

Hour that afternoon, Miss Bear called on Theodore for his piece. Theodore Bear stood up and opened and closed his mouth several times without making a sound.

"That's very nice, Theodore," said Miss Bear. "Only it would be nicer if you said it out loud so that I could hear it."

"Yes'm," said Theodore.

"Thank you, Theodore," said Miss Bear. "Now right out loud."

"He doesn't know his piece," said Theodore's cousin Reginald, looking around from the blackboard where he had been relaxing himself by drawing a picture of a house.

"Of course he does, Reginald," said Miss Bear, playfully shaking at him the pointer she had been using for the arithmetic lesson. "Now, Theodore, we will try again. When I was a—"

"When I was a—" said Theodore.

"Baby," said Miss Bear.

"Baby," said Theodore.

"I can say it. I can say it," cried Tiny Tom, coming up to everyone's astonishment, through the hole his father had left in the schoolroom floor.

When I was a baby
I had a high chair,
But now I am older
I sit anywhere.
My Papa and Mamma
Are bigger than I,
But I'll be as big as
They are by and by.

EMMALINE AND SUSABET

Said Emmaline to Susabet
"Without undue parade,
The egg I've laid this morning
Is the best I've ever laid."

Said Susabet to Emmaline,
"Indeed that may be so.
You think it better than the egg
You laid two weeks ago?"

Said Emmaline to Susabet,
"That was an egg. But now
The egg I laid this morning
Is vaster yet I vow."

Said Susabet to Emmaline,
"That goes to show, I'm sure
One always may do better
Than one ever did before."

Said Emmaline to Susabet,
"The very best I do
Is nothing more, dear Susabet,
Than keeping up with you."

Said Susabet to Emmaline,
"I do my best. And then
I'm sure no more than that could be
Expected of a hen."

HOLIDAY JOKES

"If you eat any more, Billy, you'll burst!"

"Okay, Auntie. Pahss th' cakes an' stand clear."

Father: "What are you reading, Caroline?"

Caroline: "It's a novel, father—called 'The Heart of a Lonesome Girl.'"

Father: "The usual rubbish, I presume; the name sounds like it."

Caroline: "Yes, dad; it's a book you gave mother years ago."

An old Indian came to town one day, and for the first time he saw a man riding a bicycle.

"Huh!" he exclaimed. "White man heap lazy. Sits down to walk."

"Girls don't interest me. I think we men get along better by ourselves."

"Shake. I'm broke, too."

An inquisitive lady was always asking her minister questions. One day the persistent one asked: "Mr. —, can you please tell me the difference between cherubim and seraphim?"

The minister thought deeply for a minute or two, and then quietly replied: "Well, they had a difference, madam, but they have made it up."

Mrs. Justmarried: "Boo-hoo-hoo! You never seem to take the slightest interest in anything I do."

The Man: "Sweetheart, be reasonable. I lay awake a long time last night wondering what you had put in that cake."



Little Bertie, aged six, was taking a motor trip to South Africa with his parents. When they crossed the Vaal River he looked around and showed he was not well pleased.

"Don't you like the Transvaal?" his mother asked.

"It's all right," said Bertie, "but on my geography map it's red."

Jacky: Why does the baker put a crust round the loaf?

Cyril: Silly; if he didn't the crumbs would all fall out.

Peevish Child: Bo-hoo, I've got a pebble in my shoe.

Weary Father: Well, what are you crying for? Look at all the pebbles you haven't got in your shoe.

Why is a black hen more clever than a white one?—Because it can lay a white egg, but a white hen cannot lay a black one.

What is it that the more it dries the wetter it gets?—Towel.

Blows high, and blows low, got no feet, but yet wears shoes?—Dust.



TRICKS TO PLAY ON FRIENDS

NEEDLE DART

A GOOD trick can be performed with an ordinary needle. See that the point is sharp, and then ask one or two of the company to use this as a dart and throw it, say, from a point a yard away from the door so that it will stick in. However they may try they fail. Now ask for a piece of thread to be put through the needle so that they may be sure you will use the same needle and not put another in its place. From the same distance the needle is thrown by you and enters the target. The secret is that the thread enables the needle to act as an arrow.

HERE IS A TRICK that requires a bit of practice, and looks well, and that you can safely suggest should be imitated by your audience. Place a pile of coins on your elbow and then, by a quick motion, catch them in the palm of your hand. To do this the arm is extended in front of the body with the palm of the hand down. The elbow is turned so that the pile of coins can be placed on it. A quick swing down of the arm, with the palm well opened, will throw the coins into the hand, though the first few attempts may scatter them. Practise for a while until you perfect it.

A TEASER.

Take away one letter and I am the same.

Take away two letters and I am the same.

Take away three letters and I am the same.

Take away all my letters and I am the same.

It is advisable to seek a safe exit before telling your friends the answer, which is: The Postman.

HOLIDAY GAMES

A LEAP-FROG RACE.

FORM a circle. Number off in sevens (or any other number to suit the size of the party). Now every boy, except the number ones, bends down ready to be leap-frogged over. At the word "go!" the number ones leap-frog over the boys in front of them until they come to the open space left by the next number one. Here they stop and bend down, while the number twos jump up and do their turn. When they have reached their open spaces the number threes get to work. In this way every boy has six leaps at a time. The team wins which first gets its men back into their original order.

TING-A-LING!

HERE is a most enjoyable game that can be played either indoors or out. It is known as the Ting-a-ling game. One of the players is armed with a tiny bell which he rings at intervals.

Another player is blindfolded, and is given the task of catching the player with the bell. By varying the sound of the bell the first player can often trick the blindfolded player into believing that he is farther away from or nearer to him than is actually the case.