiest, I am!

JOAN.

I don't lose things like Lettice—

HUMPTY DUMPTY.

Don't you, though!

You lose your temper often enough, I know!

FAIRY.

The rose is not for either of you. There!

Joan (astonished).

Why not?

FAIRY (laughing).

A quarrelsome, conceited pair.

(She gives the rose to Lettice.)

Take it, sweet Lettice, and you soon shall prove Its power to give you what you asked for—love.

HUMPTY DUMPTY.

She hasn't even asked for it. Absurd!

Joan (grumbling).

That's just the way; she never says a word, And gets far more than I do, all the same—

FAIRY.

She doesn't shout and squabble—

HUMPTY DUMPTY.

It's a shame.

(Takes FAIRY confidentially aside.)
Lettice isn't really the nicest. She never shuts
the door after her. And she says, "No,
thank you" to jam at tea, unless it's strawberry.

FAIRY (severely).

She tells tales, I suppose?

HUMPTY DUMPTY.

N-No, not exactly. But-

FAIRY.

That's all right, then. She can keep the rose.

Humpty Dumpty (turning to Joan).
Well, never mind! She's careless, and who knows
How soon she'll drop and lose that magic rose?
We'll pick it up and keep it for our own,
And everyone will love us, dearest Joan.

Joan (to Fairy). Can I have what I wished for?

HUMPTY DUMPTY.

She went and asked if she might see the King.

Fairy (waving her wand).

Your wish is granted.

HUMPTY DUMPTY.

Well, then, if I could, like to see the famous—(pauses)—Robin Hood.

FAIRY (waving her wand).

Your wish is granted.

Humpty Dumpty (bowing).

Thank you. Don't forget it.

FAIRY.

And don't blame me, my boy, if you regret it.

(Horns blown faintly behind the scenes.)

His archers are approaching—
(Fairy music and bells, through which the horns sound more loudly.)

Humpty Dumpty (capering about).

What! he's coming?

Hooray! Oh, he's the chap to set things humming!

LETTICE (horrified).

He'll take us prisoners. What have you done?

HUMPTY DUMPTY (rather uneasily).

Not be!

JOAN.

He will! He'll hang us just for fun.

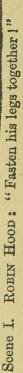
Enter Robin Hood, followed by Little John and Friar Tuck. Joan and Lettice throw their arms round each other and retreat in terror. Friar Tuck and Little John seize Humpty Dumpty, who yells loudly.

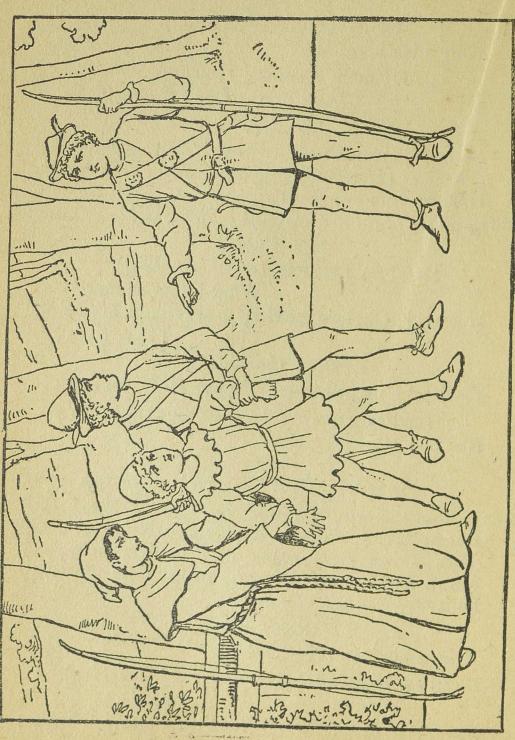
ROBIN HOOD.

Fasten his legs together!

HUMPTY DUMPTY (struggling and shrieking).

Let me go!
I say, take care! You'll crack me, don't you know!
Joan! Joan! Save me!





ROBIN HOOD (making a low bow to Joan and Lettice).

Forgive me, ladies fair.

Visits from gentle damsels are but rare.
Yet I must make you captive. (Aside, looking at Lettice.) Ah! What beauty!

Joan (despairingly).

Oh, Robin Hood, if you are seeking booty— We have no money here—

FRIAR TUCK (holding HUMPTY DUMPTY tightly).

But something handsome

May be expected in the way of ransom.

HUMPTY DUMPTY.

Don't talk so fast. A doughty knight or two Will put a stopper on the lot of you. (Shrieks.) Help! Help! Robbers!

ROBIN HOOD (angrily).
Silence!

FRIAR TUCK.

We'll bind him fast.

And the next squeal he gives shall be his last.

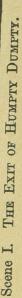
LETTICE (entreatingly).

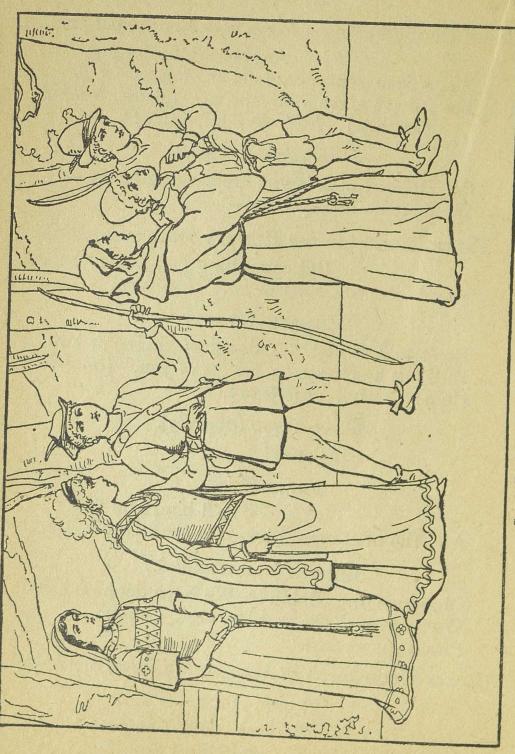
Oh, spare him, Robin! We have done no harm; We came into the wood to seek a charm. Please set us free.

(ROBIN HOOD kneels at her feet and kisses her hand.)

ROBIN HOOD.

No, no! But I entreat Pardon for this rude capture, at your feet.





LITTLE JOHN (kneeling and kissing her other hand).

My name is Little John. I love you dearly.

Joan (aside).

Is it the rose which makes them act so queerly?

FRIAR TUCK (gazing at LETTICE). Oh, what a lovely vision! I adore her!

Robin Hood (aside, rising).

To anxious friends I feel I can't restore her.

(Taking Lettice by the hand.)

Come, sweetest, fairest maiden ever seen, In Sherwood Forest you shall reign as queen.

FRIAR TUCK.

What will Maid Marian say? There'll be a row.

HUMPTY DUMPTY (groaning).

We've got into a pretty hobble now. We're all his prisoners—

FRIAR TUCK.

You are! You are! From this time forth you're all in Robin's power, For this is Sherwood Forest, where he reigns.

LITTLE JOHN (thumping Humpty Dumpty on the back).

To please our woodland king you'd best take pains. (Humpty Dumpty squeals.)

Don't shriek, or you will get on Robin's nerves!

JOAN.

Humpty at last has got what he deserves!

SONG .- "FETTERS OF LOVE."

ROBIN HOOD, FRIAR TUCK, and LITTLE JOHN.

KEY D. 3 { | Seven bars | : :m 6 | m :- :m | m :r :m } We'll 8 | bind you on-ly with } { | f :s :f | r :- :r | f :- .f:f | f :m :f | sd :- :- | - :- :d .d } | fet-ters of love To | keep you from running a- | way, For your } f.D. |ds:- :- |- :- || s:- :1 |1 :- :m |s:f :m |r:- :- |day. | Hump-ty Dump-ty |sat on a wall, $\left|\frac{\text{m : f}}{\text{We}}\right| \text{ is } \left|\frac{\text{d}^{\text{l}}}{\text{s. - : -}}\right| \left|\frac{\text{t : - : - |s : - : -}}{\text{bout}}\right| \left|\frac{\text{d}^{\text{l}}}{\text{ : - : s |f : m : r}}\right| \\ \left|\frac{\text{d}^{\text{l}}}{\text{Treat him gent - ly,}}\right|$

:- :m |f :- :- |d :r :m |s :- :m |r :- :- |d :- :- you please; | Whatshould we do with - | out him?

(First part of verse 2 is sung to Humpty Dumpty.)

(2) We'll make you fast with a hempen rope, And carry you off in a sack.

HUMPTY DUMPTY (sings plaintively).

But you'll not knock it too much about, I hope, Remember I easily crack!

JOAN.

(3) No one is going to take notice of me, So I'll just slip out of the wood— (She runs off, but is caught by Friar Tuck and LITTLE JOHN, who bring her back, laughing.)

FRIAR TUCK and LITTLE JOHN. You're worth too much to let slip, you see

So play no more tricks, but be good.

(4) We wished to be loved, and to see the King, And we wished to meet Robin Hood, But we wish we had wished for a different thing-A way to get out of the wood.

During the singing of the last verse Friar Tuck and Little John tie Humpty Dumpty up with ropes and lead him off, followed by Robin Hood (leading Lettice) and Joan by herself.

CURTAIN.

Scene II.—A GLADE IN SHERWOOD FOREST.

Background of trees. A fallen trunk, covered with ivy, forming a seat on the left. The MAY QUEEN'S throne on the right is decorated with flowers and green branches.

Enter Maid Marian, singing.

MARIAN'S LAMENT.

```
m:-:m|m:-:(f)|s:d':s|1:-:d'|t:-:-|-:-f|

Hunt-ing-don
ar-mour on, And rode in-to the wood;

You'd And
 thro'. But they gave his Earl-dom to Hood. But they fought an hour ere he knew his love, Then he
                               G.t.
REFRAIN.
\begin{cases} d :d :m |s :- :f | m :r :d | r :- :m | d :- :- |- :- :ds \\ Rob-in, "I lead come with me, To reign as Sher-wood's queen." \end{cases} \text{When } \end{cases}
```

MAID MARIAN.

Oh, Robin, Robin! You don't love me now. Perhaps I vexed you, but I don't know how.

(Sits on the log, leaning her head on her hand.)

Ah, no! (Pauses.) It is this lady, fair of face, Who comes to queen it here and take my place. No simple country maid like me, alas! With but a forest pool for looking-glass; But used to courtly ways, and finely dressed. (Sobbing.) Yet—Robin—once—you loved—you loved me best.

Enter Humpty Dumpty. -

HUMPTY DUMPTY.

She's got the rose, that's why there's all this fuss, That's why my lady lords it over us.

MAID MARIAN (surprised).

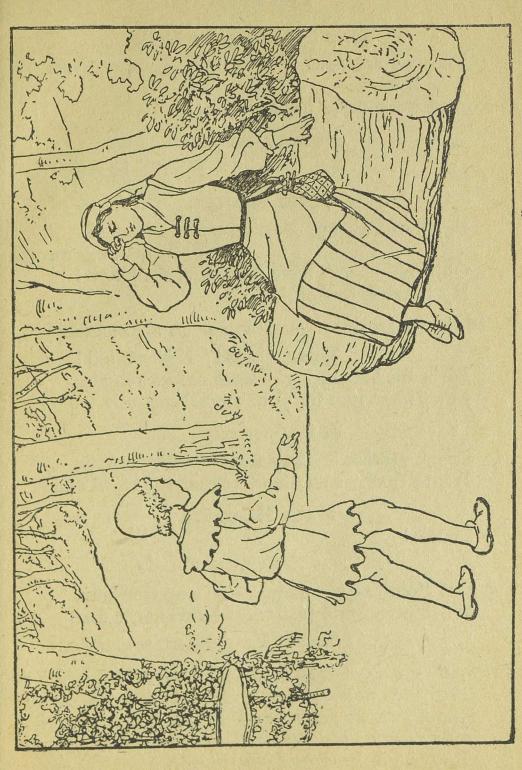
What rose?

HUMPTY DUMPTY (crossly).

I can't be worried answering questions now.

Enter JOAN.

Here's Joan, perhaps she'll tell you. Joan, I say!



Joan (stamping her foot).

They've crowned that stupid Lettice Queen of May—

And we're to be her courtiers!

HUMPTY DUMPTY.

What a bore!

MAID MARIAN.

But I was always May Queen here before.

(Walking sadly away.)

Oh, Robin! you have been indeed unkind!

My heart is broken.

HUMPTY DUMPTY (patting her on the shoulder).

There, there! Never mind! I'd break his head, if I were only stronger. Don't have him for your sweetheart any longer.

JOAN (gloomily).

Come, Marian! They say we have to wear White frocks, and stand behind the royal chair.

MAID MARIAN.

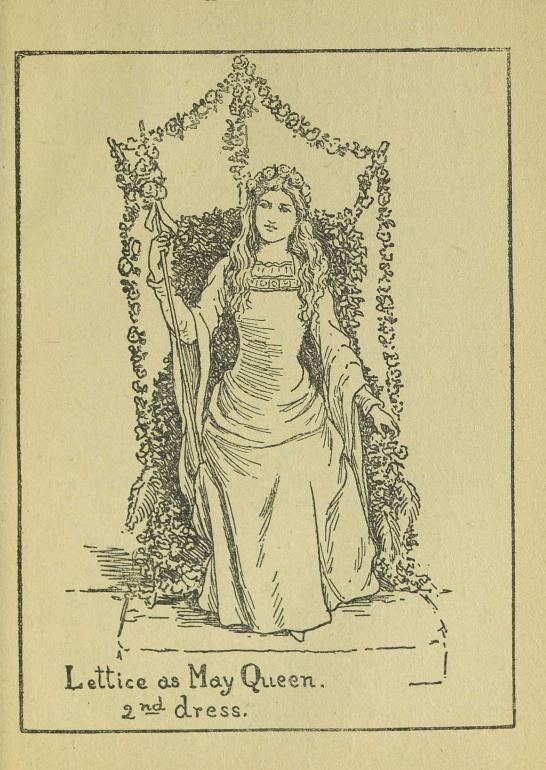
I can't!

JOAN.

But Robin says we must—he's master here. We'll have to do just what he wants, I fear.

[Exeunt Maid Marian and Joan.

Enter, to music, Lettice, dressed in white, with a crown of flowers. She is preceded by Robin Hood, Little John, and Friar Tuck carrying a flower-garland attached to two wands. Robin Hood leads Lettice to the throne.



SONG .- "THE QUEEN OF MAY."

```
KEY C.
             ROBIN HOOD.
   Seven bars
               : :s.l |s :- :r |f :m
 [ Instrumental. ]
                   I have crown'd you Queen of the
 m :- :1 |s :- :s.1 |s :-
                               :r
                                   If :m
                                          r
 May to - day With a crown
                                   blos - soms
                              of
        :1 |s :- :s .s |1 :- :t |s :1
                                          :8
 bright and gay; I have crown'd you
                                   Queen of my
        :s m :re :m s :f :m
                                   |f :1
                                          :rl
 heart be - side, And I vow to be true
                           LITTLE JOHN & FRIAR TUCK.
        :t |d' :-
                                          :r
le'er be - tide.
                                          Oh,
G.t.
        :m |r :- :d .d |t, :- :1,
                                  |s<sub>1</sub> :-
       dy fair, he is not
                              so
                                  true, As
S, :l.
        :t_{1} \mid r := :d \mid t_{1} := :1
                                  11 :-
                                          :1,
eith - er
      of
           us would be
                              to
                                  you;
                                          Take
|r :- :1, |m :- :1, |d :-
                              :t, |t, :- :1, .1, ?
       Take me And heed
                              him not,
                                         For an-
|s<sub>1</sub> :1<sub>1</sub> :t<sub>1</sub>
           |m :- :r |r :- :d |d :-
 oth - er
           Sweet - heart he
                             has
                            ALL. f.C.
                             Our Ouer
                                Our Queen is
           11 :- :t
       :f
                      IS :-
                             :m |s :- :m
           Win - ter snows,
       as
                             Her lips
          |s :- :r
   :re
       :m
                      |r :-
                              :1
                                  |r| :-
                                         ·m'
       the
           Sum - mer rose;
                             Her hair
           |t :- :f
       :1
                      |f :-
                              :f |1 :-
                                          :f
           sun - shine lies, A - bove
      en
           1 :- :m
       :r
                      m :- :s .s |s :-
      ness of her
                      eyes. We will plant
```

(During the last verses two of the archers take it in turn to hold the garland, while the third shoots three arrows above and three below it. As the song ends, Joan and Maid Marian enter, dressed in white, and take their places on either side of the throne.)

ROBIN HOOD (kissing the QUEEN'S hand).

Farewell, sweetheart! For one brief hour I'll leave you.

FRIAR TUCK (bowing low).

And while we're gone may nothing vex or grieve you,

LITTLE JOHN.

Or dim the brightness of your radiant eyes.

ROBIN HOOD.

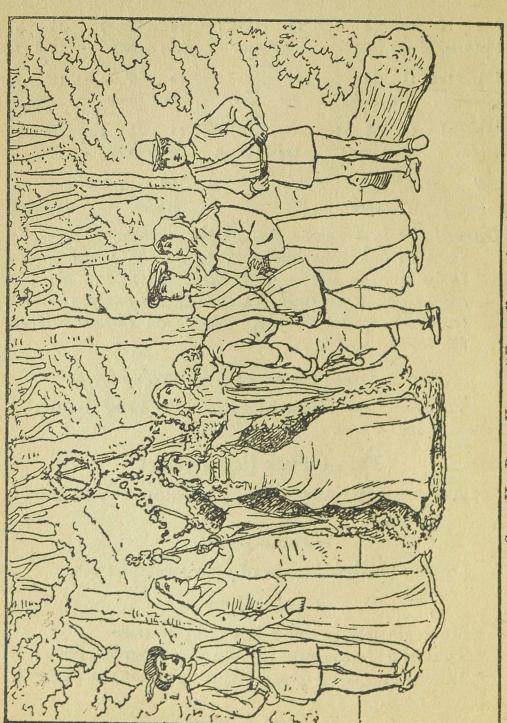
Maid Marian, perhaps it would be wise

That she should rest awhile in you green bower,

Where you have dreamt through many a summer hour.

LETTICE (rising).

Yes, I will rest.



Scene II. Robin Hood: "Farewell, sweetheart."

ROBIN HOOD (taking off his cap with a flourish).

Fair dreams, my lady bright!

And wake to rule our revels here to-night.

[Exeunt Robin Hood, Little John, and Friar Tuck on the left. Lettice is followed by Joan and Maid Marian on the right. Lettice drops the rose; Humpty Dumpty pounces on it.

HUMPTY DUMPTY.

Hooray! Hooray! (Waving it about.) She's dropped the magic rose!

(Fastens it inside his coat.)

Now they will all adore me, I suppose. It's my turn, cousin Lettice.

(LETTICE runs back.)

LETTICE (hurriedly).

Humpty dear,

I've lost my rose.

HUMPTY DUMPTY (looking round). Well, I don't see it here.

(MAID MARIAN and JOAN come running in.)

MAID MARIAN (stooping down to look). Was it a red one?

Joan (looking for it).

No, no, it was pink.

HUMPTY DUMPTY (pointing to the left).

There's something like it on the path, I think.

[Goes off.

LETTICE (despairingly).

It isn't here! Oh, Joan, what shall I do? No one will love me now.

Enter HUMPTY DUMPTY, with a conceited strut.

HUMPTY DUMPTY.

That's very true.

MAID MARIAN (aside).

Oh, what a darling dear he looks!

JOAN (doubtfully).

Why, yes:

Almost too sweet for words, I must confess.

Lettice (enthusiastically).

Dear Humpty, you must be the King of May, Queens are so stupid.

HUMPTY DUMPTY.

That's just what I say.

Women are good for nothing. (Takes his seat on the throne.) I'll be king!

(They all kneel round him.)

Joan (clasping her hands).

What a bewitching face!

LETTICE (admiringly).

Those sparkling eyes?

MAID MARIAN.

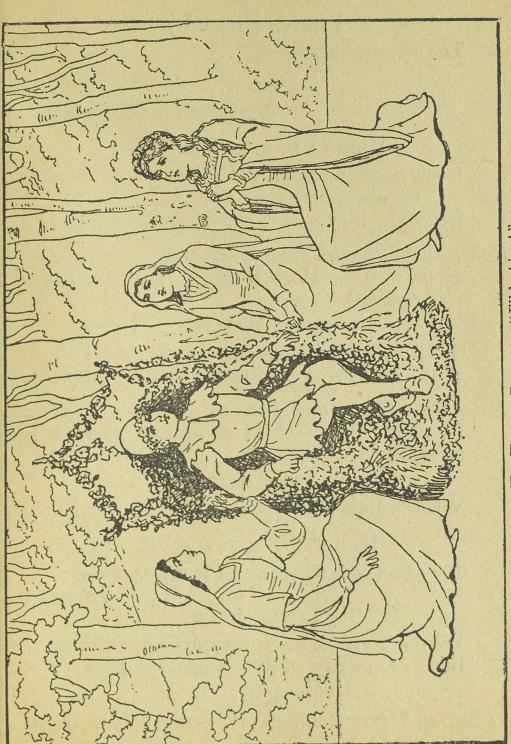
That rapt expression—dreamy, yet so wise.

JOAN.

His hair, if he had any hair, would be A sunny, golden colour, I can see!

HUMPTY DUMPTY.

Go on, Lettice. How do you like my nose?



Scene II. HUMPTY DUMPTY: "I'll be king!"

LETTICE (dreamily).

The sweetest shape—

JOAN.

His mouth is like a rose.

HUMPTY DUMPTY (alarmed).

Don't mention roses! (Horns heard off the stage.)
Gracious, here they are!

I thought they said they'd be away an hour.

(Horns sound again, nearer. Humpty Dumpty jumps off the throne. Maid Marian, Joan, and Lettice rise quickly.)

MAID MARIAN.

'Tis Robin Hood himself! Alack, alack! We daren't love you so much when he comes back.

Enter Friar Tuck and Little John, guarding King Richard, disguised in a priest's cassock and pointed hood.

FRIAR TUCK.

Where's Robin? We've another captive here.

HUMPTY DUMPTY (aside).

They look like mischief. I had better clear.

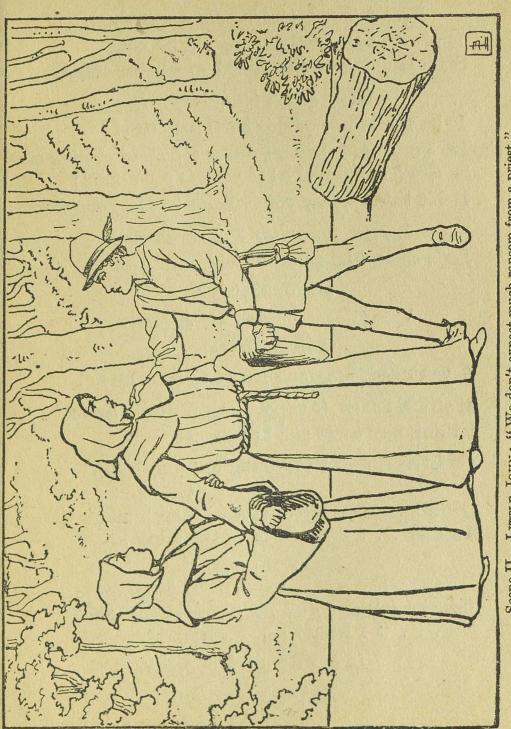
(Runs ou.)

LITTLE JOHN.

We don't expect much ransom from a priest, But he shall pay us sixty crowns at least.

KING

(shaking LITTLE JOHN off and drawing himself up).
Not one, you thieving rascals! Not a groat!



LITTLE JOHN: "We don't expect much ransom from a priest." Scene II.

FRIAR TUCK (taking out his tablets).
He is defiant, Little John. Take note!
Such language Robin Hood will never stand.

KING (with indignation).

Is he the leader of this cutthroat band?

(FRIAR TUCK and LITTLE JOHN fix their arrows and draw their bows as though to shoot him.)

Don't think I fear you, villains! Do your worst!

LITTLE JOHN (to FRIAR TUCK). Let's shoot him as he stands.

Maid Marian.
Ask Robin first.

LITTLE JOHN.

A wretched, bragging priest to flout us so!

MAID MARIAN (taking LITTLE JOHN aside).

I think he's some one in disguise.

LITTLE JOHN (bursting out laughing).

Oh, Ho!

He talks so bravely, walks with such an air! An earl . . . or could it be the King?

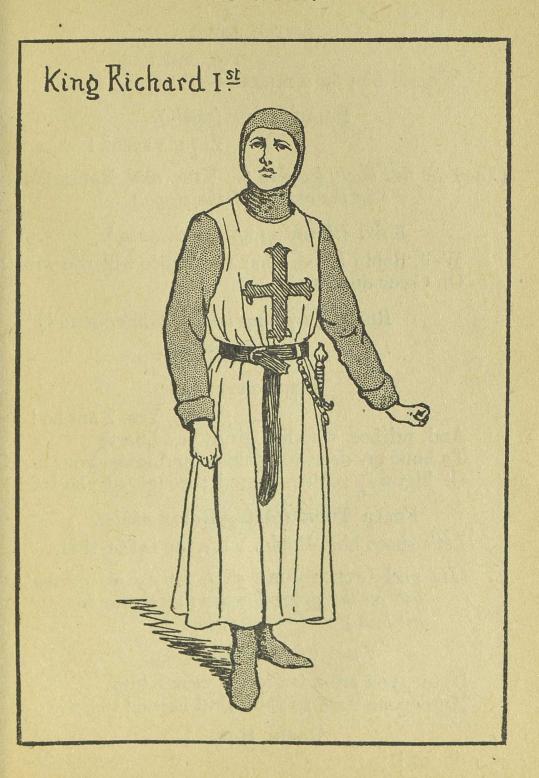
MAID MARIAN.

Perhaps (slowly, and in a frightened tone) it is . . . the King!

Enter ROBIN HOOD.

ROBIN HOOD.

Is this another captive? How now, my men?



LITTLE JOHN.

Yes, and when

We ask him for a ransom—

FRIAR TUCK (softly).

Let me speak!

(They all fall back; leaving the King and Robin Hood in the centre of the stage.)

KING (throwing off his disguise).

Well, Robin Hood, what vengeance will you wreak On Cœur de Lion?

Robin (stepping back, thunder-struck).

The King?

King (sternly).

Yes, I am he!

And, prithee, who has given you liberty
To hunt my deer, rob priests, and make your band
Of highway robbers feared throughout the land?

FRIAR TUCK (taking Robin aside).

Let's shoot him, Robin. It's the safest thing.

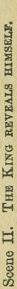
(He and LITTLE JOHN each let fly an arrow to fall on the ground near the King, but not to hit him.)

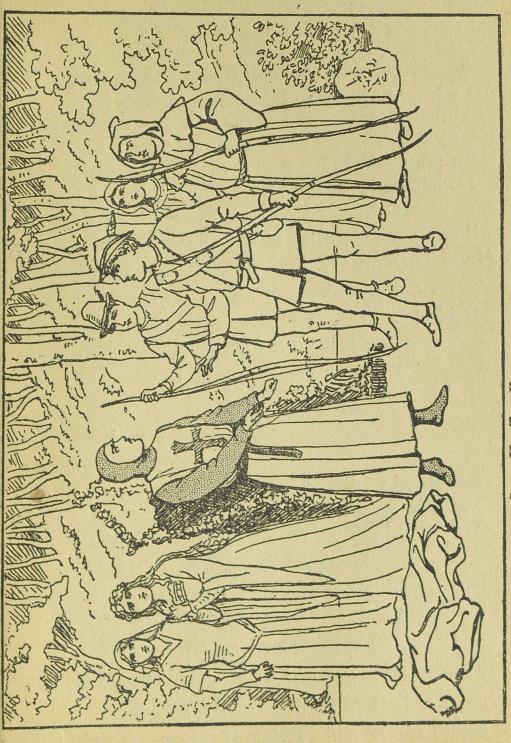
King (folding his arms).

If, too, you are a traitor to your King, Murder me now, as your kind friends suggest.

ROBIN HOOD.

No, no!





LITTLE JOHN (doubtfully).

I think it really would be best.

ROBIN (turning, to kneel at the King's feet).

I am no traitor, my lord King, be sure!

And though I've robbed the rich, I've fed the poor.

I hunt your deer, but would not raise a hand

To take your life. And I with all my band

Do here submit, Sire, to your royal will.

(Kissing the King's hand.)

So do your pleasure, be it good or ill.

(Lays down his bow and arrows at the King's feet.)

FRIAR TUCK (indignantly).

Robin!

LITTLE JOHN.
Have you gone mad?
ROBIN (rising).

Lay down your bows!
(They unwillingly obey.)

Ere Mayday, Royal Sire, draws to a close, We hold our feast and revels in this wood. Will you, then, be the guest of Robin Hood?

King (hesitatingly).

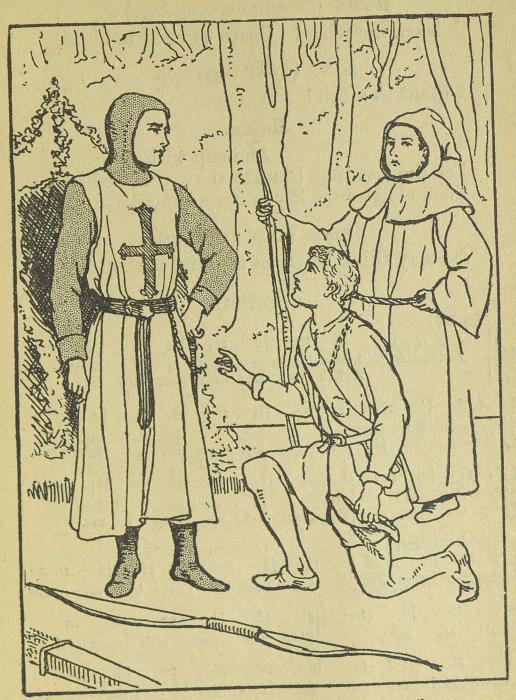
Your guest, brave Robin? I have sworn, you see, To hang you from the tallest greenwood tree.

FRIAR TUCK (aside).

There's a nice fate! I knew how it would be!

LITTLE JOHN (aside).

He'll hang us all! Robin, it serves you right!



Scene III. ROBIN HOOD: "I am no traitor!"

Robin (kneeling on one knee).
A boon, Sir King! Spare us until to-night.

King (after a pause).

I grant so much!

ROBIN.

And sup with me,
For the last time beneath the greenwood tree.
Then afterwards, if you must hang us—well!—

FRIAR TUCK (sighing).
He may think better of it; who can tell?

CHORUS.

CURTAIN.

Scene III .- BY ROBIN HOOD'S OAK.

The throne must be removed for this scene to give

more space for dancing.

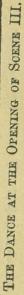
As the curtain rises all the performers, except FAIRY CHRISTABEL, are dancing round the maypole, slowly during the first two verses, quickly towards the

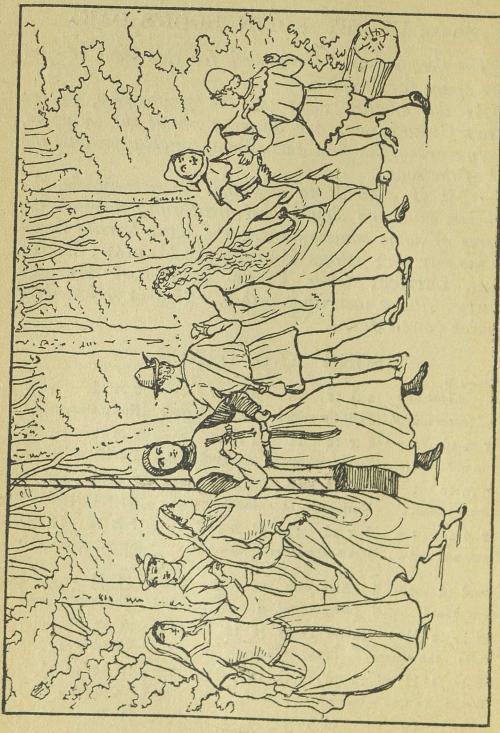
end of the song.

If it is difficult to arrange for a maypole, the children must go slowly and gracefully through the figures of some square dance; the King having Joan for his partner; Robin Hood, Maid Marian; Little John, Lettice; while Friar Tuck and Humpty DUMPTY dance merrily together. This is followed by a quick round dance.

SONG AND DANCE.

```
|s.l:s:m|m.r:r:-|r.m:f:ti
3 { Eight bars | s.l:s :m | m.r:r :- hours have sped,
                                 Now a meas-ure
{ | r .d :d :- | d .r :d :1 | 1 .s :s :- | r .m :r :1,
we will tread; You have shown us woodland sport, This is how we
{ | m.r:r :- | s.l:s :m | m.r:r :- | r.m:f :t,
                                  But with stately
dance at court. Moving not at headlong pace,
{ | r.d:d: - | d.r:d:1 | l.s:s: - | f.s:f:t<sub>1</sub> | Spreading skirt and
                                  Spreading skirt and
{ | r.d:d: - | | Eight bars | 6 | Still when court - iers }
```





[Exit King, Robin Hood, Friar Tuck, Little John, and Humpty Dumpty.

Maid Marian (to Joan, eagerly).

Will he forgive him? (Joan shakes her head.)
Joan, what did he say?

Joan (sadly).

He says that those who break the law must pay. His royal word is pledged, and it must be That Robin dies beneath the greenwood tree.

MAID MARIAN

(sinking down on the trunk of the oak tree, weeping).
Oh, no! He shall not die! He—shall—not—
(sobbing)—die!

JOAN.

I would give half my fortune, could it buy
His life for you, Maid Marian; but 'tis vain,
I dare not plead with our stern King again.

Enter Friar Tuck, Little John, and the King.

KING.

The west is golden with the setting sun; Yet ere your Mayday revelry is done,

(Putting his hand on Friar Tuck's shoulder.)

With bow and arrow let me see your skill.

FRIAR TUCK.

Show you how we can shoot? Aye, that we will! (Peeling a hazel wand he has in his hand.)

You see this wand, Sire? (Giving it to LITTLE JOHN, and pointing left, off the stage.) Set it over there,

Two hundred paces.

KING.

(shading his eyes with his hand and looking at it).

Too far, I swear!

One scarce can see it.

Enter ROBIN HOOD.

FRIAR TUCK.

Full many a score

At such a distance have I split before.

(Draws his bow and shoots.)

King (enthusiastically).

Ha, Ha! Bravo! That was a fair clean shot!

Re-enter LITTLE JOHN.

FRIAR TUCK.

I'll set another on the selfsame spot.

(Runs out. Little John draws his bow. Robin Hood puts his hand on his arm to restrain him.)

ROBIN HOOD.

Just wait a minute. Now, old chap! Good luck! (LITTLE JOHN shoots.)

KING.

Well done!

ROBIN (fitting an arrow to his own bow).

I thought you meant to shoot Friar Tuck.

LITTLE JOHN (pointing to the left).

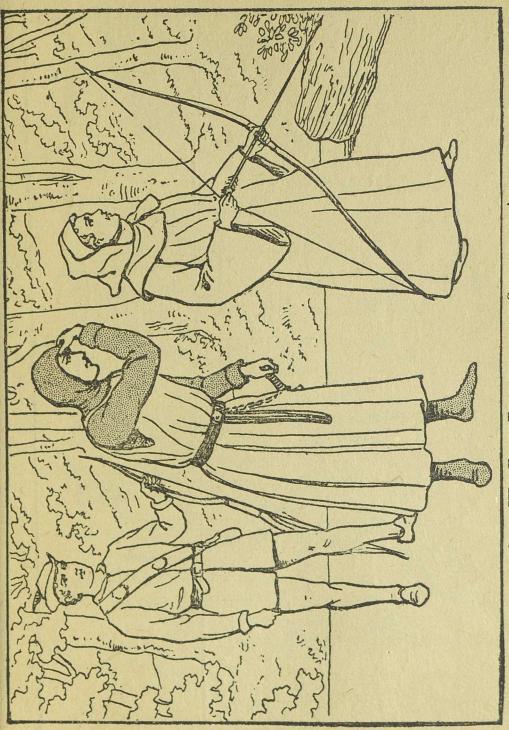
My arrow's sticking in the mark. I hit it.

Robin (drawing his bow).

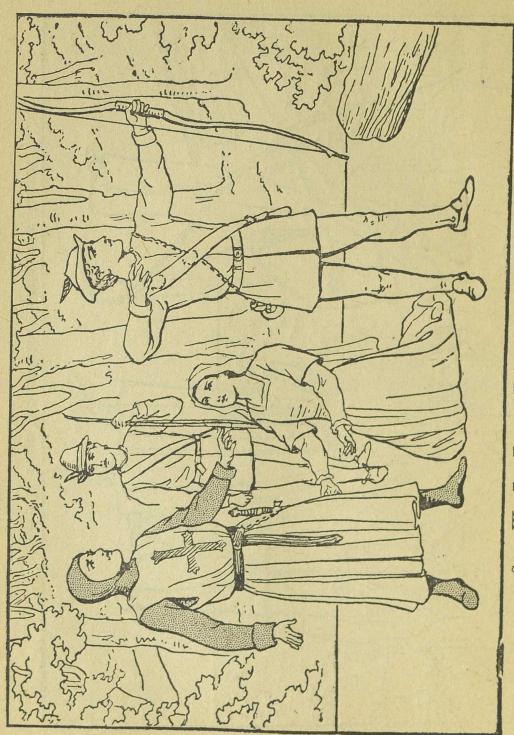
You did. But don't be proud! I'm going to split it. (He shoots.)

KING.

He's done it! Split the arrow right in two! Faith, Robin, did I search the wide world through, I'd never find an archer such as you.



Scene III. FRIAR TUCK PROVES HIS SKILL AS AN ARCHER.



Scene III. THE KING: "He has split the arrow in two!"

MAID MARIAN (throwing herself at the King's feet).
Then please forgive him. If you'll set him free—
Re-enter Friar Tuck and Humpty Dumpty.

LETTICE (pleadingly to KING).

He is so brave—

FRIAR TUCK.
Put in a word for us!

HUMPTY DUMPTY.

Oh, if he hangs you, I won't make a fuss! Sir King, the Fairy of the Well is here To plead for Robin. 'Tis no use, I fear!

Enter FAIRY.

MAID MARIAN (rising, addressing the FAIRY).
To you he'll surely listen. You can tell
How far and wide poor Robin is loved well.

FAIRY.

He feeds my birds in winter. Gives the poor A daily portion from his bounteous store.

KING (grimly).

Light come, light go, the proverb says, dear lady.

HUMPTY DUMPTY.

Which means he's lavish, but his ways are shady! Come here, Maid Marian.

(Drawing Maid Marian aside and taking the rose from his coat.)

I have a scheme-

(Solemnly.) Things are not quite so desperate as they seem!

FAIRY (to KING).

Will you not spare his life?
(The King shakes his head.)

KING.

Poor Robin Hood! I've given my word, and could not if I would. Humpty Dumpty (aside, to Maid Marian). Then he must do it, whether he will or no.

MAID MARIAN (doubtfully). But if he says he can't, he can't.

HUMPTY DUMPTY.

Quite so!

His word is given. But, were he enchanted,
He'd have to do exactly what we wanted.
We've tried persuasion; now, if you approve,
We'll work some magic with—(pauses, and looks
very serious)—the rose of love.

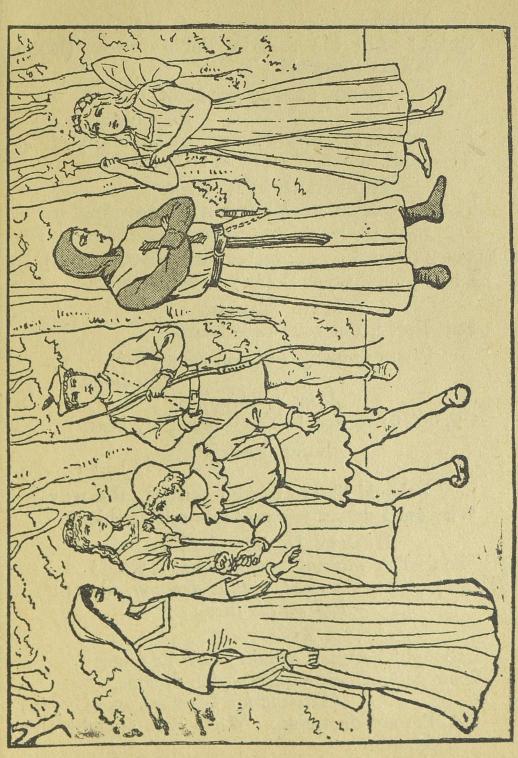
(ROBIN HOOD stands in the centre, the KING, FRIAR TUCK, and LITTLE JOHN a little behind him. MAID MARIAN and JOAN on the left. LETTICE, HUMPTY DUMPTY, and FAIRY on the right.)

SONG .- "THE SIGHING AND THE SOBBING."

| Six bars | Six bars

```
s.d.f. E 7.
FRIAR TUCK.
          :- |s :m :d |r :- :s |s :m :d
               I, said Friar Tuck, It's just like my
                                               pp CHORUS.
                                                 C.t.m.l.
                                    |m :-
                   s :d :r
                                                  All the
                                   rope.
                    I've got a
                  :s .,t |m' :r' .,t |d' .m :t .,1
             .,m |f
   brave and the fair will be sigh - ing and sobbing, When they
                                          ALL.
                                        d.f.Bb. (G minor.)
 s:t,1|s:d |r:m |r.d:-3|| tad:t,:1, hear of the death of poor old Robin. 4|| Who'll build his
               JOAN.
               |m :d :1, |t, :- :t, |m :d :1,
                  will, said Joan, Of mar - ble and
               I
                                                pp CHORUS.
                                                  C.t.m.
                   m :1, :t, |1, :- :1,s .,s
                    I'll build his tomb.
              "m |f :s .,t |m' :r' .,t |d' .m :t .,1
  hrave and
   brave and the fair will be sigh - ing and sobbing, When they
                                         ALL.
4. A b. (F minor.)
 |s :t ,1 |s :d |r :m |r .d :- 3 | d m :d :1, | hear of the death of |poor old Robin. 4 | Who'll mourn him }
               LETTICE.
              |m :d :1, |t, :1, :1, |m :d :1,
                I will, said Let - tice, For great my re -
                                                pp CHORUS.
  :t,s .,s )
              "m |f :s .,t |m' :r' .,t |d' .m t .,1 }
    brave and the fair will be sigh - ing and sobbing, When they
  |s :t ,| |s :d |r :m |r .d :- 3 || ^{d^1m} :d :1, hear of the death of poor old Robin. 4 || Who'll be his
```

```
{ | t<sub>1</sub> :- :- | m :d :l<sub>1</sub> | t<sub>1</sub>.t<sub>1</sub>:t<sub>1</sub> :- | m :d :l<sub>1</sub> | heir?
                                                                 I will, said Little John, when he is
                                                                                                                                                                                    pp CHORUS.
         C { | m :s .,m | f :s .,t | m' :r' .,t | d' .m :t .,l } brave and the fair will be | sigh - ing and sobbing, When they }
       pp CHORUS.
            \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{r} & .\mathbf{r} & :\mathbf{s}_1 & :- & |\mathbf{m} & :\mathbf{l}_1 & :\mathbf{t}_1 & |\mathbf{d} & :- & :^{\mathbf{d}}\mathbf{s} & .,\mathbf{s} \\ \text{car-ry on,} & & & & | \text{l'il} & | \text{lead his} & | \text{band.} & & | \text{All the} \end{vmatrix} 
   C { | m :s .,m | f :s .,t | m' :r' .,t | d' .m :t .,l } brave and the fair will be | sigh - ing and sobbing, When they }
                                                                                                                                                          ALL.
                                                                                                                                                s.d.f.E . (C minor.)
     { |s :t .,1 |s :d |r :m |r .d :- 3 || sm :d :r | hear of the death of | poor old | Robin. | S.d.1.E p. (C minor.)
                                                         HUMPTY DUMPTY.
    pp CHORUS.
       |f .m :r :- |m :m :re |m :- C.t.m.l. | cholds. | C.t.m.l. | cholds. | cholds
       m :s .,m |f :s .,t |m' :r' .,t |d' .m :t .,l }
brave and the fair will be sigh - ing and sobbing, When they
        s :t .,l |s :d |r :m |r .d :- hear of the death of poor old Rob-in.
(During the last chorus they all march round ROBIN
                 Hood in a mournful procession.)
```



Humpty Dumpty (giving the rose to Maid Marian). Quick! Pin the rose in Robin's coat. (Maid Marian obeys.)

Robin (kissing her hand).

Dear heart,

Look not so grieved, although we have to part. 'Tis sweet to live, but not so hard to die.

HUMPTY DUMPTY (aside).

The King relents. Mark you his wavering eye. (King walks restlessly up and down.)

Lettice (stretching out her arms towards Robin).
I love you, dearest Robin; so does Joan.

MAID MARIAN.

But, Robin, I'm your sweetheart—

Robin (putting his arm round her).

You alone!

Joan (sobbing).
Oh, don't say that! You'll break my heart!

KING (aside).

And I

Feel I should like to break my word. But why—Why am I drawn towards this robber chief?

HUMPTY DUMPTY (aside).

The spell is working. Ah! what a relief!
(King walks to the right, with a dreamy, far-away look on his face.)

KING.

I thought he was a villain; now he seems Some gallant hero of my boyish dreams.

(Passing his hand across his eyes.)

Yet, I'm not dreaming. What has wrought this change?

My mind is all confused. 'Tis passing strange.

(Remains by himself, lost in thought. Friar Tuck and LITTLE JOHN draw ROBIN HOOD away from MAID MARIAN.)

FRIAR TUCK.

Rather than live without you, Robin, we Will ask to die in your sweet company.

HUMPTY DUMPTY (sobbing).

I always liked myself the best before, But, after all, I think I love him more!

Robin (looking puzzled).

It's very odd. What makes them all so kind?

KING.

The only explanation I can find Is that your friend, the Fairy of the Well, Has cast o'er all of us some magic spell. 'Tis strange indeed; but I've no heart to harm

you. (Taking MAID MARIAN'S hand.)
With angry threats I will no more alarm you.

(Looking round.)

A King's word is his bond, or so they say, But I, the King, am breaking mine to-day. If you love Robin—

ATT.

Yes, we do, we do!

KING.

Why, then, I love him quite as much as you. Too much to hang him up on yonder tree, Too much to grudge him life and liberty.

(Turning to Robin.) Reign once again, king of this fair green wood, I give you grace and pardon, Robin Hood.

FINALE.—SONG AND DANCE.

```
KEY G.
6
                                                                :m
8
        Two bars Instrumental.
                                                                So
                                                      JOAN.
                                                             1.
                                          HUMPTY DUMPTY.
                                                             2.
                                                                The
                                               FRIAR TUCK.
                                                               Well.
                  Ir
                             :f
                                   m
                                       :-
      :- .m :m
                        :m
                                                                : 17
         is the
                  end
                        of
                             our
                                   plot.
                                                                My
         of love
                        I
                             will
  rose
                  now
                                   take.
                                                                And
        there is
                                                               We've
                  no
                        more
                             to
                                   say,
                  11.
                             ed.
                                   r :-
    :- .m :r
                        :ti
                                                                :S1
       the King's tem - per
                             is
                                   hot.
                                                 FRIAR TUCK.
                                                                He's
  hearts by the doz - en
                             T'II
                                   break.
                                               MAID MARIAN.
                                                                I'd
                                                ROBIN HOOD. There's
  all been made hap - py
                             to -
                                   day.
  d :- .d :d
                 11,
                      :-
                             :1,
                                   r :- m :r
                                                   t.
                                                                :SI
  more civ - il
                             But
                now,
                                   dur -
                                         ing that
                                                   row.
                                                                T
  rath - er, would you,
                             Have
                                   one
                                          lov - er
                                                   true.
                                                                Who
  no - thing to
                             But
                  do
                                   dance the wood through,
                                                                As
                  If
  m : .f :s
                       :17
                             :r
                                   d :-
  thought he would hang
                        all
                             the
                                   lot.
  loved me for love's own sweet sake.
        is the
                end
                        of
                             our
                                  l play.
 ALL (while dancing).
 f. C.
                       |d| :- :s |1 :- :s
 |fd|:- :s |1 :- :s
                                              |d| :- :s
                                                          f :s
  For when court - iers have
                               the chance
                                              They
                                                      will join
  s :- :m |r :- :- |d| :- :s |1 :- :s
                                              |d' :-
                                                      : 8
 coun - try dance.
                        Round the May - pole let
                                                          fly,
                                                      us
   :- :r' |s :- :t
                        |r :- :1 |s :- :- |d' :-
                                                      :d'
 Quick - er, quick - er,
                        don't
                               be
                                  shy-
                                              May - day comes
                        |d' :-
                               :d1
                                  |t :d' :r' |d' :-
            8 :- :-
                                                      :m1
                        Mer - ri - ly
            year,
                                                      it
                                                         here.
                                          we
                                              greet
                  di
            :d1
                        :S
                             :m
                                    8
                                              :1
                                                    S
            try
                  lads
                              and
                                   court
                                               ly
                                                    throng.
            :1
                        :fe
                  18
                                    r
       :t
                             :8
                                               :d'
                                                     ld
                                         :-
                  join
  Come
            and
                                    May -
                              our
                                              day
                                                     song.
```

CURTAIN.





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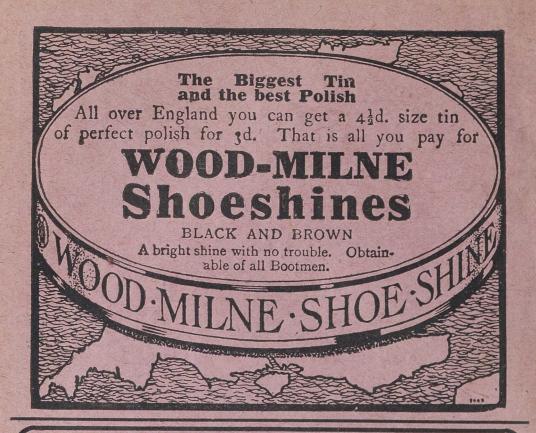
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