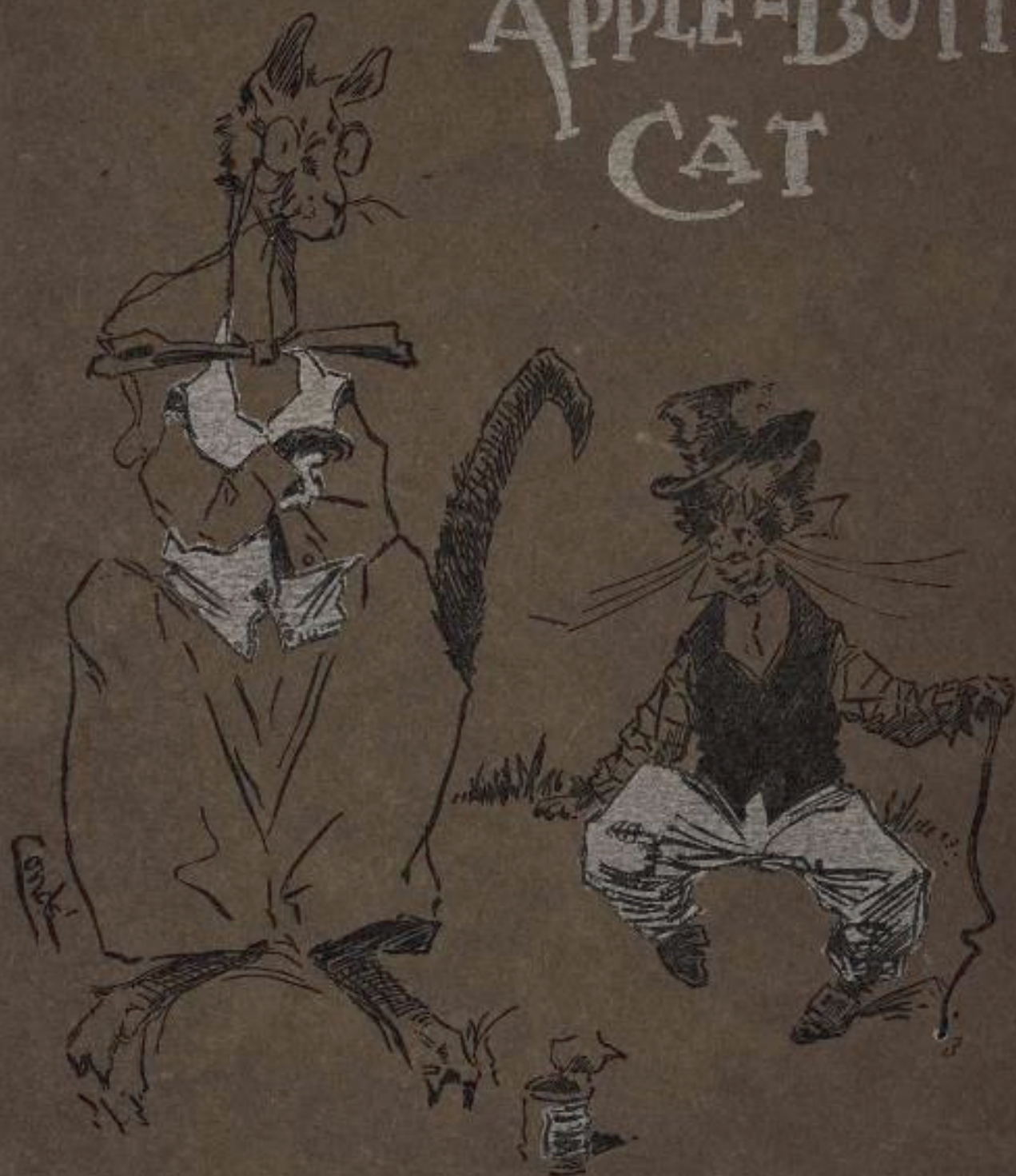


THE JUMPING KANGAROO AND THE APPLE-BUTTER CAT



The
JUMPING KANGAROO

and the
APPLE BUTTER CAT

By
JOHN W. HARRINGTON

Illustrated by
J. W. CONDÉ

NEW YORK
McCLURE, PHILLIPS & CO.

M C M

Copyright, 1900, by
McCLURE, PHILLIPS & CO.

To His Daughter
RUTH,
For Whose Entertainment
these pages
were originally written,
THE AUTHOR
Dedicates this Book

Table of Contents

I JUMPING JEHOSEPHAT

II YELLOW LION AND HEDGEHOG'S SCRIBBLING

III THE ANT'S AUNT GIVES A PICNIC

IV THEIR FAT FRIEND

V WHITE RABBIT'S CHEESE SCRUPLE

VI ABOUT THE APPLE BUTTER CAT

VII GRAY MOUSE'S RICH BROTHER

VIII AT THE CHURCH MOUSE'S CIRCUS

IX HOOT OWL INVENTS GOLF

X HOW UGLY DOG STOPPED THE CAR

XI SLY FOX GETS HIS PICTURE TAKEN

XII AT LITTLE MONKEY'S SWIMMING SCHOOL

I

JUMPING JEHOSEPHAT

Kerchug, the leap frog, was all the time jumping. He stood every morning on the edge of the pond where he lived, and said to all the birds in the trees above him: "Isn't it wonderful how I can jump?" Then all the birds would flap their wings and sing a song which began, "Isn't it a treat to see our leap frog jump so far?"

One day Kerchug made a great big jump into the middle of the pool, and then swam back to the stone from which he always made his jumps. He waited for the birds to flap their wings and to sing about his jumping, but not one of them took any notice of him. Instead of that, he found Carrier Pigeon roosting on a log near the pool and looking very solemn.

"Wasn't that a great jump?" asked Kerchug.

Carrier Pigeon shook his head, and took out from under his wing a little paper envelope, which he gave to Kerchug. Kerchug opened the letter and when he had looked at it he turned white under the chin.

"Read it to me, Carrier Pigeon," he said, "I've just come out of the water, and my goggles are so damp that I can hardly see anything."



SLY FOX STOPS KERCHUG FROM RUNNING AWAY

So Carrier Pigeon swelled out his chest and stood on one leg and held the paper in his right claw as he read:

"I can leap further and higher and better than anything which wears a speckled skin and goggles. If Kerchug is not a coward he will come away from the water and hop right out here in the wood and jump with me.

(Signed)

"Jumping Jehosophat."

"Are his legs as long as mine?" asked Kerchug, looking very hard at Carrier Pigeon.

"He had them curled under him when I saw him sitting in the woods," answered Carrier Pigeon, "and really I cannot say."

Kerchug, the leap frog, heard all the birds twittering and whispering, up in the trees. He thought they were all laughing at him, so he gulped and swallowed and then said that he was very glad indeed to see Carrier Pigeon and that it was a very fine morning.

"You might say to your friend," he added, "that I must have time to think this over, and you can come back in an hour."

"Very well," answered Carrier Pigeon, "I'll go back and tell him."



KERCHUG AND SLY FOX COME

When Carrier Pigeon had gone, Kerchug put everything which he had in a red bandana handkerchief and tied it up and put the bundle on the end of a stick, which he rested on his shoulder. Then he started for the bulrushes which grew along side of the pool. He had not gone very far before he met Sly Fox.

"Good morning, Kerchug, how is the jumping this morning?" asked Sly Fox.

"Not very good," answered Kerchug, "besides, I have found that it is not a very healthy place to live around here. The pool is so very damp, and you know that I cannot stand malaria, so I have decided to move."

"It seems to me," said Sly Fox, "that you had better wait until you have finished this affair with Jumping Jehosophat. I am surprised that you should be afraid to jump with such an awkward looking creature as he is."

"But I am afraid that he can go further than I can," replied Kerchug.

"Don't worry about that," answered Sly Fox, "you just leave that to me. You tell him that you will meet him to-morrow morning."

So Kerchug, the leap-frog, hid his bundle in the bulrushes and marched back to the stone in front of the pool and croaked for Carrier Pigeon to come back.

"Tell Jumping Jehosophat, whoever he is," said he, "that I'll meet him to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock under the old oak tree, and I will show him something about jumping."



JUMPING JEHOSEPHAT LEAPS ~~W~~ **H** ~~S~~ **T** ~~O~~ **N** ~~E~~

All the birds in the woods went the next morning to the old oak tree. The branches of the tree were so full of birds that some of them sagged way down. Under the tree the ground was all hard and smooth. Jumping Jehosophat was there waiting. He was certainly a queer animal. He had a great big body and a little bit of a head. His hind legs were long and strong and his front legs were no bigger than a rabbit's. As he stood up he was almost as tall as a man; his fur was gray and he had funny little eyes which twinkled as he talked. On his breast were at least a dozen medals for jumping. He folded his arms and hopped about on his hind legs.

"Birds in the tree," he said, "in me you see the great Jumping Jehosophat, the bounding kangaroo. Because I jump so high I got away from the circus. Now, then, where is that miserable little speckled green thing that thinks it can jump?"

Nobody spoke for a long time and then Sly Fox came out from behind the bushes, carrying a bulrush for a cane.

"Birds in the tree," said Sly Fox, "the great and only Kerchug, the only creature who is not afraid to leap both in the water and on the dry land, has just finished his test, and is now on his way to show how a truly great leap frog can jump."

"There he is!" screamed all the birds up in the tree. And, sure enough, there came Kerchug, all dressed up in green tights, with spangles all over them. Sly Fox, who had gone into the bushes to bring him out, came up behind him, carrying a great, big stone.

"With this e-nor-mous stone," said Sly Fox, "Kerchug has just leaped 100 times, so as to get ready for some real jumping. He will now wait until this poor and awkward creature here has a chance to do the same, so that you will all say that he has been fair."

"O, that is easy!" said Jumping Jehosophat.

So the bounding kangaroo took the big stone in his little arms and jumped up into the air 100 times.

"Now, then," said Sly Fox, "we shall have the pleasure of seeing who is the better jumper, Jumping Jehosophat, the bounding kangaroo, or my little friend here, who leaps as well on the dry land as in the wettest pool."

Then Kerchug made a great, big jump, and Sly Fox marked the place.

Jumping Jehosophat, who was all tired out and sore by leaping when he carried the big stone, could only make a little bit of a jump, and did not come within a foot of the place where Kerchug had leaped. He was so ashamed that he ran into the bushes and hid. So Kerchug, all covered with medals, went back to his pool, hand in hand with his friend, Sly Fox, and all the birds in the trees, as they flew away, cried out: "What a wonderful jumper is our little friend Kerchug, the leap-frog!"

YELLOW LION AND HEDGEHOG'S SCRIBBLING



YELLOW LION FINDS HEDGEHOG'S SCRIBBLING

II

YELLOW LION AND HEDGEHOG'S SCRIBBLING

Hedgehog was always scribbling. He sat at his desk in his house in the woods and wrote so much that he hardly stopped to eat his meals. He had quills stuck behind his ears, and whenever he thought of anything which would make any of the beasts angry, especially Yellow Lion, he wrote it down on a piece of birch bark. For ink he used pokeberry juice.

Yellow Lion awoke one morning and found a sign tacked to the door of his house with one of Hedgehog's quills. On the sign was written:

"Lion, you are a big, yellow animal."

"Who wrote that?" roared Yellow Lion. "I am no more of an animal than he is."

Everybody knows that Yellow Lion is very proud, for he is the king of beasts. So Yellow Lion went out and sharpened his claws on the trunk of a tree and started to get revenge for the name that he had been called. He had not gone very far before he saw another piece of bark tacked up to a tree with one of Hedgehog's quills. On it was written:



LITTLE MONKEY EXPLAINS.

"Lions, take notice. The quill is mightier than the claw."

Yellow Lion picked off the sign and shook it between his paws.

"The idea," he said. "This is an insult. Just let me find out who wrote that and there will be an awful time in this jungle."

He had only gone half a mile before he met Big Elephant.

“Elephant,” he roared; “whose writing is this?”

Big Elephant put on his glasses and picked up the piece of bark and looked at it very carefully.

“Sometimes,” he said, “I write in my sleep. You know, I used to write visiting cards with my feet, and since I stand up when I am asleep maybe I write a little without knowing it. I don’t remember this.”

“You are a foolish, old elephant,” roared Yellow Lion, and he bounded away so angrily that he could hardly see. He almost ran into Striped Tiger.

“Pardon me,” said Yellow Lion, for he had a great respect for Striped Tiger.

“Don’t mention it,” answered Striped Tiger, showing his white teeth. “What is this I hear about your mane?”

“Name,” replied Yellow Lion.

“O, well, it’s much the same,” purred Striped Tiger. “The same letters. You come with me and I’ll show you something that will make you feel very glad.”



HEDGEHOG WRITING AT HIS DESK

Striped Tiger winked at Big Elephant, who had just come up, and all three walked through the jungle. Striped Tiger led Yellow Lion to a large rock, on which was written:

"He has a mane which is rusty. He needs a haircut."

"This is too much," roared Yellow Lion.

"Ha! ha!" laughed somebody way up in the trees.

Yellow Lion looked up and saw Little Monkey swinging along the tree tops by his tail. Little Monkey had a cap on his head and a piece of birch bark and a quill under his arm.

"Come down!" roared Yellow Lion.

He talked so loud that Little Monkey was scared, and let go his tail and fell to the ground. Yellow Lion picked him up and shook him. On the piece of bark which Little Monkey had was written, "A poor, innocent goat was killed. Ask Yellow Lion."

“Now I have you!” snarled Yellow Lion. “I’ll teach you to write such things and put them up on trees.”

“Please, I’m only a messenger boy,” whimpered Little Monkey. “Hedgehog wrote it.”

“I’ll not eat you up!” roared Yellow Lion, “if you will take me to your master.”

So Little Monkey led Yellow Lion to Hedgehog’s house. Yellow Lion went right into the room where Hedgehog was writing at his desk.

“Hedgehog,” said Yellow Lion, “you have been calling me names. You wrote that I had a mane—”



HEDGEHOG DRIVES HIS QUILLS

"I thought that you had," answered Hedgehog, in a meek, little voice.

He was sitting on a barrel before his desk, and kept on writing as hard as he could. He had sheets of bark all around him, and his hands and face were all over pokeberry ink.

"That was all rusty. It is false," continued Yellow Lion.

"Your mane looks as though it were real," replied Hedgehog.

“You said I ought to have a haircut,” added Yellow Lion.

“Which one of your hairs,” sighed Hedgehog.

“Hedgehog,” roared Yellow Lion, “your time has come. You miserable, little—”

“What did you say?” asked Hedgehog. “I am hard of hearing.”

“Quill driver,” thundered Yellow Lion.

With that Hedgehog moved the back of his neck in such a way that all the quills which were sticking behind his ears came out like arrows shot from the bow. They stuck in the face of Yellow Lion and made him jump and squeal and beg for mercy. Yellow Lion ran out of the place with his paws all over his face and the tears running down his cheeks.

“I may be a quill driver,” said Hedgehog, as he dipped a quill in pokeberry juice, “but when I am writing I cannot afford to be annoyed by big, yellow animals.”

III

THE ANT'S AUNT GIVES A PICNIC

The ant's aunt had to give a picnic, because she had been invited to so many places by all her relatives, she thought it was time to pay back some of the invitations.

"But it will be such a bother," said the ant's uncle, when he heard about it.

"Don't be foolish, now," replied the ant's aunt. "We cannot go in society without going to some trouble."

So the ant's uncle said that it would be all right, for he always said something of that kind when his wife talked about giving a party.

He was sleeping early the next morning, when his wife woke him and said: "Benjamin, Benjamin, did you remember to get the lemons and the sugar?"

"No," replied the ant's uncle, as he rolled over again in bed. "The grocery store was closed."

"Then you will have to go into the kitchen of the man's house and get as much as you can carry before the cook gets up."



"SUPPOSE YOU HAD A HUNDRED TOES!"

"The last time I was there," muttered Benjamin, "I nearly got blown up with the kerosene can."

By the time the ant's uncle got back to his house he found more than a hundred ants of all kinds walking up and down and carrying all kinds of provisions.

"You are very late," said the ant's aunt. "What did you do about the swing, Benjamin? Did you stop and see the spider about it?"

Benjamin had forgotten all about the swing, so he had to go back to where the spider kept a shop, and he came back after a while with a wheelbarrow loaded down with rope. The ant's aunt was lame, and she had to walk with a cane. She was at the head of the picnic party and Benjamin, the ant's uncle, came last of all with his wheelbarrow filled with rope and baskets and sugar and lemons and tubs and glasses and everything which might be used on a picnic. The ants went to Deacon Jones' woods, and as they got nearer, they heard all kinds of strange noises. All the animals and all the birds came out to see the picnic go by. The ants walked on until they came to a bare spot in the middle of the woods, and there they stopped and put down their bundles and baskets.

"This will be a nice place to set the table," said the ant's aunt. "Now, Benjamin, while I am doing all the work, suppose you go and put up the swing for the children."



UNCLEANT AND HIS WHEELBARROW

The ant's uncle said something underneath his breath and then he took the rope and the boards and things and put up 153 swings. He hurt his knee and sprained his back and cut his fingers. He also stubbed his toes.

"You needn't feel so badly about hurting your toes," said a centipede, who stopped to look, "suppose you had toes on 100 feet to stub, then you could afford to talk."

The ant's uncle returned to the place where the table was being set. He threw his hat over on the grass and sat down, saying, "I am very tired and a little rest would do me a great deal of good."

"Benjamin, Benjamin," cried the ant's aunt, "how could you do such a thing?"

"Why, just you see what Uncle Benjamin did," cried all the small ants at once.

"You ought not to be so careless," replied Benjamin, "how was I to know that it was a custard pie? I thought it was a nice cushion you put there for me."

The ant's uncle started to get his hat and walk away. He had not gone very far before he became red in the face with anger.

"Get off my hat," all the ants heard him say, "how dare you sit on a poor ant's hat like that. Haven't you any manners?"

"What is the matter, Benjamin?" asked the ant's aunt, picking up her cane and hobbling toward her husband.

"This miserable man," yelled the ant's uncle, "has the impudence to sit down on my hat and he won't get up."



THE ANT'S UNCLE THINKS THE CUSTARD PIE IS A CUSHION

The man looked in the direction of Benjamin and then yawned and got up and walked away.

"Benjamin, Benjamin," cried the ant's aunt, a few minutes later, "little Betsy Ann has come back and she says that nearly a dozen of the children started to climb a mountain and the mountain got up and walked away. Won't you please go and try and find them?"

The ant's uncle jammed his crushed silk hat down over his eyes, picked up a big switch and went to find the children. He walked and walked until he came to a place where a whole lot of men and women were sitting in a circle while the mosquitos ate them. The men and women were eating pickles and dry sandwiches and trying to look happy. Uncle Benjamin hurried down the middle of the tablecloth, calling, "Children, children," at the top of his voice. Everywhere he went he met some of those miserable little children who had run away from their own picnic. He found them sitting on the edge of a sponge cake dangling their feet and kicking holes in the icing. They were perched on loaves of bread and up on top of a plate of sliced ham, they were playing hide and seek. Some of them had

climbed up into a great big tin reservoir. There were all their clothes on the edge and they were having a swim.

“Didn’t I tell you not to go near the water?” asked Uncle Benjamin, shaking his switch. “Now, where do I find you?”

“It isn’t water,” said all the children ants; “it’s lemonade.”

It took the ant’s uncle more than an hour to get all the children together.

“Why don’t you come away from here?” he said. “Don’t you hear all the men and women talking and saying that it would be such a delightful place here if it were not for those miserable ants?”

“They didn’t say a word,” replied the children, “until you came.”

This made Uncle Benjamin so angry that he swung his switch and chased all the children before him back to the place where the table of the ants’ picnic had been spread. Way over to one side was the ant’s aunt all alone. She had her handkerchief to her eyes, and was crying as though her heart would break.

“Why, what’s the matter?” asked Uncle Benjamin. “What in the world has happened?”

“Why, can’t you see?” replied the ant’s aunt. “A miserable man came this way and stepped right on the table, and when he lifted up his foot everything was ruined.”

“Come on, children,” said Uncle Benjamin, “Let us all go back to the men’s picnic. After he has treated us this way, he deserves that we should tease him and all his family.”

That is the reason that, when men and women give picnics all the ants in the neighborhood go and plague them.

IV THEIR FAT FRIEND

Gray Mouse and White Rabbit lived under the floor of the barn and were very happy. The only thing which ever bothered them was Small Dog. They hated Small Dog worse than poison.

"Poison always stays in one place," said Gray Mouse, "but Small Dog is always jumping and digging. If he lives around this barn we might as well go away. Why, the other day he chased me right up to my front door, and if I had not been quick with my latch key, I am afraid that he would have jostled me very rudely!"

Then Gray Mouse stopped talking and nearly jumped out of his skin. White Rabbit raised his ears and made his whiskers tremble. Right over their heads they heard a noise like thunder. Gray Mouse and White Rabbit ran up under the manger and peeped out. There they saw something which looked like a big barrel placed on four piano legs. It had a long pipe in front of it, four or five times bigger than the garden hose, and this big pipe was swinging backward and forward.

"What's that?" asked White Rabbit, resting his paw on Gray Mouse's arm.



"PLEASE, MIGHTY MOUSE!"

"It looks to me," answered Gray Mouse, "like an animal which the man has in the parlor of his house, at least his legs look like those of that poor beast. The man's daughter boxes the creature's ears for two hours every morning, and although he cries and cries she will not stop."

"You do not know very much," whispered White Rabbit. "I heard the man say one morning that his little girl was pounding the piano in the parlor, and this thing is not a piano at all."

Just then the creature winked his little eyes and made its big ears go flop, flop.

"It seems to be alive," said White Rabbit.

"Yes," answered Gray Mouse, "and it looks a little bit like me only he is bigger than Black Horse. What a funny long nose he has! You speak to him, White Rabbit."

"I'm too bashful," replied White Rabbit, as he backed away.

He caught hold of Gray Mouse and pushed him right through the hole under the manger. Gray Mouse fell on the ground in front of the strange animal. One of the big beast's feet kicked up the earth and covered up the hole out of which Gray Mouse had come. Gray Mouse was so scared that he did not know what to do. Besides he heard Small Dog snuffing at the barn door and scratching with his paws.

"What in the world shall I do?" squealed Gray Mouse. "Suppose Small Dog should get in? The door is not latched and he could open it, with his sharp nose and his big paws."



"I'LL BREAK EVERY BONE IN YOUR BODY!"

Gray Mouse crouched down in a corner and trembled all over.

"O, O," he cried, "what shall I do?"

Then the big beast heard him and looked down, his eyes opened wide and he hopped around on his great feet and made a noise like a trumpet.

"Please, Mighty Mouse," roared the big beast, "don't crawl up my trunk; please don't bite my poor, little, tender ears. Spare my life and I will always be your friend."

Gray Mouse tried to stop trembling, for he saw that the great beast was afraid of him. He stood up on his hind legs, folded his arms, took a deep breath, and swelled out his chest.

"And who are you, sir?" squeaked Gray Mouse, "that you dare to shake down the plastering of my house with your clumsy feet?"

"Please, sir," answered the big beast between his sobs, "I am only a poor little elephant, who came in town with the circus, and they put me here in your barn until it was time to

parade. I am sorry that I knocked down the plastering of your house, and if you will have mercy on me I will come down there and put it back again."

"Don't be afraid," whispered White Rabbit, who had dug away the earth from over the hole under the manger and had come out behind Gray Mouse. "Whip him, Gray Mouse; here is a straw; now give him a good beating."



ALL THREE ARE VERY GOOD FRIENDS

Elephants are afraid of mice. So Gray Mouse, with his paws all shaking, took the straw and walked toward the elephant. He heard the hinges of the barn door creaking.

"Come away, Gray Mouse," cried White Rabbit, "Small Dog is coming."

"I'll let you alone on one condition, Elephant," said Gray Mouse, trying to be brave, although he was trembling so that he could hardly hold the straw, "and that is when you see any of my enemies trying to annoy me, that you teach him a good lesson."

Small Dog got the door open and came jumping with his mouth wide open and his white teeth shining. Gray Mouse and White Rabbit ran into the hole under the manger. The Elephant, who feared nothing on earth except mice and flies, for he had once killed a tiger,

wound his trunk around Small Dog. He lifted Small Dog up to the rafters and threw him down on the ground so hard that all the bark went out of him.

“If you disturb my little friends again,” roared the Elephant, “I’ll break every bone in your body.”

Small Dog walked on crutches for weeks after that, and he has never annoyed White Rabbit and Gray Mouse in their happy home. In fact, all three became very good friends and many is the time I have seen them sitting out in the barnyard smoking their corn-cob pipes.

V WHITE RABBIT'S CHEESE SCRUPLE

White Rabbit had so many scruples that sometimes he could not sleep. He awoke one night and came over to Gray Mouse's bed and pulled at the covers.

"Gray Mouse," he whispered, "I have a scruple, and it keeps me awake. I am afraid that it would not be right for you to go to the Man's house to-night just because there has been a party, and there are so many good things lying around within reach."

"Who said anything about cake?" yawned Gray Mouse, and he rolled over as if he were going to sleep again.

"Gray Mouse," called White Rabbit, "I thought that I ought to ask you. Do you think it would be wrong if I went along with you and just took a look into the cellar to see if that careless cook had forgotten to put away the carrots?"



GREENEYES GETS THE TRAP.

"Certainly not," answered Gray Mouse, scrambling out of bed. "Even if you should make a mistake and eat some carrots, it would be all right, because it would teach that cook to be careful. I heard the man's wife tell her only the other day that she was the most careless cook they had had for a week. If I should find some cake, it would be well for me to eat as much of it as I can, so as to keep the man's children from making themselves ill."

So Gray Mouse and White Rabbit hurried out from under the barn floor and went to the cellar of the man's house, laughing and jumping.

"What a pretty, little house," said Gray Mouse, for in the centre of the cellar floor was a little wire box with a funny door.

Gray Mouse and White Rabbit walked all around it.

"Why," said Gray Mouse, "it has cheese inside of it. Put in your paw, White Rabbit, and pull out that fine supper for me."

"No, thank you," answered White Rabbit, "I have such a scruple. That is toasted cheese inside of the little house, and toasted cheese is what men call Welsh Rabbit. I will let you know, Gray Mouse, that I am no cannibal. The door is open. Why don't you go in and get the cheese yourself?"

"You are not very obliging, White Rabbit," replied Gray Mouse, "but since you are so mean I think that I will get it myself."

So Gray Mouse walked into the wire house and tried to carry away the cheese which was fastened on a little rod. There was a click and the door of the wire house closed behind Gray Mouse with a snap. Gray Mouse was in a trap which the man had set for him.



GRAYMOUSE GOES INTO THE TRAP.

“Help me out, White Rabbit,” shrieked Gray Mouse. “Your jaws are larger than mine. Bite a hole in the side of this house so I can come out!”

White Rabbit had chewed carrots and turnips and soft things all his life, and it only set his teeth on edge when he tried to cut a way for Gray Mouse out of the little wire house.

“Scat B-r-r-r,” came a noise, and old Green Eyes, the cat, sprang from out behind a tub. White Rabbit jumped out of reach.

“Ugh!” meowed Green Eyes to Gray Mouse, “I’ve got a thief and I’m going to eat him.”

Green Eyes tried as hard as he could to get his paws through the cage. One of his claws caught Gray Mouse in the side and made the blood come. Green Eyes became very angry when he saw that he could not reach Gray Mouse. He struck the trap with his claws. He picked it up and gave it a good shaking. He lifted it over his head and threw it down on the floor as hard as he could. The trap rolled over and over and at last rested bottom side up. That made the door, which had been closed all this time, fall back. When Gray Mouse saw that the door was open all he had to do was to jump right out of the trap. He scuttled out of that cellar as fast as he could and up at the top of the steps he met White Rabbit.



WHITE RABBIT TURNS OVER THE TRAP

"It was very warm down there," said White Rabbit, as he saw Gray Mouse, "and you know that my fur is so thick that I did not feel like staying down there any longer. It was very bright of you to get out of that trap."

Then White Rabbit and Gray Mouse went away to the barn laughing and chuckling to themselves. They went back to the house the next night.

"Now, then," said White Rabbit, "you go into the trap, Gray Mouse, and I will pretend that I am the cat."

Gray Mouse went into the trap and helped himself to the cheese, and when the door snapped he only laughed. Then White Rabbit turned the cage over and the door fell back and Gray Mouse crawled out again.

"That is very fine," said White Rabbit. "If it had not been for my cheese scruple it would never have happened. If I had put my paw in there I could not have reached the cheese, and besides that, you would not have had nearly so much fun."

Gray Mouse and White Rabbit went every night and got all the cheese in that trap and in all the traps around the house. Gray Mouse took home so much cheese that he did not know what to do with it, and White Rabbit feasted on carrots. They paid no attention to Green Eyes at all. Whenever the cat came after Gray Mouse, that saucy animal would get himself caught in a trap and laugh at the cat. Gray Mouse and White Rabbit grew bigger and stronger every day, and they could run so fast that the cat could never catch them.

VI

ABOUT THE APPLE BUTTER CAT

Green-Eyes, the cat, was very angry when he found that the man thought that he could not catch mice. He was afraid that he would be put out in the kennel with the dog. He and the dog had never been very good friends and he did not like the idea of being in the same house with an animal with such sharp teeth and such a harsh voice.

Green-Eyes used to sit up all night with his paw on his head, saying, "Let me think." The neighbors' cats came out on the back fence and made fun of Green-Eyes all night long.

"It's too bad," they meowed, "that you cannot see in the dark. Why, you cannot even see a big white rabbit."

Gray Mouse and his friend, White Rabbit, went every night to the cellar of the man's house, where they helped themselves to cake and apple pie and cheese and carrots. Green-Eyes heard the man say that it was time to drown that good-for-nothing cat. He saw it was time for him to do something to save his life, and so he kept on thinking and thinking.



PATRICK O'POSSUM PUSHES OVER THE APPLE BUTTER JAR.

He crawled under a pile of carrots on the cellar floor one night and the carrots fell all over and hid him all except the tip of his tail. Then he waited for White Rabbit and Gray Mouse.

Now, that night Patrick O'Possum went to visit Gray Mouse and White Rabbit. He was a friend of Gray Mouse's cousin, Field Mouse, and whenever he went under the barn floor, where Gray Mouse and White Rabbit lived, he was very welcome.

"Gray Mouse," asked Patrick O'Possum, "do you know where I can get any good, sweet potatoes?"

Gray Mouse winked at White Rabbit and said that he knew where there were sweet potatoes nearly a foot long and so sweet that sugar tasted like vinegar compared to them. Patrick O'Possum sighed and looked happy.

"I'll take you to the next moonlight party I have," he said, "if you will show me where I can find those very fine sweet potatoes."

So Patrick O'Possum, Gray Mouse and White Rabbit went running and hopping and laughing to the cellar of the man's house. Patrick O'Possum turned to Gray Mouse and White Rabbit after he had taken a good look around the cellar, and then he smiled, and smiled.



RETREAT OF THE APPLE BUTTER CAT

"I like sweet potatoes very much," he whispered as he drew White Rabbit and Grey Mouse close to him, "but I would not give a cent a bushel for all the carrots in the world. If I had white fur and long ears I would rather eschew those carrots over there than chew them."

Then Patrick O'Possum poked Gray Mouse and White Rabbit in the ribs and laughed inside. The sweet potatoes were in a large swinging box near the pile of carrots. Patrick O'Possum jumped up and got on top of the box. He took out some sweet potatoes and tossed them down on the floor. White Rabbit picked them up and carried them out of the cellar, while Gray Mouse stood by. There was a long shelf above the swinging box where the sweet potatoes were and on this shelf were jars of jelly and jam and spiced watermelon and all kinds of good things. At one end was a big jar of apple butter. After Patrick O'Possum had thrown down all the sweet potatoes that he wanted he crept along the shelf and gave the jar of apple butter a hard push. It fell, struck the edge of the sweet potato bin, broke all to pieces and apple butter and broken jar and all fell right on top of the pile of carrots. There were the queerest sounds which came out of that pile of carrots that you ever heard. Green-Eyes meowed and cried and kicked and arched up his back. He shook up that pile of carrots as though there were an earthquake in the cellar. Then all covered over with apple butter and little carrots and bits of broken crock, he went up the cellar stairs yelling and screaming at every step.



"DID YOU EVER SEE AN APPLE BUTTERCAT

White Rabbit and Patrick O'Possum picked up all the sweet potatoes that they could carry and ran away to the barn. Gray Mouse led the way. As they hurried along they got a glimpse of the man who was coming down the hall in his night clothes with a gun over his shoulder. Just as the White Rabbit, the Gray Mouse and Patrick O'Possum scampered under the barn floor, they heard bang-bang, from the porch of the man's house.

"That must have been a shot gun," said White Rabbit, as he stroked his whiskers and smiled.

"Um, um," said Patrick O'Possum, "but these are good sweet potatoes. This is more fun than a coon hunt."

Green-Eyes never went back to the man's house again. Many of his friends thought that the man had shot him and the next night out on the back yard fence, all the neighbors' cats met together and sang his funeral song. I think, though, that Green-Eyes was not killed. One day, when I was out hunting in the woods, I stopped to take a drink at a little spring and a funny, little lizard stood on the edge and said: "Excuse me, Mr. Hunter, but did you ever see an apple butter cat?"

VII

GRAY MOUSE'S RICH BROTHER

Gray Mouse was sitting on his front porch one afternoon, when he heard a rumble of wheels and a coach stopped before the door. It was the funniest coach you ever saw, and it was drawn by four tumblebugs all covered with silver harness. Two grasshoppers sat on the box. One of them jumped down and opened the door. Then a big, fat mouse, all dressed up and carrying a cane with a gold head, got out and came up the steps of Gray Mouse's house.

"You don't seem to know me," said the fat mouse as he clapped Gray Mouse on the back.

"Your ways are familiar," answered Gray Mouse, "but your face I do not remember at all."

"Why, I am your long-lost brother, Church Mouse," squeaked that wealthy animal, "and I have just come back to visit all my friends and relations."

Church Mouse strutted up and down the porch, whirled his cane and played with his watch chain. Gray Mouse was sitting in his old rocking chair and he had on his shabbiest pair of carpet slippers.



ADDER ASKS WHAT WITCH CHURCH MOUSE MEANS.

"You need not be so proud," said Gray Mouse. "I remember the time when you did not have a piece of cheese with which to bless yourself. Don't put on any airs with your coach and your old tumblebugs. I have not forgotten when you lived in the church across the road, and were so poor that many is the time you were glad to come over to my poor little house for dinner."

"You need not be cross," replied Church Mouse, "I am not proud, and to-morrow I shall bring you a very large cheese."

"I am very glad to see you," said Gray Mouse, changing his manners and smiling. "Now, tell me how did you get so sleek and fat?"

Gray Mouse brought his best easy chair out on the porch, and Church Mouse sat down in it and crossed his hands over his stomach.

"Well, I was so poor," began Church Mouse, "that many is the time I have gnawed the backs of hymn books. One day I was wondering how I was going to get along, and decided to be a book agent. So I got Hedge Hog, who is clever with quills, to write a book for me, called 'The True History of the Great Which What.' Then I started out to sell it.



YELLOW LION INQUIRES IF THERE IS ANYTHING IN THE BOOK ABOUT HIM

“Well, it was very hard work at first. Cochin, the chicken, slammed the door of his coop right in my face. Chip Munk chased me off his door mat, Snapping Turtle called me names and bit off the end of my tail. Then I saw the Adder and I said just as politely as I could: ‘Mr. Adder, I have here the True History of the Great Which What.’

“‘What witch?’ asked Adder, who was as deaf as anything. He had an ear trumpet, but I do not believe that the trumpet helped him to hear any better.

“‘No witch,’ I answered.

“‘Norwich is in Connecticut,’ answered Adder. ‘That is where I bought my ear trumpet.’

“‘I said Which What,’ said I.

“‘No,’ replied the Adder, ‘I do not need any dried apples to-day.’

“‘I was so angry that I cried. I went to the wheat bin out in Deacon Jones’ barn and there I met my old friend, Weevil.

“‘Of course,’ said Weevil, when I told him about my bad luck, ‘you don’t sell books here because everybody is so intelligent. You come with me to Asia and you will do far better.’

“So I stayed in the bin with Weevil. In a day or two, the wheat was put in a wagon and taken to the railroad station. Before long it arrived in New York. Then it was thrown down hill into a ship and for days and days after that Weevil and I knew nothing except the splash of waters and the tip, tip of that great ship.



GRAY MOUSE SAYS HE IS PROUD OF HIS RICH BROTHER.

“We reached the place called Asia. As soon as I got a chance I said good-by to Weevil and walked until I was in the jungle. When you sell books it is a good thing to know somebody who is big. Weevil told me to go the first thing and see Yellow Lion. I heard Yellow Lion roaring among the trees and I walked up to where he was sitting.

“‘Yellow Lion,’ I said very politely, ‘Yellow Lion, won’t you please buy my book?’

“‘Has it got anything about me in it?’ asked Yellow Lion.

“‘No,’ I answered.

“‘Well, then, I have no time to talk to little animals like you,’ said Yellow Lion. ‘You will oblige me by getting out of my lair, or I shall step all over you.’

“‘Very well,’ I answered; ‘I do not wish to crowd you, Yellow Lion; and I am not of a revengeful nature.’ So I stood up straight, and looked very proud and angry.

“Two days after that I was walking through the jungle when I heard a loud noise. I peeped through the bushes and there I saw Yellow Lion lying under a hammock.

“‘Good morning,’ I said. ‘Seeing that you are so comfortable in your nice, new hammock, I thought I would just come and say how d’ye do.’

“‘You mean, little animal!’ roared Yellow Lion, ‘don’t you see that the hunters have caught me in a net?’

“‘It is too bad,’ I answered, ‘that you are in a net, but it is still worse to be in the jungle without a copy of “The True History of the Great Which What.” In the little book which I hold in my hand is told why the what is which and what the what what said to the which who of the when did.’

“‘Stop, stop!’ roared Yellow Lion.

“‘Here is a chapter,’ said I, ‘which tells how a lion got caught in a net and how a poor, little mouse in return for a kindness cut the net with his sharp teeth and set the lion free.’

“‘What kindness?’ asked Yellow Lion.

“‘All that the lion did,’ I answered, ‘was to buy a book which the mouse was selling.’

“‘I’ll take that book,’ said Yellow Lion. ‘I’ll take a hundred of them—and when I get out I’ll make everybody else buy one.’

“‘All right, Yellow Lion,’ said I.

“Then I gnawed the net, and Yellow Lion got away. The king of beasts kept his word. I sold more than a million copies of the book from that one sample, for Yellow Lion told all the beasts that they must buy. That is how I became so rich.”

“You are certainly a clever little animal,” said Gray Mouse, when Church Mouse had finished the story. “I am very proud of my rich brother.”

VIII

AT THE CHURCH MOUSE'S CIRCUS

Church Mouse had so much money after he came back from India that he decided to start a circus.

"There is nothing," said he, "which will make so much money as a circus, for red lemonade costs only half a cent a barrel and we sell it for five cents a glass; and there is so very much money in selling candy at two sticks for a cent apiece that I really think that I ought to start a very fine circus."

So he hired all the spiders he could find to make him a tent and had Patrick O'Possum cut some very fine tent poles. He pitched the tent right out in the middle of Deacon Jones' meadow lot. He got Ugly Dog to sell tickets because nobody would dare to give Ugly Dog any bad money. Ugly Dog was such a good barker that all the animals and all the birds could hear him as he said:

"Here, birds and animals, is your superior circus. Step right up and see the fierce lion, brought from his native lair and the great and only striped tiger which can eat a man without asking by your leave. Come on, birds and animals, for this is the only show on earth owned by a church mouse. Circus, menagerie and hiphopadrome, all under one tent. Walk right up."



CLOWN LEAPFROG'S JOKE

Church Mouse had tried to get a real live tiger, but he found that he could not afford to pay for a tiger's ticket all the way from India, so he got his friend Field Mouse to put on striped clothes and look very fierce and be the tiger. Mole was the elephant and White Rabbit put some wool around his neck for a mane and pretended that he was a lion. This circus was held at night and the glow worms came in free on condition that they would hang from the top of the tent and give all the light that was needed.

Church Mouse had been so careful in arranging the circus that when the animals came they thought it was the finest show which they had ever seen. When they got to looking too

closely at anything and began to wonder if all lions were white and had long ears, the lights would go out all at once and they had to think about something else. Over in one corner was a little musk rat in a tank and all the animals and all the birds, although they thought that they had seen him before, believed that he was a hippopotamus. The more they looked at him the more they wondered, for he seemed like such a wonderful animal.



SALAMANDER SAYS HE EATS FIRE

When the time for the circus came, all the birds and all the animals gathered around the ring for which more than a hundred ants had brought the sand. There was a loud clapping of hands and the Tumblebug Brothers came into the centre of the ring kissing their hands to the crowd and making a low bow to everybody. They leaped up into the air and turned somersaults and stood on their heads, and whirled around on their backs. Every time they did anything wonderful all the beasts and all the birds clapped their paws or shook their wings and said: "Isn't this a very fine show, indeed?"

Then about twenty ants, all dressed up in green, rolled two great big balls into the middle of the ring. Each Tumblebug took one of these balls, which was as big as he was himself, and whirled it around and up and down, and then he lay on his back and with his feet threw the ball clear up into the air and caught it again. Then the Tumblebugs threw the balls back and forth to each other.

Nimble Grasshopper came out, and he jumped clear over the back of the make-believe elephant and the make-believe lion and came right down again on his feet. Then Leap Frog came stumbling out into the middle of the ring all covered over with flour and with red paint on his face and a little bit of a white pointed hat on his head.

"When is a mouse when it is spinning?" he asked.

All the animals and all the beasts looked at each other and said: "Why, we don't understand. When is a mouse when it is spinning?"

Leap Frog looked all around, and then said: "What! Give it up? Don't know? Can't guess? Too hard? Why, it's very easy indeed. The answer is, a paper of tacks."



CHURCH MOUSE'S CIRCUS BURNS

Then all the birds and all the animals laughed like anything.

"What a very good joke," they said. "How very clever! And isn't it strange that we should never have thought of it before?"

"Now, then," said Church Mouse, who was all dressed up in a long coat, and had a silk hat and a long whip. "As the ring master of this show, I want to introduce my great and good

friend, Sig Salamander, who eats fire for breakfast instead of oatmeal, and drinks his coffee boiling hot. He will now do himself the honor of eating a red hot poker as though it were a stick of molasses candy."

Then Salamander came out, followed by four mice, carrying a pan of coals.

"Everything that I have," said Salamander, "must be red hot. Once I ate some red pepper drops and ever since that nothing has been too hot for me."

He ate all sorts of fire, and then Wasp got up and said that he did not think Salamander could stand everything hot, and with this he gave him a sting.

Salamander ran away from the place, and as he turned to go his feet kicked the pan of coals and sent them way up in the air, until they set fire to the tent. All the beasts and all the birds saw the flames above them, and they were nearly scared to death. They scampered everyway that they could. They knocked down the seats and kicked over the tent poles, upset the animal cages and spilled the red lemonade. Before Church Mouse knew what had happened his tent had all burned up, and it was all that he could do to save his money and his boxes of cheese. After it was all over he sat looking at the ruins, and then said:

"It seems to me that I have made a great mistake. If I ever have a salamander in a circus of mine again I will have everybody who sees the circus a salamander, too."

Although the tent had burned up, Church Mouse had made so much money that he did not have to work any more. He built a fine house, and every Sunday as you saw him sitting in church under one of the pews you would never have believed that he knew a single thing about circuses.

IX

HOOT OWL INVENTS GOLF

The Bogey Man was so fond of playing golf that he never had time to think of anything else. He lived on oatmeal water and smoked a pipe filled with cabbage leaves and chopped hay. Golf was played in those days with one straight stick, and all you had to do was to knock round stones over the meadow. The Bogey Man was very careless, and he was always sending the golf balls into the holes where the rabbits, field mice and snakes lived. He played every day in Deacon Jones' meadow lot. He used to take his stick, when he lost the balls and pry into the homes of the poor, little animals and snakes. In that way he spoiled the walls and broke the parlor furniture.

One day, the Bogey Man put a ball on top of an ant's house, because he said he could strike it better. The roof of the house fell in and the ant's aunt was so badly hurt that she never got over it.

"Something must be done," said all the snakes and rabbits and field mice and ants who lived in Deacon Jones' meadow lot.

They had a convention near the old stump in the middle of the meadow, and the garter snake was the president.



FIELD MOUSE ASKS IF THE BOGEY MAN SCARES THE CHILDREN.

“Is this the person who always scares the children so?” asked the field mouse.

“No,” replied the Hoot Owl, who was the wisest of birds. “He is worse than that. He is the man who thinks that he knows how to play golf.”

“Hoot Owl,” whispered the Garter Snake, “you and Sly Fox must get rid of this terrible Bogey Man, who is all the time poking around our houses and making us uncomfortable.”

When the Bogey Man went to play golf in the pasture next day, he heard a hoarse voice away up in a tree.

“Hoot man, hoot!” said the voice. “It seems to me that you really do not know how to play golf.”

The Hoot Owl came down from the tree all dressed up in baggy, spotted clothes. He had a pipe in his beak and a big club in one claw.

"I'll let you know," replied the Bogey Man, "that I have had games with some of the very best players in the country, and besides that I can talk Scotch better than you can."

"Ho, ho," answered the Owl, "my people said hoot before there were any Scotchmen. I've come to show you how to play the real game of golf.

"Follow me," screamed the Hoot Owl.

He led the Bogey Man to a field which was all rough. The rabbits and the field mice had been working all night making holes everywhere they could.



HOOT OWL SAYS THE BOGEY MAN IS LEARNING.

"Why, this is no place to play golf," said the Bogey Man as he took a big drink of oatmeal water.

"It's fine," said the Hoot Owl, "Isn't it, Sly Fox?"

Sly Fox came up with a whole bagful of sticks with twisted roots on the end of them. The Bogey Man had always played with just one straight stick. Sly Fox had gone into the woods, where he pulled up saplings and kept those which had the funniest and the ugliest roots.

"Now, then," said the Hoot Owl, "I guess that we are all ready. Sly Fox, you can carry the clubs."

The Hoot Owl and Sly Fox made the Bogey Man use all of the queer kinds of sticks which they had brought. He had to shove the balls into holes all over the field, and then he had to spoon them out again with two or three kinds of clubs, and then shove them over to another hole. As fast as he got through with one club Sly Fox would take it away from him and give him another which was more twisted and curved than the one before.

"Isn't he learning fast?" said the Hoot Owl to Sly Fox with a wink.

"O, fine," answered Sly Fox. "Golf players are born and not made."



BOGEY MAN IS HIT BY THE RETURNING GOLF BALL.

Although the Bogey Man was very tired, he tried to look happy, and said he never had so much fun in all his life. He stumbled into pits and nearly sprained his ankle. He knocked the balls into ponds and over big bumps in the meadows. Nearly every time he struck a ball it would go out of sight. Sly Fox tried to find it, but, somehow, he never could. Then the Bogey Man had to pay Sly Fox twenty-five cents for a new ball. Before the day was over Sly Fox had sold to the Bogey Man the same ball 999 times. The Bogey Man's hands were all

blistered, and his feet were wet, and his fine clothes were all over mud. He sat down on a log and began to cry.

"I'm tired of running after those balls," he said, "and I have, boo-hoo boo-hoo—I have spent all my money buying new ones."

"That is too bad," sighed Sly Fox. "I have an idea."

So Sly Fox drove a tack into one of the balls, twisted a long piece of string around it and then drove the tack way down to the head.

"This string," explained Hoot Owl, "is just as long as the field. You hit the ball with the club and the ball can't get lost because it has a string tied to it."

"That is very fine," said the Bogey Man, wiping away his tears and taking a big drink of oatmeal water. "I wish you had thought about that before I bought those 999 balls."

So they put the ball on the ground and gave the Bogey Man the ugliest and biggest club that they could find.

"Hit it hard, Bogey Man," said Sly Fox, and then he stepped behind a tree.

"Yes, don't be easy now," screeched the Hoot Owl, and he flew up into the branches of the tree and put on his glasses.

The Bogey Man swung the club and struck the ball as hard as ever he could. The round thing went through the air so fast that you could hear it sing and when it got to the end of the field, it suddenly stopped. One end of the string was fastened to a sapling. The string kept stretching and stretching, until there was no more stretch in it and the ball fastened to the end of it came bounding back and struck the Bogey Man so hard in the nose that it knocked him right over. The poor Bogey Man dropped his club, and when he got on his feet again, he went away as fast as he could. Since that he has never been seen playing golf with anybody and the animals and snakes in Deacon Jones' wood are happy. Some men from the city who saw Sly Fox and Hoot Owl playing thought it was really a good game and they went back and taught other people how to play it. Only instead of Sly Fox to find the balls they hired good little boys called caddies who always find the balls, no matter how far they go, and they never think of doing anything so dishonest as to charge twenty-five cents for the same ball over and over again.

X

HOW UGLY DOG STOPPED THE CAR

Ugly Dog lived out in a place called New Jersey, where the mosquitoes are always so busy that the people never have time to think about getting old. Near the house of his master there were two rails, on which the Running Houses kept going up and down as fast as they could. Every time a Running House went past Ugly Dog went out and barked, for the very sight of it made him angry. Before the Running Houses came, his master went to the station in a buggy, and Ugly Dog always went along and trotted back with the coachman. Now his master went alone, and Ugly Dog had to stay at home.

He came out one morning just in time to see his master get on the back steps of a Running House and wave good-bye to the children. Ugly Dog was never so angry in all his life. He ran as hard as he could, and tried to jump on the Running House so that he could go to the station with his master. Then he heard two bells ring, and with a clicking and banging, Running House was sliding away so fast that Ugly Dog could not keep up with it. He ran until he nearly dropped on the ground, and he barked until he was hoarse.



UGLYDOG COMPLAINS TO SLY FOX

He crawled into the bushes at the side of the road and laid down to rest. He was all covered with dust, and his eyes were red and his tongue was hanging out.

"Well," said Sly Fox, who had just come up through the bushes, "You do not seem to be very happy this morning. What is the matter?"

"I can't go to the station any more," growled Ugly Dog, "because I can't run fast enough to keep up with those miserable little houses that go sliding away as soon as my master gets on the back steps."

"It seems to me," said Sly Fox, "that for a dog that has such a fine face you do not know very much. I understand why it is that the Running Houses do not stop—you are not polite enough to the man at the front door."

"What am I to do?" asked Ugly Dog.

"O, that is very simple," answered Sly Fox. "You must be very particular about how you act. Nobody ever succeeds unless he is polite and always says please. You know that I am very wise, and if you only listen to me, you may never have any more trouble."

"I am all ears," said Ugly Dog, folding his arms and looking as humble as Jack Rabbit.



SLY FOX ESCAPES ON THE CAR

"Well, in the first place," said Sly Fox, "the Running Houses only stop when you wave your paw to the man at the front door. Now, if I were you I would stand right in front of the

next one as it comes along and then I would make a low bow and wave my paw. That is the way your master gets them to stop."

"I'll do that," said Ugly Dog, "just as soon as I get rested. But how is it that you are all out of breath, too?"

"Well," answered the Sly Fox, coughing in a funny sort of a way and shuffling his feet around, "you know that I am a doctor, and I was called in a hurry to see two little chickens which had the croup in their crops."

"Is that so?" asked Ugly Dog, "and are they better now?"

"Those dear, little chickens," answered Sly Fox, as he stroked his white mustache, "will never be bothered by having anything in their crops again."

Just then there was a whirring sound way up the road and Sly Fox jumped up.

"My friend," he said, "I think that another Running House is coming. If I were you I would hurry up and get right in front of it."

Ugly Dog got up on his feet and shook himself and wagged his tail and smoothed out his hair.

"How do I look?" he asked.

"Fine," answered Sly Fox. "If I were the man standing on the front porch of any Running House I would stop in a minute. Now you do just as I tell you, and I am sure that you will never have any more trouble."



HOUNDS CALL UGLY DOG A RASCAL

Ugly Dog went out in front of Running House, wagging his tail and standing up on his hind legs and making bows all the time. He waved one of his paws as Running House came hurrying down the rail. The man at the front door began to ring the bell as fast as he could and to yell at Ugly Dog.

"He sees you!" cried Sly Fox from behind the bushes.

Then the man turned a brass handle.

Running House began to go slower, but it did not stop. The thing in front which looked like a scraper struck Ugly Dog and sent him way up in the air, and he fell down at the side of the road all in a heap. When he got on his feet again, he saw the Running House going down

the road as fast as it could, and on the back step was Sly Fox, smoking a pipe and looking very wise.

Just then there was a crackling of branches and a yelping and a stamping. Through the bushes came men riding horses and a pack of angry hounds.

"You are a rascal," yelped the hounds. "You, Ugly Dog, stopped the Running House so that Sly Fox could get away from us!"

"I did no such thing," whined Ugly Dog. "That mean Fox played a trick on me."

The hounds would not listen to him, but they chased him to his kennel and gave him a good whipping. Ugly Dog did not get over the hurting he got that day until the next month.

XI

SLY FOX GETS HIS PICTURE TAKEN

Mole had a photograph gallery in Deacon Jones' woods. One of the rooms was all dark, because it was under the ground, and here he spent nearly all his time making pictures come on the glass plates. He was there so much that after a while he could hardly see at all, so he had to get Ugly Dog to help him. Ugly Dog was a good barker, and he stood out in front of the photograph gallery all day, saying: "Step right up, birds and animals and get your very fine pictures taken."

Ugly Dog made so much noise, and talked so much about the pictures, that nearly all the birds and animals ordered a dozen photographs apiece. Silly Goose, Gray Mouse and Kerchug, the leap-frog, were so pleased that each of them ordered two dozen.

Ugly Dog was out in front of the photograph gallery, barking one afternoon when he saw Sly Fox in the bushes coming toward him. He and Sly Fox were not friends, and he began to growl and snarl.

"Stop your noise," called out the Mole, coming out of the dark room. "You are shaking all the pictures down."



UGLYDOG TELLS THE ANIMALS TO STEP IN

"I can't help it," cried Ugly Dog, "Sly Fox made me stand in front of the house which was running on two rails and the front step knocked me over and nearly killed me."

"Now you do what I tell you," said Mole, "and you can pay Sly Fox for that trick."

So Mole and Ugly Dog went down into the dark room, and Mole told Ugly Dog just what to do. Ugly Dog went back and stood in front of the photograph gallery, and when Sly Fox came up he made a low bow.

"Good morning, Sly Fox. Ha! Ha!" he said. "That was such a very good joke. After the running house struck me and I found myself lying in the road, I got up and laughed, and laughed so hard that for weeks afterward I was sore all over. You are such a very funny animal, and you look just as funny as you are. Whenever I see that great, big, long, thin neck of yours I can hardly help laughing."

Sly Fox was very vain. He put his paw up to his neck and felt it all over, and then said: "You are a very foolish animal, Ugly Dog. Anybody can see that my neck is very short and very graceful."

"I don't wonder that you do not care to have your picture taken," said Ugly Dog. "Silly Goose passed by here only yesterday and ordered two dozen. I don't suppose that my partner, Mole, would care to risk his camera taking a picture of one so ugly, anyway. It's too bad that your tail is so short and stubby."



SLY FOX SITS FOR HIS PICTURE

Now, Sly Fox was very proud of his long and bushy tail, and when he heard what Ugly Dog said, he became red in the face.

"It's just as well," said Ugly Dog, "that you do not take a very good picture, for I hear that you have so little money now that you could not afford to do so, anyway."

Then Sly Fox shook his paw in Ugly Dog's face.

"Take my picture right away," he said, "and I'll let you know that I have money to pay for it. I shall wait here until it is done."

So Ugly Dog called down to his friend Mole, and Mole came up with his camera.

"Sit right down on this stool," said Ugly Dog.

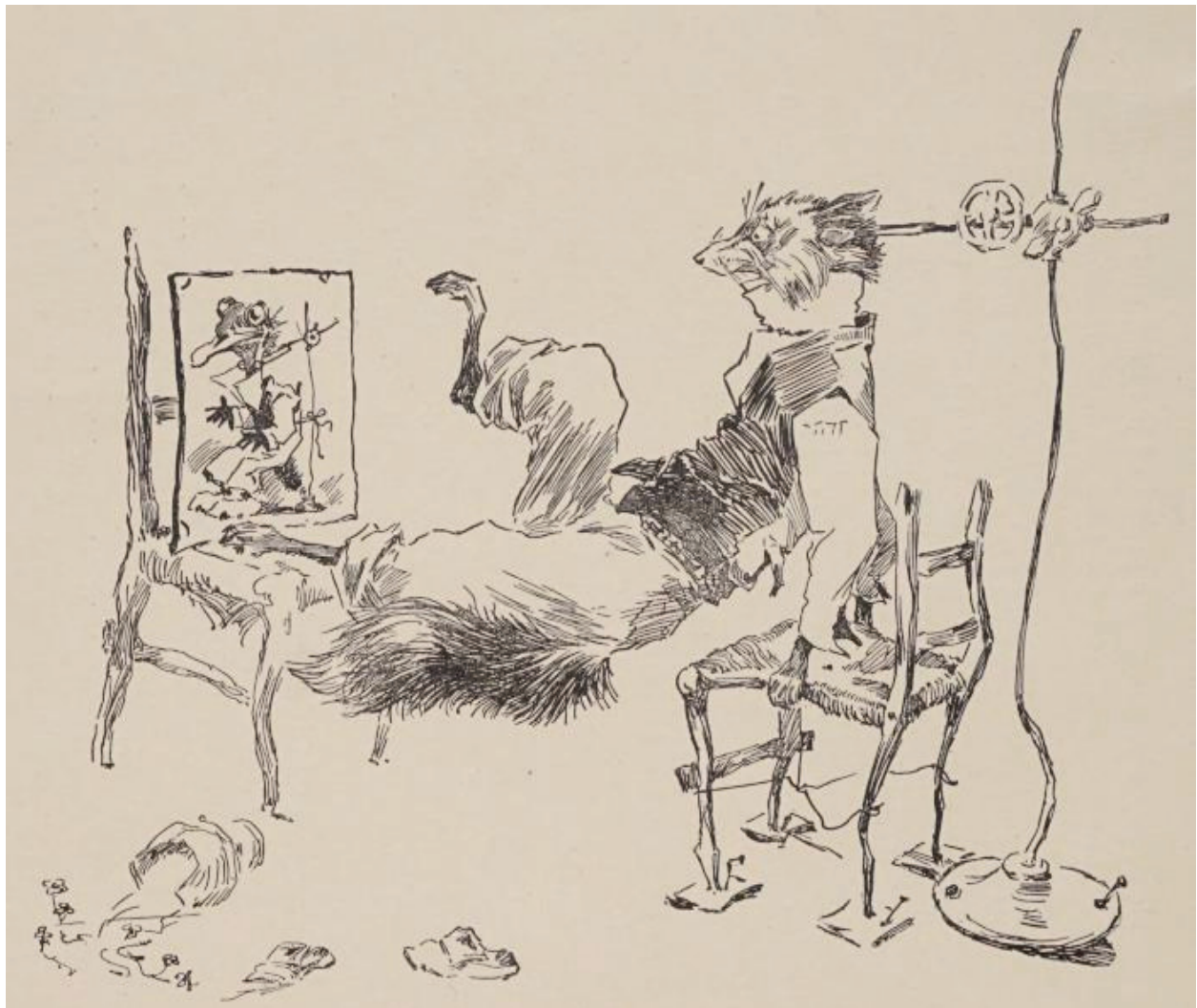
Sly Fox sat down, and behind him Ugly Dog put a funny kind of tongs passing to a long rod. He put the ends of the tongs under Sly Fox's ears and screwed them up real tight.

"That's to keep your head still," said Mole.

"Don't you think that is a little bit too tight?" asked Sly Fox, squirming around, for he was held so fast that he had shooting pains in his head.

"Look pleasant, please," grunted Mole, from under the cloth which was over the camera.

"You must stay here for fifteen minutes," added Ugly Dog, very quietly.



O, MY! O, MY! TAKE IT AWAY!

So Sly Fox stayed sitting there with a bouquet in his right paw and trying to look pleasant, although the tongs about his ears were so tight that his eyes stuck out, and he could hardly keep his tongue from hanging down. Mole took the camera back into the dark room, and, after awhile, he came out with a photograph all finished.

"I'll put it up right in front of you, Sly Fox," said Ugly Dog, "so that you can take a good look at it."

As Sly Fox looked toward the photograph Ugly Dog slipped up behind and gave the tongs another turn and then jumped back into the bushes. When Sly Fox saw the picture he raised his paws and said, "O, my! O, my! Take it away." It was such an awful picture that it would scare anybody to look at it. Mole had placed pictures of different animals together and had made one picture. There was a creature with a long neck like Silly Goose's, and a little stubby tail like Ugly Dog's, and a body like big Elephant's. It had two feet which looked like the goose's, and two other feet which looked like elephant's feet.

"I don't look like that?" cried Sly Fox.

"I just made your picture," said Mole in a sleepy voice, "and nobody can ever say that I ever took the wrong animal. Isn't your name Sly Fox?"

"O, yes," replied Sly Fox, "but I am a very handsome animal."

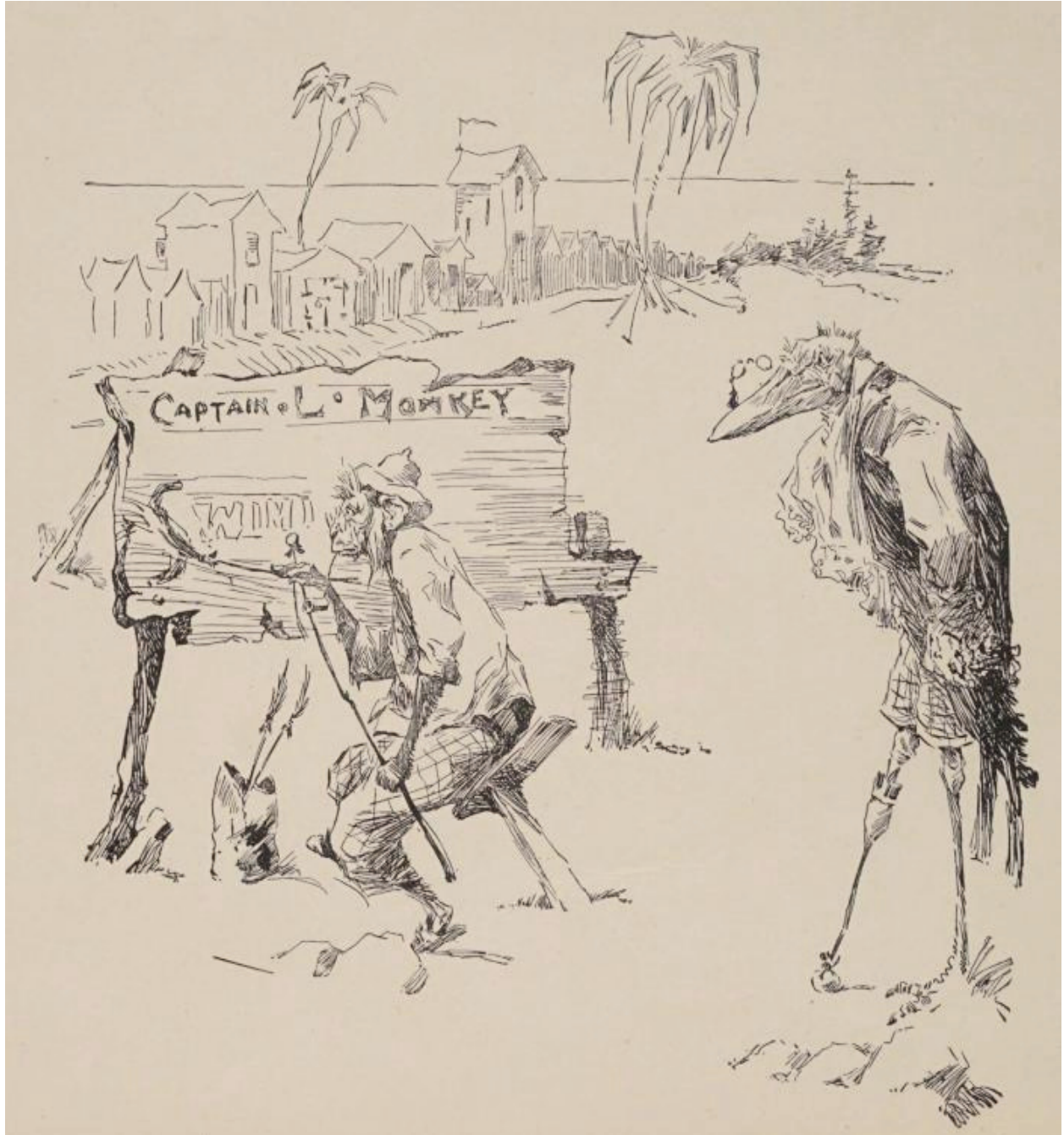
"I can't see that you are," replied the Mole. "That is your picture, and now you'll have to pay for it."

So Ugly Dog and Mole took pay for a dozen pictures and put the photograph up just in front of Sly Fox, where he could see it and could not reach it.

"Take it away. Take it away," cried Sly Fox.

Ugly Dog and Mole went away to dinner and left Sly Fox sitting in the chair snarling and crying. He stayed there for two hours, until his friend Patrick O'Possum came along and unscrewed the tongs and let him go. Ever since that Sly Fox has not been nearly so proud of himself, and he has never played another trick on Ugly Dog.

AT LITTLE MONKEY'S SWIMMING SCHOOL



CAPTAIN MONKEY PAINTS A SIGN .

XII

AT LITTLE MONKEY'S SWIMMING SCHOOL

Little Monkey lost his tail, and the other monkeys made so much fun of him that he could not live with them any more. He went away by himself and fed on berries. He was sitting on the bank of the river one day, when the earth gave way, and he fell in the water. He swam out again, and as he did, he had an idea.

"I'll start a swimming school," said he. "I'll teach all the other animals to swim so that their lives will be saved if they fall into the water."

So Little Monkey built houses on the shore of the river and put up a sign which read:

Captain L. Monkey,
Swimming Skule.
Bathing Suits to Hire.



TIGER'S OPEN MOUTH SCARES LITTLE MONKEY.

He had 100 bathing suits in sizes to fit any animal from a mouse to an elephant. He hired the tailor bird to make new suits as fast as the old ones wore out. Ben Crocodile was always swimming around to save the lives of the animals who swam out too far. Little Monkey put a raft away out in the stream, where the animals could rest after they had swum as long as they should.

When all the animals and all the birds heard that Little Monkey had a swimming school they said: "How very fashionable!"

Some of them thought they could swim, but then it became the style for all animals and birds to swim like little monkeys without tails. Every afternoon, the beach in front of Little Monkey's bathing houses was filled by the jungle folk. All those, who went in, hired bathing suits, and the tailor bird was kept busy all day making new suits and mending the old ones. Little Monkey wore a fine, gray suit, and he swam up and down to teach the animals how to swim like a little monkey without a tail.

Tiger and Zebra were great friends, and one afternoon they went to Little Monkey's swimming school.

"We want nice, new suits," said Tiger.

Tailor Bird brought out two suits with yellow and black stripes. Tiger and Zebra then had white hair, for this was many years ago.

"They're fine," said Tailor Bird. "They fit like the bark on the tree, and the colors are so new that they would be ashamed to run."

"What pretty suits," Zebra and Tiger said at once.

They put on the bathing suits and sat down on the sand.



TIGER AND ZEBRA MAKE FUN OF LEOPARD'S SPOTS

"Why don't you come in?" asked Heron, who had stayed in the water until he was blue.

"We want everybody to see our fine, new suits," answered Zebra.

"Come on!" cried Little Monkey. "Bathing suits were made to get wet."

So Tiger and Zebra stepped into the water and followed Little Monkey.

“Tiger,” cried Little Monkey, turning around, “you must keep your mouth tightly shut.”

(Every time Tiger got near Little Monkey his mouth flew open.) This made Little Monkey very nervous, for Tiger had big, sharp teeth. When Tiger was not scaring Little Monkey, Zebra was kicking the water over the poor, little animal, which was doing his best to teach his pupils how to swim. The other animals and birds got out of the water and sat upon the beach and laughed and laughed at the fun which Tiger and Zebra were having with Little Monkey.

Tiger and Zebra made believe that they were very awkward. They were all the time catching Little Monkey around the neck until his head was under water. Then when he came up again with his ears and mouth all streaming, they would say: “Noble Little Monkey, you have just saved our lives.” They even got a little fish to swim under Little Monkey and bite his toes. Little Monkey pretended not to be angry. All the time, though, he was vexed, and he made up his mind that he would pay back Tiger and Zebra for the mean way in which they were treating him. He was all tired out, yet he kept swimming, for he saw that something was happening which would give him a fine revenge.



TIGER AND ZEBRA RUN AWAY ASHAMED

“Tiger,” he said, “if you would keep your mouth from being open so much, and Zebra, if you would not splash with your feet, you both would become very fine swimmers. Don’t bother to take off your bathing suits. Just sit in the sun and when I teach Antelope how to dive I’ll give you another lesson.”

So Tiger and Zebra sat in the sun and told the other animals about the great fun which they had had with Little Monkey.

Then they found somebody else to make fun for them. Leopard, who was all spotted, came down to the beach.

“Ho, ho,” laughed Tiger, “did you ever see an animal in a polka dot skin?”

“He, he, isn’t he gaily dressed,” neighed the Zebra, as he grinned and looked around at the other animals.

"It is not every animal," answered the Leopard, as he came out dressed up in his white bathing suit, "who has the good fortune to be born with a beautiful white skin. Many is the time I have tried to change these polka dots for a plain checked suit, but somehow I could never do it. I may be funny but I never looked so queer as do two very mean animals who are lying on this beach all dressed up in ugly, striped bathing suits."

Then Zebra and Tiger became angry. They got up and took off their bathing suits and threw them at tailor bird. Then all the birds and the animals laughed so hard that they had to put their hands to their sides. Hyena laughed until he rolled over and over on the beach.

"Hyena," roared Tiger, "you are always laughing at nothing. What is the matter with you?"

Hyena pointed with his paw. Tiger and Zebra looked at themselves and found that their skins were all striped. The color had come out of the new bathing suits and the sun had dried it into their hair. Tiger and Zebra felt so ashamed that they ran away. Ever since that day the beasts in the jungle have always said Striped Tiger and Striped Zebra, and it was not until the Spotted Leopard told me this story, that I knew that those two animals were once as white as the Polar Bear.

THE END