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# CHIPS AND QUIDDITS ES FOR THE QURIOUS










James Harkness Wall,

from  
Sister Jennie.

just between Dec 31/07 & 1/1/08

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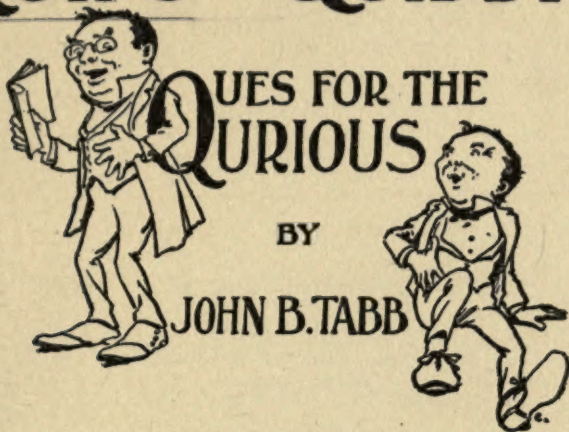
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# QUIPS AND QUIDDITS



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1907

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PS  
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*To my cousin and namesake,*  
JOHN TABB HEYWARD,  
*and to all who at any time have been*  
*my sons in Christ.*



A few verses by way of introduction, in which the author gets even with his critics, his publishers, and those who trifle with his name—from which latter failing he himself does not seem exempt!

HIS PRESENT PUBLISHERS.



## Quips and Quiddits

---

Mr. John Lane, of London, publishes, along with my Poems, the Poems of Lord de Tabley; hence

### A COINCIDENCE

**T**HE latest news  
About the mews!  
Lord Tabley  
And John Tabb, B.  
Lift up their strain  
In the self-same Lane.  
Alas!—but that's  
The way with cats.

### ON THE COVER OF JOHN B. TABB'S LATE LONDON VOLUME

**H**IS eyes are dim;  
And so for him,  
They thought in London, 'twas enough  
To bind his book in blind-man's buff.

## Quips and Quiddits

---

### A STRONG DOSE

**I**F brevity be soul of wit,  
The Boston wag discovered it  
In saying that my verse fulfils  
For him the purposes of pills.

### TO AN ANTE-MORTEM UNDERTAKER WHO EMBALMS ME IN VERSE

**I**F I were dead  
And yet had read  
The praise you have applied,  
Methinks I'd be  
More speedily  
A body mortified.  
And would that now  
I might avow  
A spirit quite becalmed;  
But, truth to tell,  
I seem to smell  
The thing you have embalmed.



## Quips and Quiddits

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TO MR. ANDREW LANG, WHO SPELLED  
MY NAME 'TAB'

**O** WHY should Old Lang Sign  
A compliment to me  
(If it indeed is mine),  
And filch my final b?  
To him, as to the Dane  
In his soliloquy,  
This question comes again,—  
"2 b or not 2 b?"

### CATNIP

**T**HE *Critic* did not like the food,  
But found it stale and flabby;  
Yet strange to say, no other chewed  
So hard the hapless Tabby.

It had a poet of its own,  
But undertook to gild her—  
A thing, as well they might have known,  
That ultimately killed her.

## Quips and Quiddits

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And such had been poor Tabby's fate  
But that some power divine  
Led it by underestimate  
To take one life for nine.

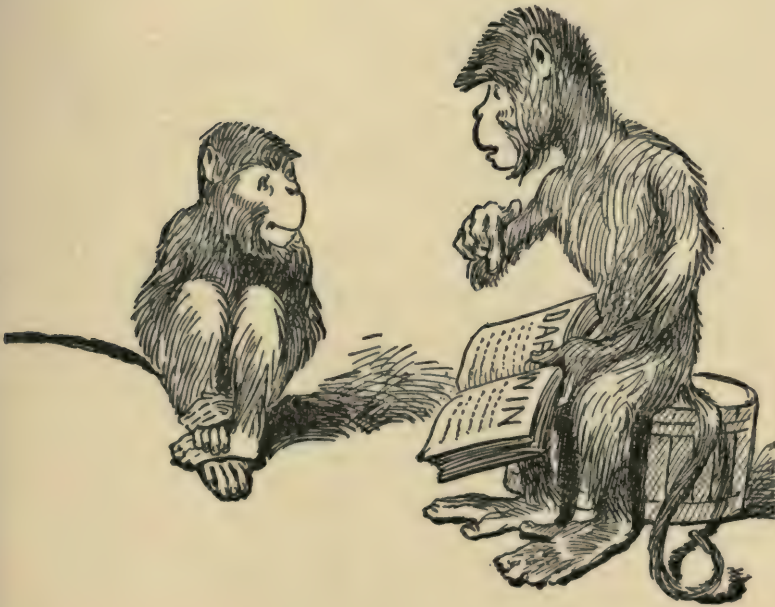
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QUIPS AND QUIDDITS



AN OBJECTOR

"SOME folk," the Monkey says, "there be  
That claim descent from mine and me;  
But I respectfully decline  
Such compliments to me and mine."

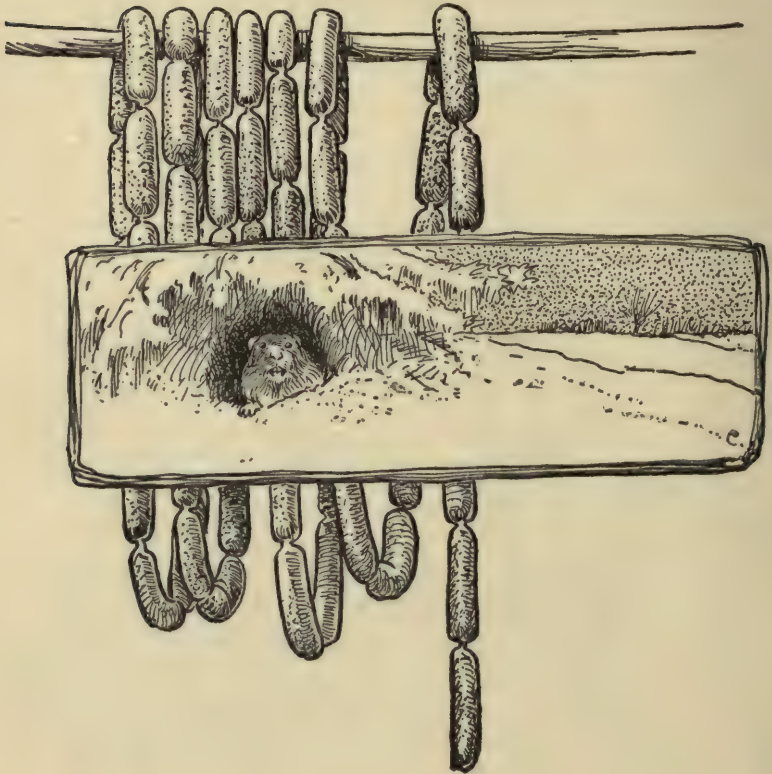


## Quips and Quiddits

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### IN CHICAGO

**O**F forthcoming weather no prophet have they,  
For the ground hog is there to be seen every  
day.



Quips and Quiddits

---

INGERSOLL'S DILEMMA

**S**AYS Bob to the Devil, "I do not believe  
In the doctrine of hell—nor in you!"

Says the Devil to Bob, "You must, or be damned!"

Says Bob, "I'll be damned if I do!"

---

Quips and Quiddits

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QUEEN BESS

**O**R praise or obloquy is hers,  
As history has viewed her  
To some a 1-der she appears,  
To others but a 2-dor.

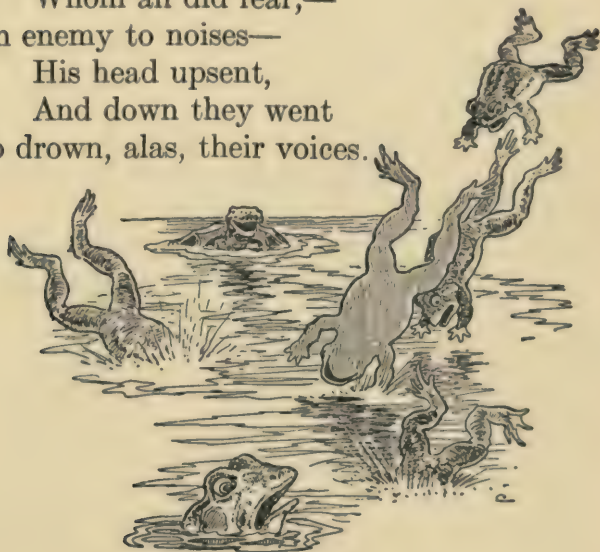
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A DISCONCERTED CONCERT

**B**ULL father frog  
Was on the log,  
While many a little fellow  
Around the pool  
Upon his stool  
Sat learning how to bellow.

A turtle near,  
Whom all did fear,—  
An enemy to noises—  
His head upsent,  
And down they went  
To drown, alas, their voices.



Quips and Quiddits

---

WOOL-GATHERING

**O** BRIAR-BUSH! how beautiful!  
May I a little blossom pull  
For memory to keep?  
“To take it, sir,” she said, “you’re free;  
But know it didn’t bloom on me,—  
I got it from a sheep.”

---

## Quips and Quiddits

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### THE SECRET

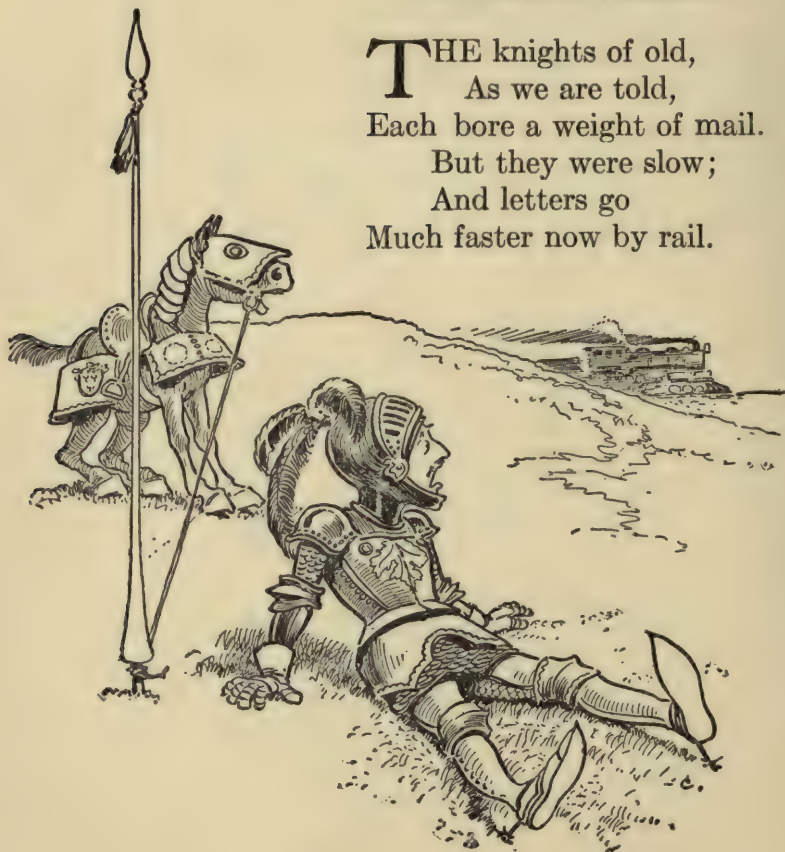
**T**O a Dimple said a Frown,  
“I would give you half a crown,  
To teach me how a compliment to win.”

To the Frown replied the Dimple,  
“Why the trick is very simple:—  
Dance on tiptoe all around the mouth and chin.”

---

AN IMPROVEMENT

THE knights of old,  
As we are told,  
Each bore a weight of mail.  
But they were slow;  
And letters go  
Much faster now by rail.



## Quips and Quiddits

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### CORN-COB

**Y**OU look, like Grandpa, very old;  
And that is why, no doubt,  
Your skin is shrivelled by the cold,  
And all your teeth are out.



Quips and Quiddits

---

THE YARDSTICK

**T**HE laziest of all things strong,  
The Yardstick seems to me,  
For, with three feet, twelve inches long,  
No step alone takes he.

---

## Quips and Quiddits

---

### THE SNORER

**A** LONG her slumber-shodden way  
The Nightmare goes cavorting;  
The rider sleeping, strange to say,  
In spite of all her snorting.  
He should, I think, for others' sake,  
Prevent her, if he's able,  
From keeping all the world awake,  
Or put her in the stable.



## Quips and Quiddits

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### WHAT'S IN A NAME?

**A** PIOUS prelate used to ride  
A donkey which, alas,—  
His patience being often tried—  
He called Eu-damid-as:—  
A name he emphasized or not,  
As grew his temper cool or hot.





## Quips and Quiddits

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### A PERPLEXITY

**I**N a piece of woollen cloth,  
Lived a maid and mother moth,  
But to both it was a bother,  
Which was moth and which was *mother*.

---

Quips and Quiddits

---

TROUBLED WATERS

**O** WATER, when I put you here,  
You were as smooth as oil;  
Why are you now so ruffled, dear?  
"I'm troubled with a boil."

---

## Quips and Quiddits

---

### A QUESTION OF TIME

**W**HEN Time was young, he must have had  
A lovely suit of hair,  
And it is very, very sad  
To see his skull so bare.  
But since he's able still to mow,  
And strong enough to dig,  
I wonder why he doesn't go  
And get himself a wig.

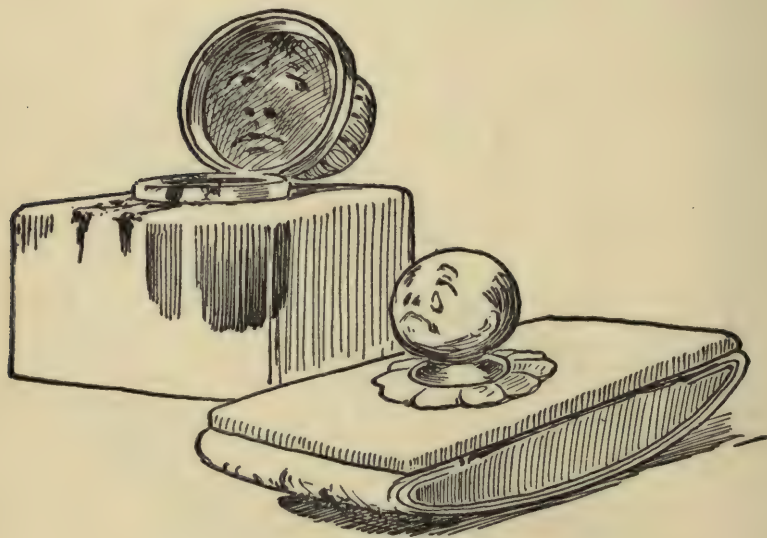


## Quips and Quiddits

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### AN INCUBUS

**S**OBBED the Blotter to the Ink,  
“Though your every word I drink,  
Your broken lines alone are my reward.”  
“The truth,” said he, “you’ve spoken;  
And no wonder they are broken  
When you press me so incessantly and hard.”



Quips and Quiddits

---

THE TUMBLE-BUG

**I**N Egypt of old  
You were sacred, I'm told;  
How fell you in man's estimation?  
"Each dog has his day,  
And each Bug, I dare say,  
Takes his turn with the rest of creation."

---

## Quips and Quiddits

---

### AN AVERSION

**T**HE apple-tree  
Is not to me  
A thing of special joy:  
It did deceive my mother Eve,  
And often pain her boy.  
And as to her,  
I must aver  
I've had a mind to chide her  
When, racked with pain,  
I've wished in vain  
My apples were in cider.

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## Quips and Quiddits

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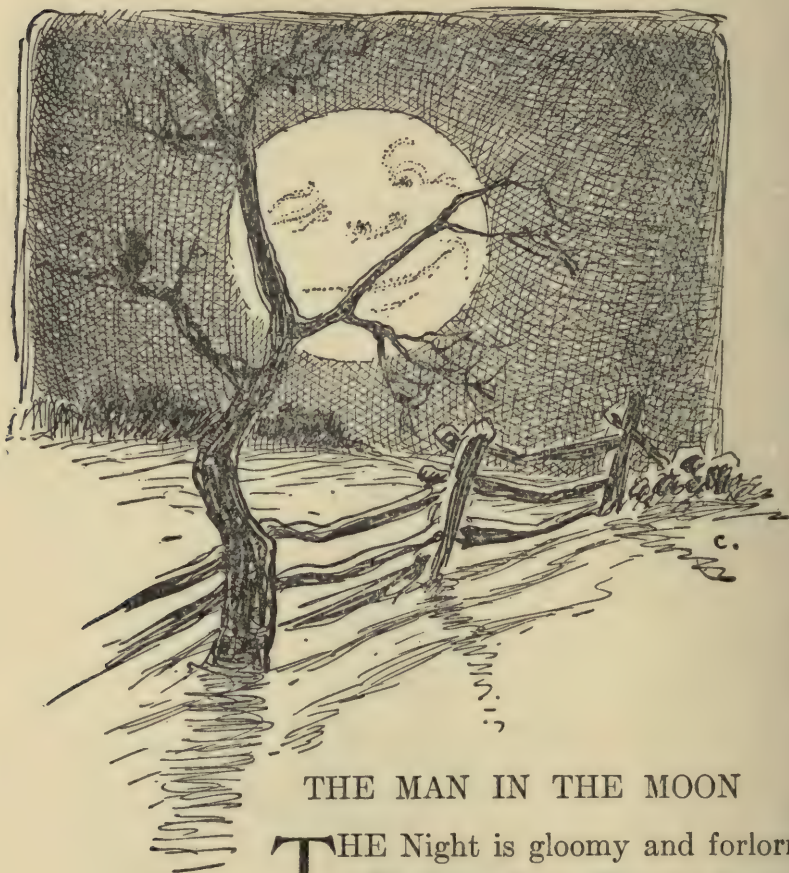
### A MIXED MARRIAGE

**S**AID Tom to Pussie, "Out of nine,  
Eight lives I'd give to make you mine."  
"Alas," said Pussie with a tear,  
"I'd not so long outlive you, dear!"  
Whereat, with plighting paw and purr,  
Nine lives to nine united were.



## Quips and Quiddits

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### THE MAN IN THE MOON

**T**HE Night is gloomy and forlorn  
Until her baby Moon is born,  
But long he does not stay;  
For, though he's very pale and slim,  
A fortnight makes a man of him,  
And then he goes away.



Quips and Quiddits

---

IN THE AUTHOR'S LIBRARY

**T**O see, when he is dead,  
The many books he read;  
And then again to note  
The many books he wrote—  
How some got in and some got out,  
'Tis very strange to think about.

---

## Quips and Quiddits

---

### POLITENESS

**T**HE Turtle met the Terrapin,  
And, as they were the closest kin,  
Each asked the other with a grin,  
To take his top off and come in.

---

## Quips and Quiddits

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### A MOUTHPIECE

**W**HY is the baby crying?  
You must have scared or hit him.  
“No, grandpa, I was trying  
If your false teeth would fit him.”

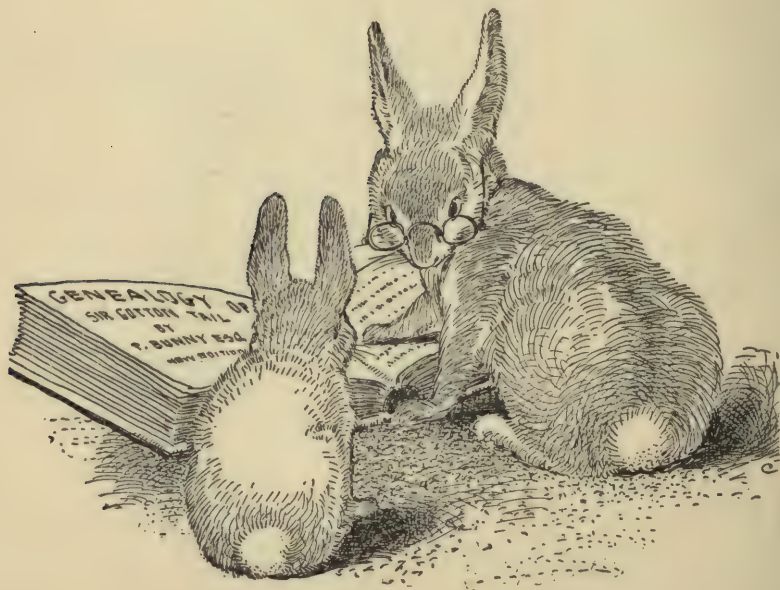


## Quips and Quiddits

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### OBSCURITY

**T**O his father said a bunny,  
“Don’t you find it rather funny  
That we know so very little of our race?”  
“What’s behind is a tradition,”  
Said the sire, “that tail-omission  
Makes it utterly impossible to trace.”



## Quips and Quiddits

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### PINCHBECK

**T**O jewels her taste did incline;  
But she had not a trinket to wear  
Till she slept after taking quinine,  
And awoke with a ring in each ear.

---

## Quips and Quiddits

---

### A SAINT'S INFIRMITY

**Y**OUR father's deafness—was it cured  
When he Saint Anthony implored?  
“No,” said the child, “’twas not to be:  
Saint Anthony was as deaf as he.”



## Quips and Quiddits

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### A MISTAKE

**H**OW have you the heart, O Bumble Bee,  
To sting a little boy like me?  
"Tis not the heart, my little friend,  
I'm using; but the other end."



Quips and Quiddits

---

FASCINATION

**A**MONG your many playmates here,  
Why is it that you all prefer  
Your little friend, my dear?

“Because, Mamma, tho’ hard we try,  
Not one of us can spit so high,  
And catch it in his ear.”

---



Quips and Quiddits

---

UNSTATIONARY STATIONERY

**T**HE Wax waxed hotter and hotter  
Till the Seal took his seat on her back,  
And the Pen wiped his foot on the Blotter,  
And laughed at them both from the Rack.

---

## Quips and Quiddits

---

### A RASH JUDGMENT

**H**E sat beside the well,  
And leaning o'er the brink,  
Down to the bottom fell  
And died, they thought, of drink.

But when they raised the trunk  
To dry it on the grass,  
They found the water drunk,  
But he quite sober was.

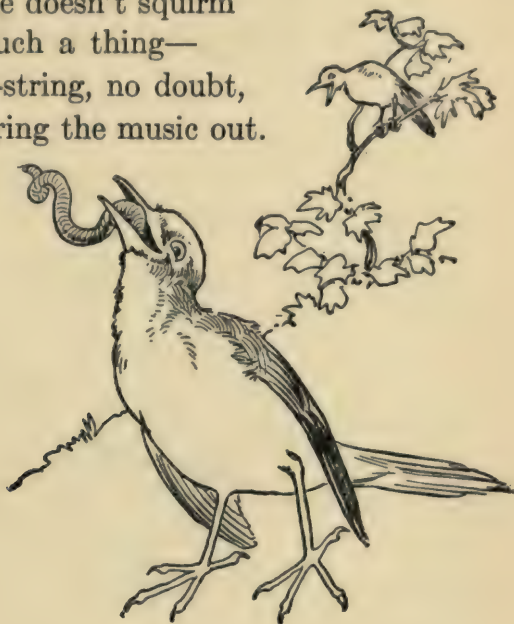
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## Quips and Quiddits

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### IN ACCORD

**T**HE Mocking-bird gulps down the worm  
And straight begins to sing.  
I wonder that he doesn't squirm  
To swallow such a thing—  
A sort of fiddle-string, no doubt,  
That helps to bring the music out.



## Quips and Quiddits

---

### FACIAL LATITUDE

**H**OW far the lip below the nose,  
'Tis very hard to say;  
But every indication shows  
It is miles, it's miles away.



## Quips and Quiddits

---

### A FOOT-RULE

**B**IPED, or Quadruped,  
Two feet or four:  
That's the standing rule of feet  
All the world o'er.

Two feet, or four feet,  
Never one or three.  
"Nay," said the Yard-stick,  
"Don't forget me!"

"Ho!" cried another voice,  
A one-foot thing,  
"I'm the Rule of Measurement;  
'Every inch a King.'"

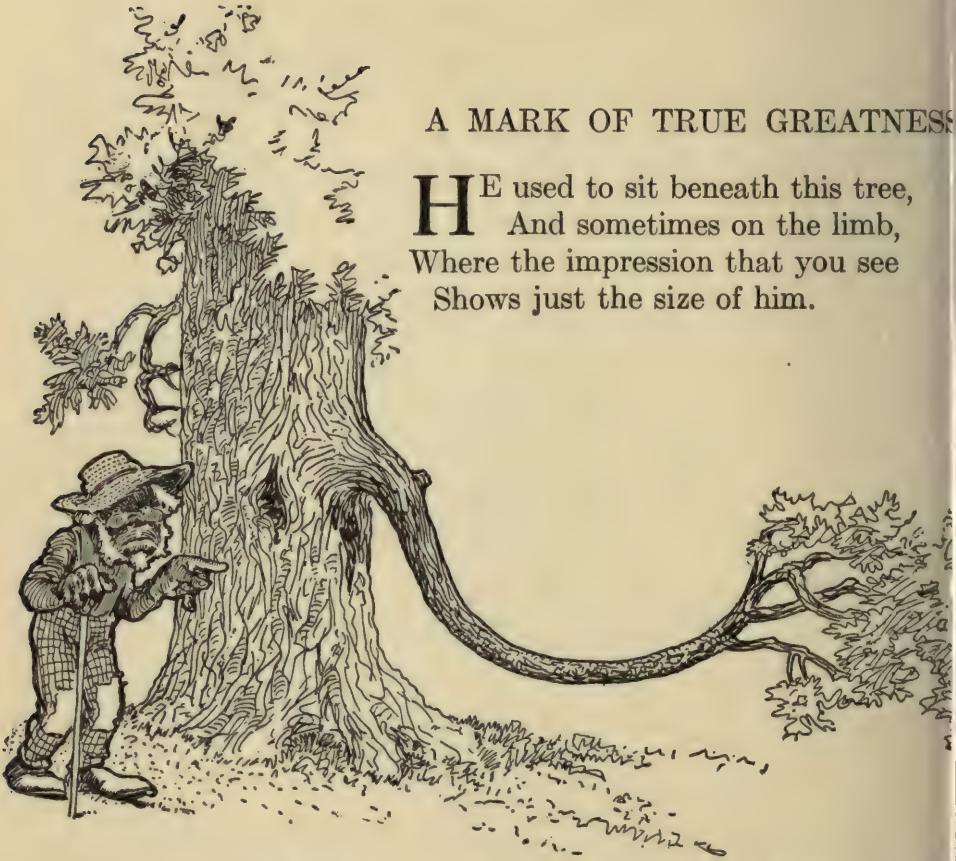
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## Quips and Quiddits

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### A MARK OF TRUE GREATNESS

**H**E used to sit beneath this tree,  
And sometimes on the limb,  
Where the impression that you see  
Shows just the size of him.



Washington's Tree at Doughoregan Manor, Howard County, Maryland.

## Quips and Quiddits

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### FROM ABROAD

**H**E wrote that through Finland,  
While journeying inland,  
The Fins, but no fishes he found.  
But in Lapland, he said,  
He was seldom misled  
For lapfuls of babies abound.

---

## Quips and Quiddits

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### THE TOAD

**A**T twilight from his dark abode  
Leaps forth the wart-besprinkled Toad:  
He does not like the day;  
Nor would we, either, if like him,  
We were repulsive, moist and grim,  
Be fond of self-display.

---



## Quips and Quiddits

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### A DIVERSION

“**H**OW doth the little busy bee  
Improve each shining hour?” Alas!  
I hope not as it came to pass  
When, of the hour forgetful, he  
Was busily “improving” me.



## Quips and Quiddits

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### THE HERMIT

“COME,” throbbed the Thumb  
To the other four Fingers,

“In a glove let us shove  
While the icicle lingers;

“Tho’ the weather together  
Keeps each near his own,  
In a small private stall  
I must winter alone.”



## Quips and Quiddits

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### A DEPRIVATION

**C**AN you, sweet roses, ever take  
A breath of other roses?  
“Alas, your nosegay we can make,  
But none of us have noses.”

---

## Quips and Quiddits

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### A HOUSE OF REFUGE

**A**LL down into their mother's throat  
The little sharks from danger float;  
And there it is that they remain  
Dry-sheltered when it comes to rain;  
For by sea-doctors they are told  
Fresh water's apt to give them cold.

---

UNDERSIZE

**T**HE flea a dog may bite  
And not again be bitten:  
The bee a bull may smite,  
And yet escape unsmitten.  
For stronger foes are put to flight  
By enemies too small to fight.



## Quips and Quiddits

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### A FOOT-NOTE

**F**ROM Bunyan *Pilgrim's Progress* came  
As essence from an onion;  
And, by reversion of the same,  
From pilgrim's progress,—bunion.



THE PRODIGAL

**H**ISSED the father, "Let him go!  
Though I very well do know  
That a gosling from the ganderdom let loose,  
Will, within another year,  
Make it manifestly clear  
That he has but grown to be a greater goose."

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## Quips and Quiddits

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### VALUATION

“**P**RAY tell me how you estimate  
The wolf,” I asked a lamb.

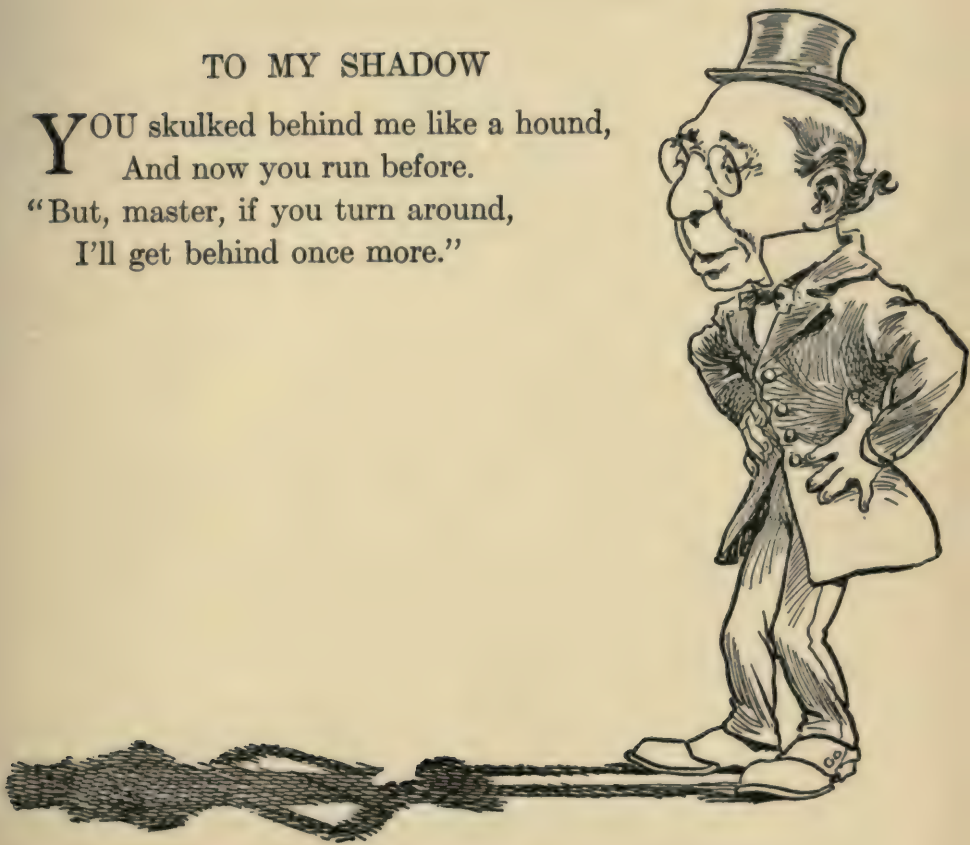
“My own opinion, sir, to state,  
He is not worth a dam.”

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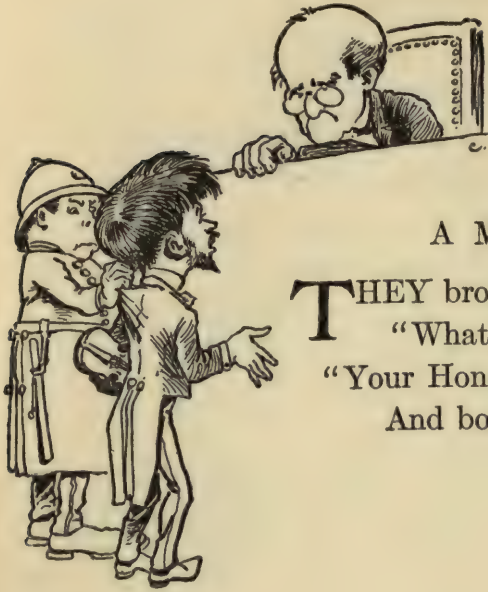
TO MY SHADOW

**Y**OU skulked behind me like a hound,  
And now you run before.  
“But, master, if you turn around,  
I’ll get behind once more.”



## Quips and Quiddits

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### A MUSICIAN'S TRIAL

THEY brought him up before the Judge.  
“What is the fellow’s crime?”  
“Your Honor, he has murdered Scores,  
And boasts of beating Time.”

## Quips and Quiddits

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### TREASURE-TROVES

“WHAT are you doing, Butterfly?”  
Inquired the Honey Bee.

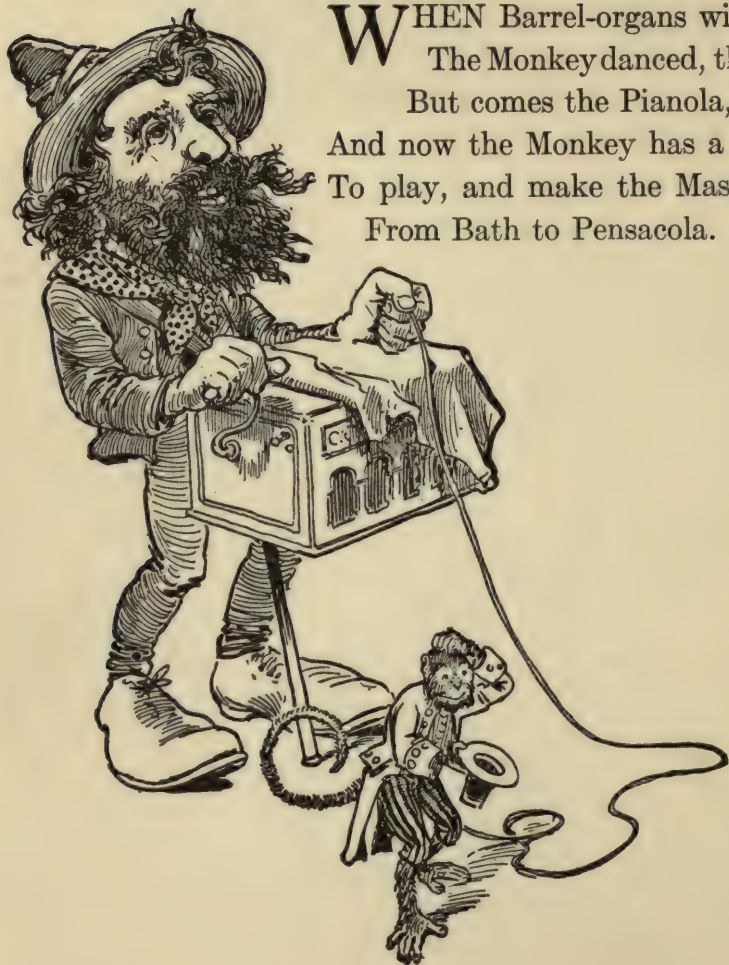
“You seem as fond of flowers as I,  
And yet I do not see  
What benefit you gain thereby.”

“Ah, gentle Sir,” said she,  
“Be yours the profit they supply,  
And mine the poetry.”

---

A CHANGE OF PARTS

**W**HEN Barrel-organs with us stayed,  
The Monkey danced, the Master playe  
But comes the Pianola,  
And now the Monkey has a chance  
To play, and make the Master dance,  
From Bath to Pensacola.



THE SANDPIPER

**O**F birds he is the most polite;  
For, be it foe or friend,  
To every one that comes in sight  
He bows at either end.

---

## Quips and Quiddits

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### HEAD-STRONG

**S**AID the Goat to the Ram,  
"Ring-leader I am  
Of this flock in whose pasture we run."  
Said the Ram with a strut,  
"We may prove it so—but—  
But—two heads are better than one."

Quips and Quiddits

---

THE MOUSE AND THE ELEPHANT

**I** TELL you, if you don't obey,  
I'll run right up your snout."

"Well, I will do whate'er you say—  
But, man alive! keep out."

---

## Quips and Quiddits

---

### HIGH-BORN

**S**O far her head above her feet  
That when the lady takes a seat  
The interval 'twixt hip and knee  
The length of Lapland seems to be.

---



## Quips and Quiddits

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### ACCOMMODATING

"SPARE, O spare me!" cried the Snail,  
As the Sparrow pounced upon it.

Then the other shook his tail—

"Sparrowed, would you? Well, I've done it!"



## Quips and Quiddits

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### A DISAGREEMENT

“YOU give me no rest,” growled the Patient.

“I cannot,” retorted the Pill.

“In your stomach to be

Is so dreadful to me

That I can't for a moment keep still.”



## Quips and Quiddits

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### A COMPENSATION

**A** SQUIRREL, while he sprang from tree to tree,

Cried to a skunk below, "Pray, look at me:

There's no such grace nor such agility

As mine, I tell you!"

"Nay, friend," the simple creature made reply,

"Thy gifts, forsooth, no mortal may deny;

But pray remember 'tis my boast that I

By far outsmell you."

---

## Quips and Quiddits

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### THE BROOK TO THE LAMB

**L**EAP across me, little lamb;  
But I can't invite your dam,  
Or it would at once, you know, prevent my flowing.

“O how different are we!”

Said the lamb, “for, as you see,  
My dam it is alone that keeps me going.”

---

## Quips and Quiddits

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### JUST THE REVERSE

"**Y**OU go to bed at twelve or one,  
And thus destroy your health, my son."

"No, sir," the boy said drowsily,  
"It's getting up that's killing me."

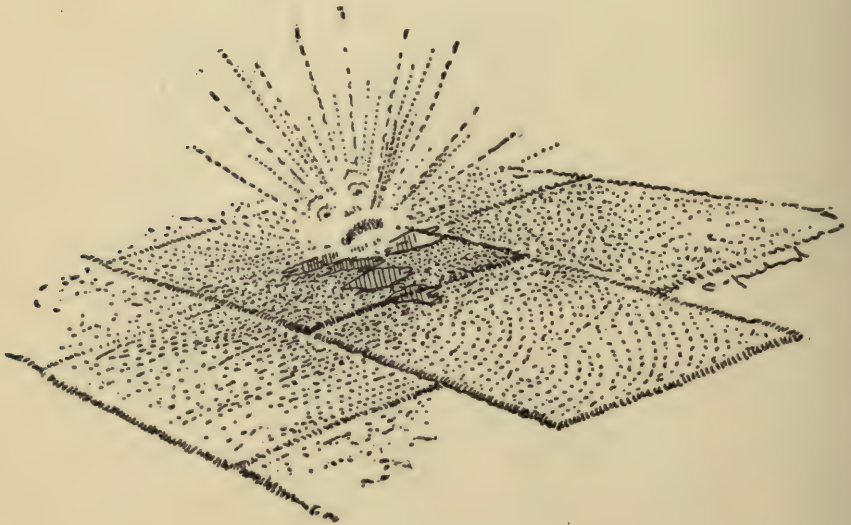


## Quips and Quiddits

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### EXIT

**S**AID a corpulent Bubble,  
“It is my great trouble,  
This shortness of breath to prevent;  
But folks over-stout  
Are advised to go out,  
So out shall I go,”—and she went.



SPRING CHIMNEYS

**T**O throats so long in misery  
Of thirst and parching pain,  
How welcome must each swallow be  
That now they take again!

---

## Quips and Quiddits

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### THE DIFFERENCE

**U**NC' SI, de Holy Bible say  
In speakin' of de jus',  
Dat he do fall seben times a day;  
Now how's de sinner wuss?

“Well, chile, de slip may come to all,  
But den de difference foller;  
For, ef you watch him when he fall,  
De jus' man do not waller.”





Quips and Quiddits

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A STING

“**M**EN speak,” said the Wasp, “of the provi-  
dent Ant,  
Because of her miserly taste;  
But greatly I wonder why see it they can’t,  
That we have as little to waist.”

---

## Quips and Quiddits

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### A WISH

**A**T night, I'd like to be a bird,  
In every sort of weather  
To go to bed and rise again  
And never change a feather;  
But in the morning, I'd prefer  
The life I now enjoy;  
For what would satisfy a bird  
Would never fill a boy.



Quips and Quiddits

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A BACHELOR HEN

**U**PON the nest she was a hen,  
But higher aims induced her  
To get upon the roost; and then  
She found herself a rooster.

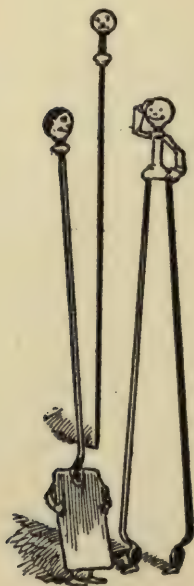
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## Quips and Quiddits

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### IRONY

“IT is one of Nature’s wrongs,”  
Sneered the Shovel to the Tongs,  
“To have led your legs so very far astray.”  
“Ah, she made us both in haste,”  
Observed the Tongs, “and from your waist,  
She has nicked your neck as far the other way.”  
What the Poker as a joker thought,  
He didn’t dare to say.



## Quips and Quiddits

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### A FAMILY FAILING

**S**NEEZED the Pepper, "Sister Salt  
Bids me say 'tis not her fault  
That she's out of place to-day;  
Turning, just below the Caster,  
She upset, and the disaster  
Holds her back in Mustard-plaster  
That she cannot scrape away."  
"That trick of turning round she got,"  
Said Vinegar, "from Mrs. Lot."

---

## Quips and Quiddits

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### CHERRIES

**O** SHARE with us, bird in the tree  
The fruit you are taking alone!  
"You're welcome to half,"  
He chirped with a laugh,—  
And thereupon threw me a stone.



## Quips and Quiddits

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### WITH CHOLERA MORBUS

**I** AM so sick I'd like to be  
A clock, to have them open me  
And regulate the jerks,  
When on the pendulum a Pain  
Is riding forth and back again,  
And pulling at my works.



Quips and Quiddits

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DREAD OF JUSTICE

**S**IGHED Dumpling, "Do not put me, please,  
With Cabbage in the pot.

I don't object to boil with Peas;

But she, when she is hot,

Has such a smell that half you see,

Would certainly be laid on me."

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## Quips and Quiddits

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### A CATTLE PLAGUE

“**W**HAT ails you?” tenderly I spoke  
To a dejected calf.

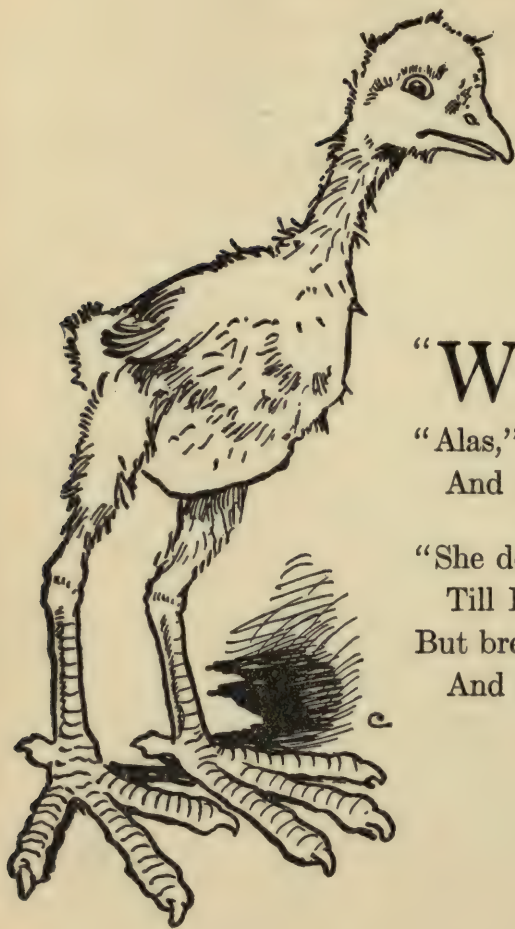
He answered, “At a killing joke

I’m dying, sir, to laugh.

They little know, who lightly jest,

The agony of fun suppressed.”

---



A FLEDGLING

“WHY is it, little chick,” I said  
“That you so ragged go?”  
“Alas,” he answered, “father’s dead  
And mother cannot sew.

“She does her very best to lay,  
Till I have learned to crow;  
But bread is rising every day,  
And eggs, alas, are low.”

Quips and Quiddits

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MR. DOOLITTLE'S EPITAPH

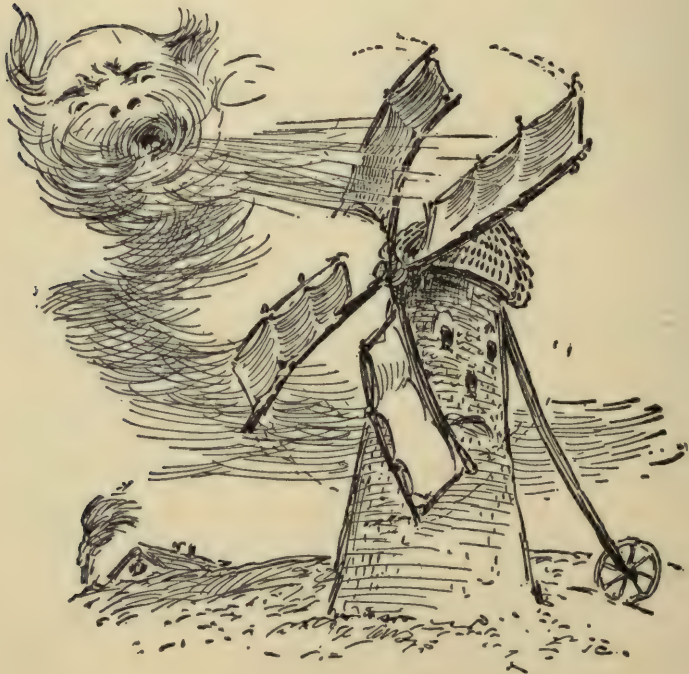
**D**O little he did, and so true to the call  
Was his life, that at last he did nothing at  
all.

---

TAMING THE SHREW

“TURN round,” puffed the Wind to the Mill.  
“I won’t!” she replied; and stood still.

But he struck her a blow  
That compelled her to go,  
And since then she submits to his will.



## Quips and Quiddits

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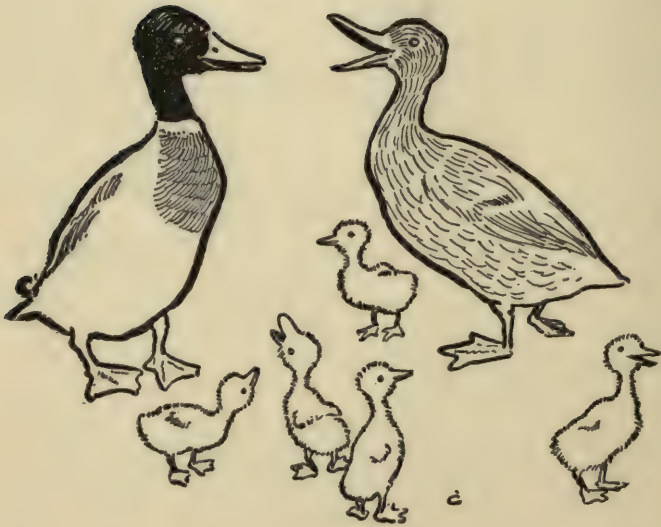
### THE SIGNAL

“**W**HERE are you going, Sleep?” I said.  
“To put a little boy to bed.  
I told him when he needed me,  
To nod; and nodding now is he.”

---

A DEDUCTION

“I CAN’T, for my life,”  
Quacked the Drake to his wife,  
“Tell which of our children are males.”  
Said the Duck with a smile,  
“We must wait for a while  
And observe which have curls in their tails.”



## Quips and Quiddits

---

### HEART-BROKEN

**T**HE Limbs beneath a cruel strain  
Were sobbing, "Heaven defend us!"  
Then, snapping suddenly in twain,  
They cried aloud, "Tree-mend-us!"

---

Quips and Quiddits

---

A BLIND MAN'S EPITAPH

**H**IS eyes were dim; so here he lies,  
Whose death came after his dim-ise.

---



EMETICS

WITH all the battles that he won  
That brought him world-renown,  
Imperious Napoleon  
Could never keep us down.



## Quips and Quiddits

---

### TO A PROPOSED INTERVIEWER

**A**N interview would be to me  
A sort of an emetic,  
Or an appendix to be cut  
Without the anæsthetic;

And why expose to public view  
A man's intestine features?  
'Tis outwardly alone we look  
Unlike our fellow-creatures.



## Quips and Quiddits

---

### FOREDOOMED

**O**F reprobates the beaver seems  
The saddest in creation,  
His every instinct kindling dreams  
To work for his dam-nation.

---

## Quips and Quiddits

---

### JUDICIOUS

“ I CANNOT kiss you, Ike,” she said.

“Why not?” he asked. Then hesitating,  
“Because,” she whispered, “I’ve the pledge—  
And juleps are intoxicating.”

---

INFATUATION

**E**ACH day at a dinner of State,  
His neighbors observed what he ate  
Was sufficient for three  
Less determined than he  
To be reckoned a person of weight.



Quips and Quiddits

---

NO STICKLERS

**T**OOHPICKS!—were ever sticks  
Less “stuck up” in their way!  
With upper teeth and those beneath  
On equal terms are they.

---

## Quips and Quiddits

---

### A TALE OF REVERSE, or THE REVERSE OF A TAIL

**T**HE dog that caught the mink  
Was strolling down the street,  
When, quicker than a wink,  
He chanced a maid to meet,  
Inhabiting the skin  
That once his victim wore;  
But, lo, beneath her chin  
The tail was now before!  
“Alas,” he sighed, “’tis passing strange  
How fashion with our fortunes change!”



## Quips and Quiddits

---

### SYMPATHY

**W**HY are you weeping, little lad?  
“Because (Boo-hoo!), it makes me sad  
To see my thumbs (Boo-hoo!) so far  
From where the other fingers are,—  
Boo-hoo! Boo-hoo!”





## Quips and Quiddits

---

### THE SENSITIVE LOBSTER

**H**E floundered from the breakers cool  
Into a boiling pot,  
Where, thinking some egregious fool  
Had made the water hot,—  
Ashamed of such stupidity,  
He blushed as red as red could be.

---

## Quips and Quiddits

---

### THE ROOT OF PRIDE

**O**F great-great-grandpapa, I know,  
My parents speak with pride;  
But what he did to make him so  
I never can decide.  
Perhaps, as sweet potatoes do,  
'Twas under ground so great he grew.



## Quips and Quiddits

---

### GOOD ADVICE

**T**HE Keyhole quarrelled with the Key  
Because he said agape was she  
To whispering suggestion;  
Then, each appealing to the Door,  
He counselled them to fight no more  
About an open question.

---

## Quips and Quiddits

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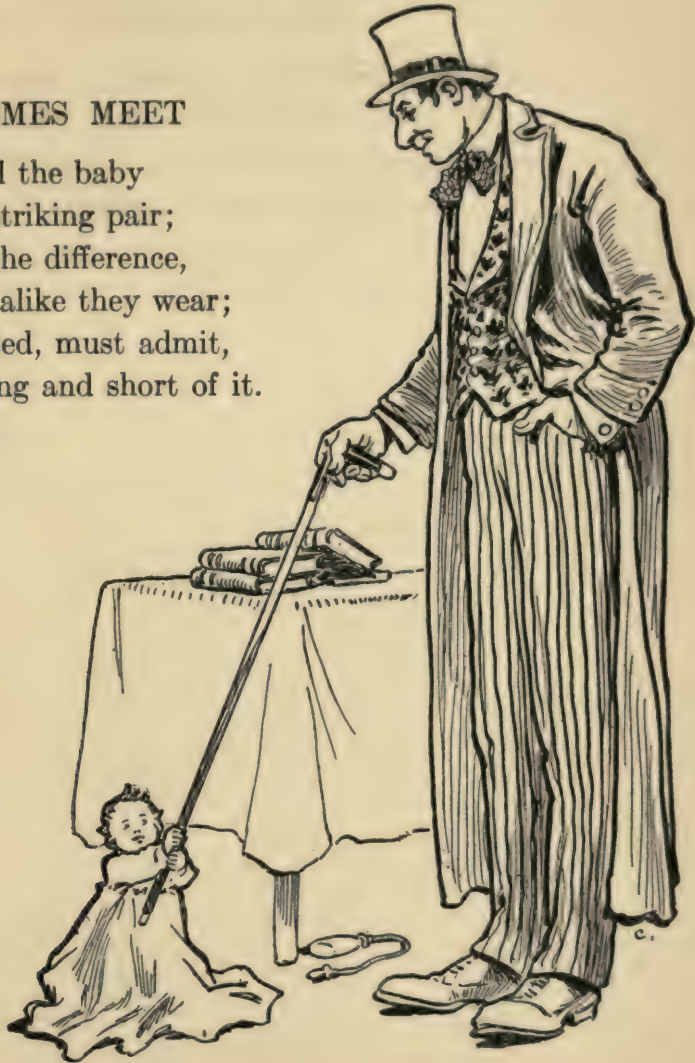
### THE RUN-A-WAY

**W**HERE are you going, little Rill?  
    "Alas, I cannot say!  
I leaped the fountain on the hill,  
    And ventured forth to play;  
And now it seems, against my will,  
    I am a run-a-way."

---

EXTREMES MEET

**T**HE giant and the baby  
Present a striking pair;  
Whatever else the difference,  
Long clothes alike they wear;  
While Life, diverted, must admit,  
They show the long and short of it.



## Quips and Quiddits

---

### CLOSE AS WAX

**T**HE miser met the Bumble Bee  
And asked a drop of honey.  
“My honey-bag’s as tight,” said she,  
“As are your bags of money.”

---

A PARADOX

**I** WISH the weather-cock would crow  
To let his fellow chickens know  
That weather fair's for maids and men,  
Fowl weather is for cock and hen.

---

## Quips and Quiddits

---

### A(N)ICE DISTINCTION

'TIS hard for some skaters to stand; but for all,  
Though it's easy to slip, it is harder to fall.





Quips and Quiddits

---

THE BLUEBIRD TO THE CANARY

**A**S you're a yellow little fellow,  
I hope you do not mean  
To come too near; for blending, dear,  
Would turn our feathers green.

---

## Quips and Quiddits

---

### COMPENSATION

**S**HE says of life's remaining joy,  
To her I am the anchor:  
'Tis meet; for when I was a boy,  
To me she was the spanker.



## Quips and Quiddits

---

### A THREAT

“**N**O; Wide-a-Wake,” persisted Sleep,  
    “I’ll not come near you till you keep  
    As quiet as a mouse;  
And if you stretch your eyelids so,  
To see if I am here or no,  
    I’ll have to quit the house.”

---

## Quips and Quiddits

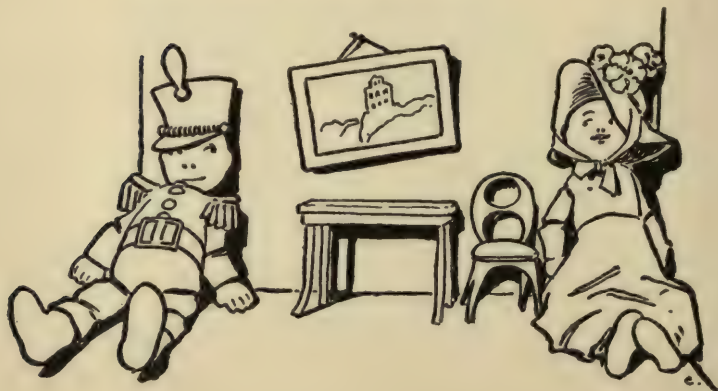
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### A TRAGEDY

**H**IS padding was of sawdust,  
The little Soldier-man  
Who loved a light-haired lady Doll—  
A maiden stuffed with bran.

Their little hostess never knew  
That they had each a heart,  
But lodged them in the baby-house  
In corners far apart;

Till once, in curiosity,  
She pierced the Soldier-man,  
Ripped up the maiden Doll, and mixed  
The sawdust with the bran.



## Quips and Quiddits

---

### A RETORT

**T**HE Finger complained of the Toe,  
And said it was idle and slow;  
But it answered in scorn,  
"On each foot I grow corn;  
What on hand are you able to show?"

---

Quips and Quiddits

---

AN EXCUSE

UPON my soul,  
O wicked mole,  
I'll punish thy misdoing!  
"O pardon me!—  
I could not see  
The course I was pursuing."

---

SAUSAGE

**W**E are ground, but no more grounded  
In our family affairs:  
What is found, is so confounded  
That no Sausage longer cares  
To determine how or what he  
Owes the family of Pork,  
In the pens of Cincinnati,  
Of Chicago, or New York.



## Quips and Quiddits

---

### IN AMBUSH

“’**T**IS well,” the Goat, flea-bitten said,  
“You hide where Nature put you:  
For if you dared to show your head,  
By Gemini, I’d butt you!”

---



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