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ELDER'S BOOKS

FOR THE GAIETY
OF THE NATIONS

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For the Gaiety of the Nations

*Contributed
by a Western
Publisher...*



Paul Elder & Company
Van Ness Ave. cor. Bush St.
San Francisco

*Laughter is the daylight of
the soul, a smile is its twilight.*

Franklin

*Franklin's wit,
patriotism and
fiery sword the
occasion*

ON ONE occasion long after Washington's name had become familiar to all Europe, Benjamin Franklin dined with the English and French ambassadors, when several famous toasts were drunk. The British ambassador proposed: "England—the sun whose brightest beams enlighten and fructify the remotest corners of the earth!" Not to be outdone, the French ambassador gave as his toast: "France—the moon whose mild, steady and cheering rays are the delight of all nations, consoling them in darkness and making their dreariness beautiful!" Each wondered what Franklin could propose, but he was ready for the occasion, and gave: "George Washington—the Joshua who commanded the sun and moon to stand still, and they obeyed him!"

Harte

*She put them on
the wrong man*

BRET HARTE is so frequently complimented in England as the author of *LITTLE BREECHES* that he is almost sorry that Secretary John Hay ever wrote it. A gushing lady, who prided herself

IN LIGHTER VEIN

A Collection of Keen Anecdotes
and Rare Reminiscences of Well-
Known People

by JOHN DE MORGAN

*Wit is the lightning of the mind—
the cayenne of conversation—and the
salt of life.*

When John De Morgan struck his
lead IN LIGHTER VEIN, he struck a
mighty good prospect.

Mr. De Morgan loves to wander
among the forgotten trails of history,
literature and social life. Biographies
and letters of famous men and women,
of eccentric geniuses, raconteurs and
noted wits, have been his favorite
fields. While delving about he has
brought to light a rich and varied col-
lection of—not time-worn jests—but
rather the sparkling things that have
somehow escaped us hitherto: keen
witticisms, bright repartees, snappy bon mots, brilliant anecdotes, and
flashes of humor. One page twinkles with the epigrams of a well-known

prime minister, another scintillates with the
wit of a celebrated Irish comedian, on an-
other Mark Twain “compiles a pun” and
pokes fun at a Scotch lawyer. Elsewhere,
two keen stories are told at the expense of
Colonel Roosevelt, Dickens contributes a
humorous letter to an eccentric clockmaker,
and Artemus Ward, upon his death bed, per-
petrates his last great jest. From cover to
cover the book is packed with unique per-
sonalities and delightful reminiscences.

Bound in strong blue fabric. Gilt top.
*\$1.50 net. Postage, 12 cents. Library Edi-
tion. Bound in rich brown New Zealand
roan, leather-lined. Gilt top. Boxed. *\$3.50
net. Postage, 14 cents.



Frontispiece by Merle Johnson to IN LIGHTER VEIN

IN LIGHTER VEIN



A Jolly Cover Design

A BALL OF YARN

Its Unwinding by ROBERT RUDD WHITING



An Initial from
"The Yarn of the Two-Tailed
Pointer"

This BALL OF YARN is composed of four skeins of three yarns each, and each a *hummer*. These yarns are so strung together and so ingeniously interwoven with snappy dialogue that once the reader catches hold either of the thread of discourse or of the yarn itself, he is carried on, willy-nilly, to the ultimate end, hopelessly enmeshed and helpless with suppressed laughter.

Others have yarned before: Ananias, Sapphira, Munchausen, Mark Twain and a host of others — some entertainingly, others painstakingly, still others exasperatingly. But when Whiting knits his brow, thoughtfully plucks at

a stray raveling from up his sleeve and proceeds to reel off a skein or two, one feels a certain awe — the kind of feeling that gets into your system when you stand in the presence of an Egyptian pyramid, a Persian monolith, a California giant sequoia. This is no common liar. Here is no cheap charlatan. This is he — it *must* be he — the lineal descendant of the man who invented the Jonah story!

The Yarn of the Breathbound Village, The Yarn of the Brawny Batsman, The Yarn of the Sinner Stung, are not yarns to make you yawn but yarns to make you yearn for more.

When you are blue with care, red with anger, green with envy, or purple with rage, you will be sure to find some yarn of a cheering and lively color here.

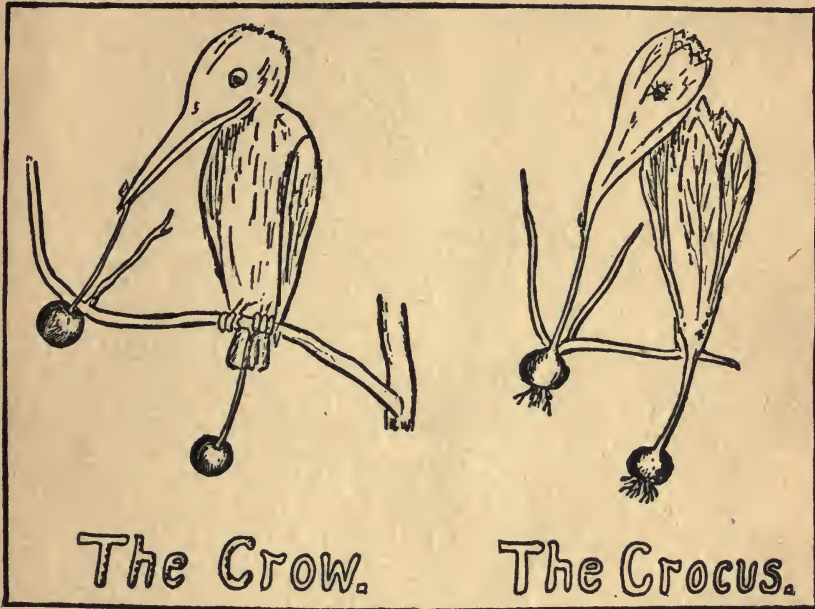
Illustrated and decorated by Merle Johnson. Bound in Oriental Yarn Yellow boards. 75 cents net. Postage, 6 cents.



From "The Yarn of the Inventive Vamp"

HOW TO TELL THE BIRDS FROM THE FLOWERS

A Manual of Flornithology for Beginners by ROBERT W. WOOD



One of the many annoying homologies graphically sketched by Professor Wood

Professor Wood of Johns Hopkins University, author of "Fluorescence and Magnetic Rotation Spectra of Sodium Vapor and Their Analysis," might claim close affinity to Lewis Carroll, the profound mathematician and creator of the inimitable *Alice in Wonderland* drolleries. Nature students who have hitherto been unable to differentiate between such homologous species as the Crow and the Crocus, the Parrot and the Carrot, the Cow-bird and the Cowslip, will hail this little volume with shouts of joy. Though, "*Very few can tell the Toucan from the Pecan — here's a new plan!*" While the author's high standing in the scientific world places him beyond such attacks as have been directed against other nature writers, his drawings, though clever, are subject to criticism. Sometimes we even have the uncomfortable feeling that he is poking fun at us.

Bound in blue School-book boards. 50 cents net. Postage, 4 cents.
In Cat-bird cambric. 75 cents net. Postage, 4 cents.

BETEL NUTS

WHAT "THEY SAY" IN HINDUSTAN

Interpreted and Rhymed in English by ARTHUR GUITERMAN

*Here's Frolic Truth in Oriental guise;
A verse may find him who a sermon flies.*



A Cover Design by Will Jenkins

A meaty little book—full of Betel Nuts cracked and hulled, ready for chewing, and, if you will, even digesting.

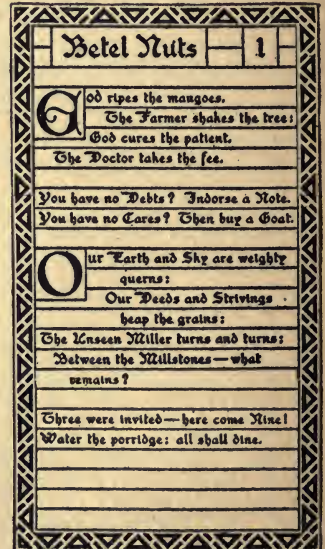
These "nuts" are piquant and pungent proverbs of the Orient. More than mere proverbs—they are really shrewd condensations of stories illustrative of life in India. As the Betel Nut—the chewing-gum of the Orient—spices the breath and reddens the lips of the native, so do these folk-words and jest-rhymes, leaping from mouth to mouth in the gossip of the bazaars, give spice and color to the native speech. They are naturally far more lively than the prov-

erbs of the West, for they are of the living speech of the people; the Hindu is gifted with a free and picturesque fancy and his tongue is a scabbardless sword; and yet, different as they are, they show that the "unfathomable Oriental mind" grasps the facts of life in much the same way as the American or European intellect.

This collection consists of typical sayings,—wise, witty, sarcastic, passionate and sentimental,—from every quarter of the great Empire of Hindustan, rhymed in English couplets and quatrains with skill that has preserved the full spiciness of the originals.

*Forbear to kill him for the sake
Of all the Widows thou wouldst make!*

A pictorial frontispiece in color has been done by Will Jenkins. The typography conceived in East India style is most distinctive. Printed in deep tan-brown. Bound in Betel Nut buff boards and red silk fiber. 75 cents net. Postage, 5 cents.



A Page of Distinctive Typography

THE QUITE NEW CYNIC'S CALENDAR *for* 1908

by

ETHEL WATTS-MUMFORD GRANT
OLIVER HERFORD
and ADDISON MIZNER

With which is incorporated a Lexicon of Legal Phrases designed to enlighten the uninitiated, by ETHEL WATTS-MUMFORD GRANT.

The CYNIC'S CALENDAR FOR 1908 awaits your perusal.

Who would not be a Cynic, if the term applies to the genial, wise and whimsical outlook on life that this little book expresses in such trenchant form? Every epigram is a bit of bright silver, clean cut and fresh

coined
for 1908
use.



"Wade and found wanting"
From the CYNIC'S CALENDAR FOR 1908
Copyright, 1907

It's darkest before pawn.

It is perhaps safe to say that within recent years no booklet of diverting nonsense has been provocative of so much mirth and laughter as this Calendar of Revised Wisdom. This year's edition brings the total up to 150,000 copies. Just how many smiles and hearty laughs this figure represents might be difficult to estimate, but doubtless the book has amply fulfilled its mission as a joy pill and a sure antidote for the blues. Its appearance alone is enough to drive dull care away.

Profusely decorated and illustrated and printed throughout in green and black. Bound as formerly in a variety of gay ginghams. 75 cents net. Postage, 4 cents



"Better an empty house than an ill tenant"
From the CYNIC'S CALENDAR FOR 1908
Copyright, 1907

THE AUTO GUEST BOOK

Containing the Mobile Maxims of Punbad the Railer

ETHEL WATTS-MUMFORD GRANT and

RICHARD BUTLER GLAENZER

Responsible

As a fun-maker THE AUTO GUEST BOOK OF MOBILE MAXIMS rivals the "Cynic's Calendar" in spice and spontaneous gaiety. While conceived in the form of a log book for motorists, it will serve equally well as entertainer of the guest who waits while the machine is being fixed. It should be in the emergency kit of every touring-car.

If you own an amiable and diligent motor, you should recompense it with some desirable and appropriate gift. What better can be found than THE AUTO GUEST BOOK? If, unfortunately, you or your friends possess a cranky, unreliable machine, admonish the culprit by means of THE AUTO GUEST BOOK, which provides in publishable language unforgettable epigrams (and epithets) for the abuse of ill-tempered cars.

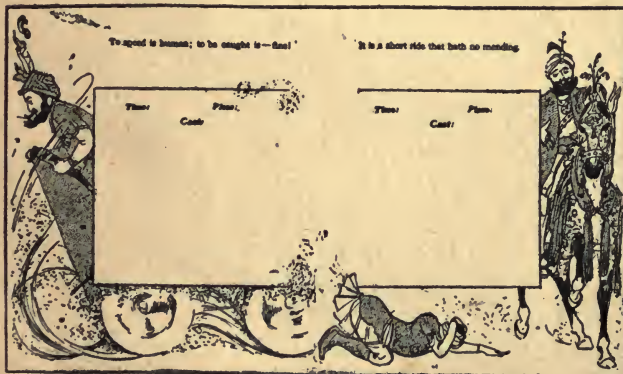
The color scheme of black and blue upon warm tan may be too suggestive of how one may look after a spill from a red devil, but it is decidedly attractive. Every genuine lover of the devil, the red devil, we

mean, will consider the day when he or she acquires the book a red-letter day.

Effectively bound in full rough linen boards, warranted to stand the jolting of the car. \$1.00 net. Postage, 10 cents. In red automobile leather. Boxed. \$3.00 net. Postage, 10 cents.



"So near and yet — Chauffeur!"



A double guest page ample enough to record all happenings —
bar profanity

A CENTURY OF MISQUOTATIONS

Disarranged by MARY B. DIMOND

A CENTURY OF MISQUOTATIONS, if truth must be told, is a triumph of audacity and cleverness, the author further being aided by a unique sense of humor. The scheme of the book is deliciously simple. One hundred familiar quotations are united in unholy wedlock with as many others.

*O woman, in our hours of ease,
Uncertain, coy, and hard to please,
But seen too oft, familiar with her face,
We first endure, then pity, then embrace.*

Mere cleverness could never have inspired the creation of this little book. It took nerve—just that.

Gaily printed in green and black and bound in Oriental colors. Boxed. 75 cents net. Postage, 3 cents. In yellow lambskin. Boxed. \$1.50 net. Postage, 3 cents.

THE MATRIMONIAL PRIMER

By V. B. AMES. With a Pictorial Matrimonial
Mathematics by GORDON ROSS

Don't give your husband a backcomb for a birthday present.

Here is an ideal gift for the married friend or the friend about to take the fatal plunge.

Arranged somewhat as a primer with many bits of elegant trifling in the way of catchy verse and epigrammatic prose, with an occasional pinch of good common sense, salted in, as for instance: *Absence may make the heart grow fonder; presents have been known to have the same effect.* A book to be read, quoted and thoroughly enjoyed.

Supplemented in an unusual manner with decorations and illustrations in two colors by Gordon Ross. Bound in dainty fabric. 75 cents net. Postage, 5 cents.



Multiplication

From the MATRIMONIAL PRIMER
Copyright, 1905

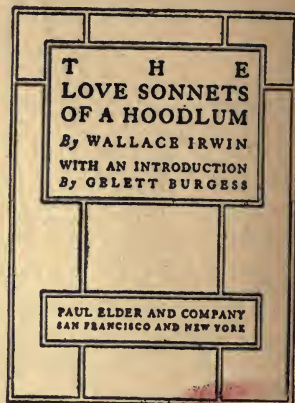
THE LOVE SONNETS OF A HOODLUM

A Sonnet Cycle Already Become Classic
By WALLACE IRWIN

With an Introduction by GELETT BURGESS

THE LOVE SONNETS OF A HOODLUM is notable in the many editions that have been called for, having had a wider circulation than the work of any contemporary writer of verse, however ambitious.

Printed and bound in chaste simplicity. 25 cents net. Postage, 4 cents. Bandanna Edition. 50 cents net. Postage, 5 cents.



A Chaste Title Page

THE RUBAIYAT OF OMAR KHAYYAM, JUNIOR

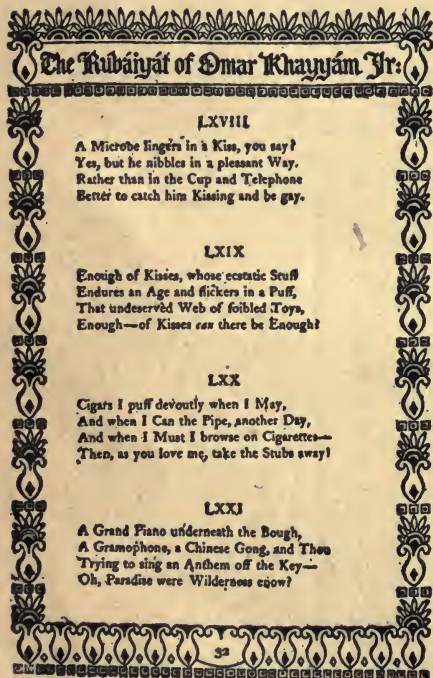
A Daring Poem
Much More Than a Parody
By WALLACE IRWIN

With a Scholarly Introduction
and Remarkable Illustrations by
Gelett Burgess.

Couched in the most exalted language. Mad with a surprising degree of sanity. A good part of the rubaiyat shows what a healthful form of wisdom nonsense may become.

Bound in yellow silk fiber. 50 cents net. Postage, 5 cents. Tobacchanalian Edition. Bound in brown burlap, extra. \$1.00 net. Postage, 10 cents.

Note—THE LOVE SONNETS OF A CAR CONDUCTOR, from the same author, now being published as a serial, will be brought out in book form next spring.



Quotable rubai from Irwin's OMAR JUNIOR

PROSIT: A Book of Toasts

Compiled by CLOTHO for the
Spinners' Club of San Francisco

Composed of bibulous lyrics and outbursts of Omarism from California, the land of the vine, and other genial sources. The contributors range all the way from Will Irwin down to Will Shakespeare, from Anacreon up to Gelett Burgess.

A book full of the spirit of the vine, touching all chords from wisdom to frivolity, poetry and sentiment to nonsense and satire, while many of the toasts are even a bit wicked.

Strongly bound in canvas, extra. *\$1.25 net. Postage, 8 cents. Omarian Edition. Bound in nut-brown Spanish leather, leather-lined. Boxed. *\$3.00 net. Postage, 10 cents.



A Frontispiece by Gordon Ross

Here's to the stein: "'Tis not so wide as a church door nor so deep as a well, but 'twill serve!'"

SOVEREIGN WOMAN VERSUS MERE MAN

A Medley of Pertinent Quotations. By JENNIE DAY HAINES

The evidence is not as one-sided as the title may suggest. Clever and famous writers are freely quoted without favor or prejudice: Marie Corelli, Zangwill, Hobbes, Emerson, Holmes, Voltaire, Disraeli and an abundance of others. A separate case is tried upon each double page. Spinsters, wives, widows and queens are arrayed against bachelors, husbands, widowers and kings, and even cooks and poets are heard from.

Delightfully decorated and with frontispiece in tone by Gordon Ross. Bound in heavy Rhinos. \$1.00 net. Postage, 6 cents. In flexible suede. Boxed. \$1.75 net. Postage, 8 cents.

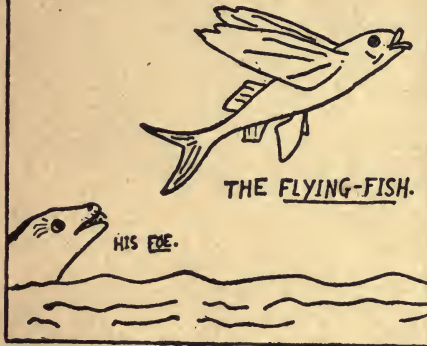


SOVEREIGN WOMAN VERSUS MERE MAN
A Cover Design by Gordon Ross

WONDERS OF THE DEEP

An Invaluable Aid to Young Naturalists. By JOHNNY JONES

THE FLYING-FISH HAS GAUZY WINGS,
AND WHEN HIS FOE HE SPIES
HE JUMPS RIGHT OUT OF WATER QUICK,
JUST SPREADS HIS WINGS, AND FLIES.



A lively member of the finny tribe sketched from life by JOHNNY JONES

A naive treatise on various finny folk and other denizens of the deep. Truthfully described in rhyme and completely illustrated. Some thirty creatures are subjected to a keen analysis by the youthful poet and nature student.

WONDERS OF THE DEEP lacks none of the cleverness and humor of its predecessor, the BOOK OF NATURE; moreover, there is something of an eerie charm about the book, a touch of deep-sea mystery, that is delightful.

Bound in Grasshopper Green. 25 cents net. Postage, 4 cents. School Edition. Covered with cambric by his Mother. 50 cents net. Postage, 5 cents.

BOOK OF NATURE

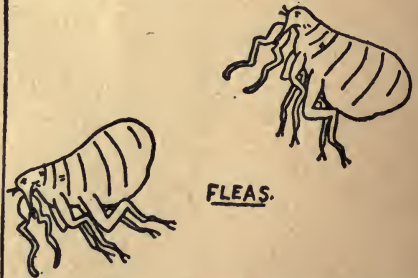
Faithful Sketches in Black and White with Impressions in Rhyme. By JOHNNY JONES. Spelling by his MOTHER.

A most important work on land zoology. An indispensable addition to every child's library.

*Mosquitoes drive you almost mad,
They come around at night;
When you're not asleep they buzz,
And when you are—they bite.*

Completely illustrated and bound in red Royal Melton. 25 cents net. Postage, 4 cents. School Edition. Covered with cambric from Mother's scrap-bag. 50 cents net. Postage, 5 cents.

THE THINGS I HATE THE MOST OF ALL
TO HAVE AROUND, ARE FLEAS,
THEY JUMP AND CRAWL ALL OVER YOU,
AND BITE YOU WHERE THEY PLEASE.



Other lively creatures also sketched from life—
with the aid of a magnifier

THE REMARKABLE ADVENTURES OF LITTLE BOY PIP

A Fascinating Story for Children
of all Ages

By PHILIP W. FRANCIS

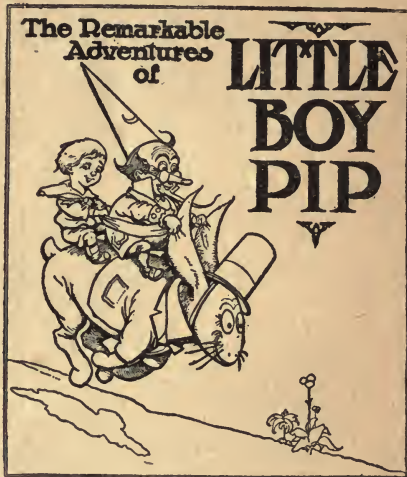
Relating the hazardous journey of a little lad over the meadow to the Place Where the Sky Comes Down and of his subsequent amazing adventures in the Enchanted Swamp upon an excursion personally conducted by our mutual friend the Welsh Rabbit.

A tale full of delicious thrills to make children squirm with delight and which will furnish almost as much amusement to grown-ups, recalling the strange adventures of *Alice in Wonderland*, yet full of a flavor that is most original.

One lively situation succeeds another in rapid fire order. Many quaint characters are introduced. The Welsh Rabbit is one of the most captivating creations to be met with in juvenile fiction,—or in any other place,—warranted not to make one dream o' nights or suffer anything worse than a hearty laugh. The animated Oomlout, the Haphazards (that may occur anywhere) and the Thing That Hides Behind the Door are fully as unique. Brisk and witty dialogue keeps the reader in a continual bubble of merriment.

Full-page illustrations in bright colors occur frequently, in addition to which, each page of text is enlivened by clever sketches of Boy Pip and his odd friends of the Enchanted Swamp, done by Merle Johnson.

This book is of ample dimensions, almost square in format. Unusually bound in broad-strip brown boards, buckram back. \$1.50 net. Postage, 13 cents.



Cover Design by MERLE JOHNSON

Off to the Enchanted Swamp on the back of
the Welsh Rabbit



The Oldest Tadpole



A Text Illustration

BLOTTENTOTS

AND HOW TO MAKE THEM



Frontispiece to BLOTTENTOTS

“‘Pass on, pass on!’ shouts the Protean
With a movement Delsartean.”

Raymond Carter. Bound in Chinese silver boards. 75 cents net. Postage, 4 cents.

A Jolly Book for Young Folks
With a Game Attached

By JOHN PROSPER CARMEL

*If you've never made a Blottentot
This book will help you quite a lot!*

Here is a whole menagerie of these startling, ludicrous, haphazard jackdandies, — the funniest that ever jumped out of paper, — a jolly jingle with each, and full instructions in rhyme for making others just as funny. Out with the ink-bottle, pen, some scraps of paper, and proceed forthwith, being careful to follow John Prosper's excellent advice.

Completely illustrated with real Blottentots. The verses hand lettered by

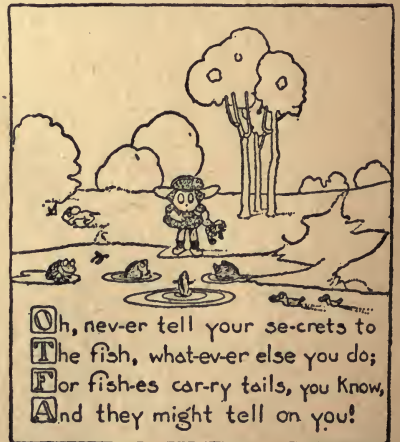
A CHILD'S BOOK OF ABRIDGED WISDOM

A Book of Exciting “Don'ts” by CHILDE HAROLD

Told in illustrated verse that sparkles with delicate humor — guaranteed to amuse.

It has been the author's intention, we believe, to admonish the Very Young against performing feats they would never dream of performing, thus awakening the imagination, and, at the same time, strengthening the character.

Bountifully illustrated and decorated within and without. Printed in gay, luminous colors. In binders' tar boards, extra, hinged with hemp. 75 cents net. Postage, 10 cents.



An exciting page from CHILDE HAROLD'S Book

TAKEN FROM GAIETY BOOKS
LISTED ON PRECEDING PAGES

United we stand it, divided we remarry.

How far that little scandal throws its beams ! So
shines a bad deed in the daily press.

Peace that passeth all understanding.—*The Hague
Conference.*

Indiscretion is the better part of pallor.

*From THE QUITE NEW CYNIC'S
CALENDAR FOR 1908.*

There are nagging women and profane men ; it is to
be hoped they will all marry each other.

Be entertaining to your husband or some other
woman will.

From THE MATRIMONIAL PRIMER

Tarry when chased ; ye may repent at seizure.

Though thou swear by thine auto seven times, the
eighth thou wilt swear at it ; that is Kismet.

*From THE AUTO GUEST BOOK OF
MOBILE MAXIMS*



O not worry;
eat three square
meals a day;
say your prayers;
be courteous to
your creditors; keep your
digestion good; exercise;
go slow, and go easy. May-
be there are other things
that your special case re-
quires to make you hap-
py, but, my friend, these I
reckon will give you a
good lift.

Abraham Lincoln



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Adapted from MINIATURE LEAFLET No. 1
Original printed in gold, red and black upon a folder
of toned bristol



