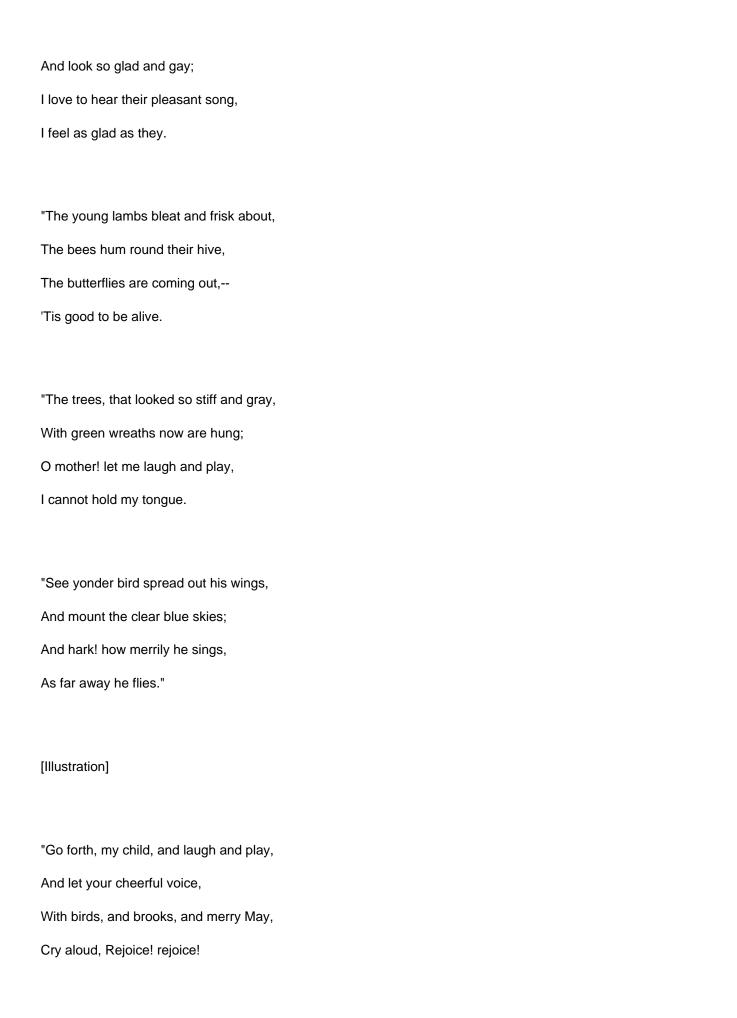
## Gems of Poetry, for Girls and Boys by Unknown

GEMS OF POETRY, FOR GIRLS AND BOYS
1850.
[Illustration: View of Cincinnati.]
[Illustration: Cotton Plant.]
MAY-DAY SONG.
[Illustration]
"The flowers are blooming everywhere,
On every hill and dell,
And O, how beautiful they are!
How sweetly, too, they smell!
"The little brooks, they dance along,



[Illustration]
"I would not check your bounding mirth,
My little happy boy,
For He who made this blooming earth
Smiles on an infant's joy."
ALEXANDER SELKIRK.
ALEXANDER SELRIRA.
[Illustration]
I am monarch of all I survey,
My right there is none to dispute,
From the centre all round to the sea,
I am lord of the fowl and the brute.
O solitude! where are the charms
That sages have seen in thy face?
Better dwell in the midst of alarms
Than reign in this horrible place.
I am out of humanity's reach,
I must finish my journey alone,
Never hear the sweet music of speech,
I start at the sound of my own.

## [Illustration]

The beasts, that roam over the plain,

My form with indifference see,

They are so unacquainted with man,

Their tameness is shocking to me.

## [Illustration]

Society, friendship, and love,

Divinely bestowed upon man,

O had I the wings of a dove.

How soon would I taste you again!

My sorrows I then might assuage

In the ways of religion and truth,

Might learn from the wisdom of age,

And be cheered by the sallies of youth.

Religion! what treasure untold

Resides in that heavenly word!

More precious than silver or gold,

Or all that this earth can afford.

But the sound of the church-going bell

These valleys and rocks never heard,

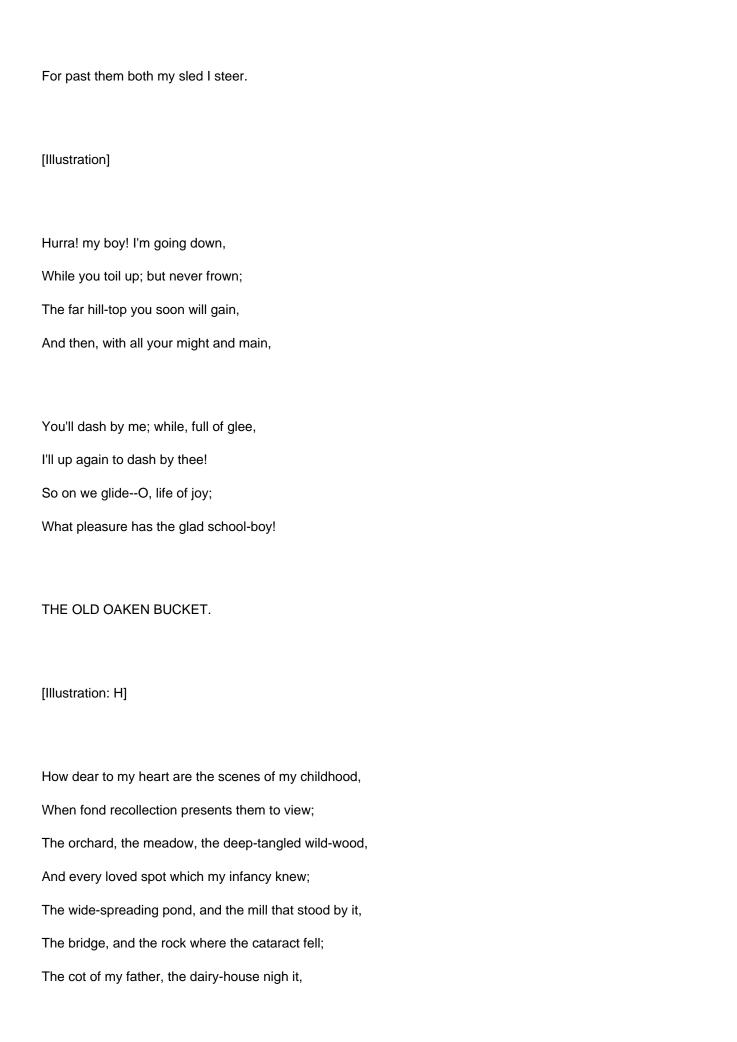
Ne'er sighed at the sound of a knell,

Or smiled	when a Sabbath appeared.		
Ye winds,	that have made me your sport,		
Convey to	this desolate shore		
Some cord	dial endearing report,		
Of a land I	shall visit no more.		
My friends	, do they now and then send		
A wish or a	a thought after me?		
O tell me I	yet have a friend,		
Though a f	friend I am never to see.		
[Illustration	]		
How fleet i	s a glance of the mind!		
Compared	with the speed of its flight,		
The tempe	est itself lags behind,		
And the sw	vift-winged arrows of light.		
When I thir			
In a mome	nk of my own native land,		
iii a iiioiiio	nk of my own native land, ent I seem to be there;		
	•		
But, alas! r	ent I seem to be there;		
But, alas! r	ent I seem to be there; recollection, at hand,		
But, alas! r	ent I seem to be there; recollection, at hand,		
But, alas! r Soon hurric	ent I seem to be there; recollection, at hand, es me back to despair.		
But, alas! r Soon hurric But the sea	ent I seem to be there; recollection, at hand, es me back to despair. a-fowl is gone to her nest.		
But, alas! r Soon hurric But the sea The beast Even here	ent I seem to be there; recollection, at hand, es me back to despair.  a-fowl is gone to her nest. is laid down in his lair,		

There is mercy in every place;
And mercy, encouraging thought!
Gives even affliction a grace,
And reconciles man to his lot.
[Illustration]
DON'T KILL THE BIRDS.
[Illustration: D]
[
Don't kill the birds!the little birds,
That sing about your door,
soon as the joyous spring has come,
And chilling storms are o'er.
The little birds!how sweet they sing!
O! let them joyous live;
And do not seek to take their life,
Which you can never give.
Don't kill the birds!the pretty birds
That play among the trees!
'T would make the earth a cheerless place,
Should we dispense with these.

The little birds! how fond they play!
Do not disturb their sport;
But let them warble forth their songs,
Till winter cuts them short.
[Illustration]
Don't kill the birds!the happy birds
That bless the field and grove:
Such harmless things to look upon,
They claim our warmest love.
[Illustration]
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.
[Illustration: W]
Who showed the little ant the way
Her narrow hole to bore,
And spend the pleasant summer day
In laying up her store?

The sparrow builds her pretty nest
Of wool, and hay, and moss;
Who told her how to build it best,
And lay the twigs across?
Who taught the busy bee to fly
Among the sweetest flowers,
And lay his store of honey by,
To eat in winter hours?
'Twas God who showed them all the way,
And gave them all their skill;
He teaches children, if they pray,
To do his holy will.
To do his holy will.
[Illustration]
WINTER SPORT.
[Illustration: D]
Down, down the hill how swift I go!
Over the ice, and over the snow;
A horse or cart I do not fear.



And e'en the rude bucket which hung in the well.

The old oaken bucket--the iron-bound bucket--

The moss-covered bucket which hung in the well.

That moss-covered vessel I hail as a treasure--For often, at noon, when returned from the field,

I found it the source of an exquisite pleasure,

The purest and sweetest that nature can yield.

How ardent I seized it, with hands that were glowing,

And quick to the white-pebbled bottom it fell;

Then soon, with the emblem of truth overflowing,

And dripping with coolness, it rose from the well.

The old oaken bucket--the iron-bound bucket--

The moss-covered bucket arose from the well.

How sweet from the green mossy brim to receive it,

As, poised on the curb, it inclined to my lips!

Not a full, blushing goblet could tempt me to leave it,

Though filled with the nectar that Jupiter sips.

And now, far removed from that loved situation,

The tear of regret will intrusively swell,

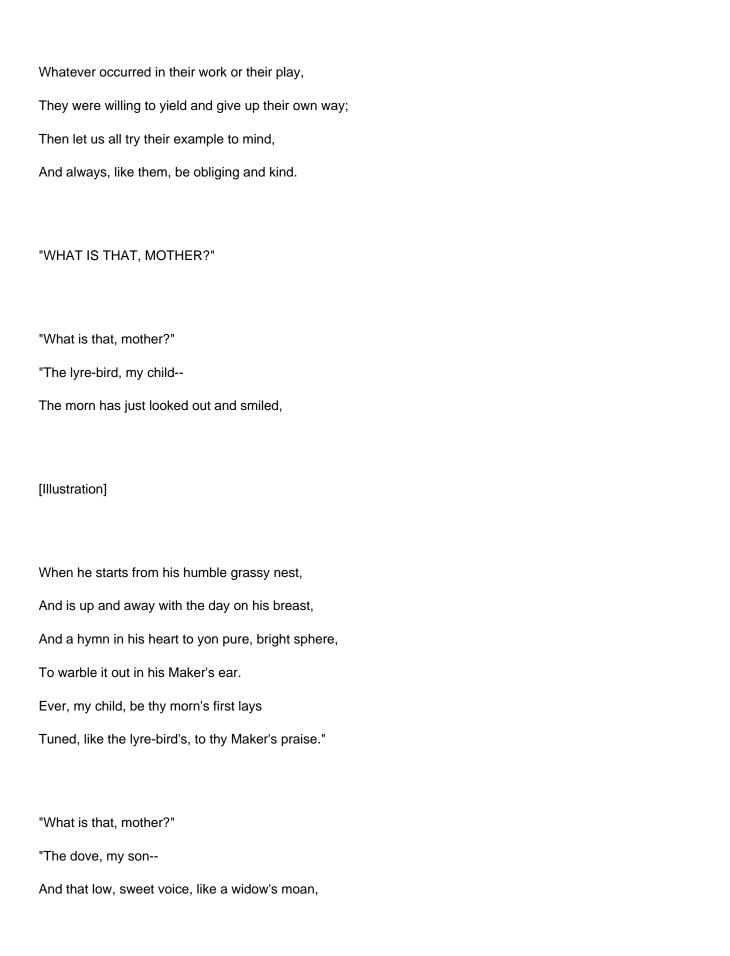
As fancy reverts to my father's plantation,

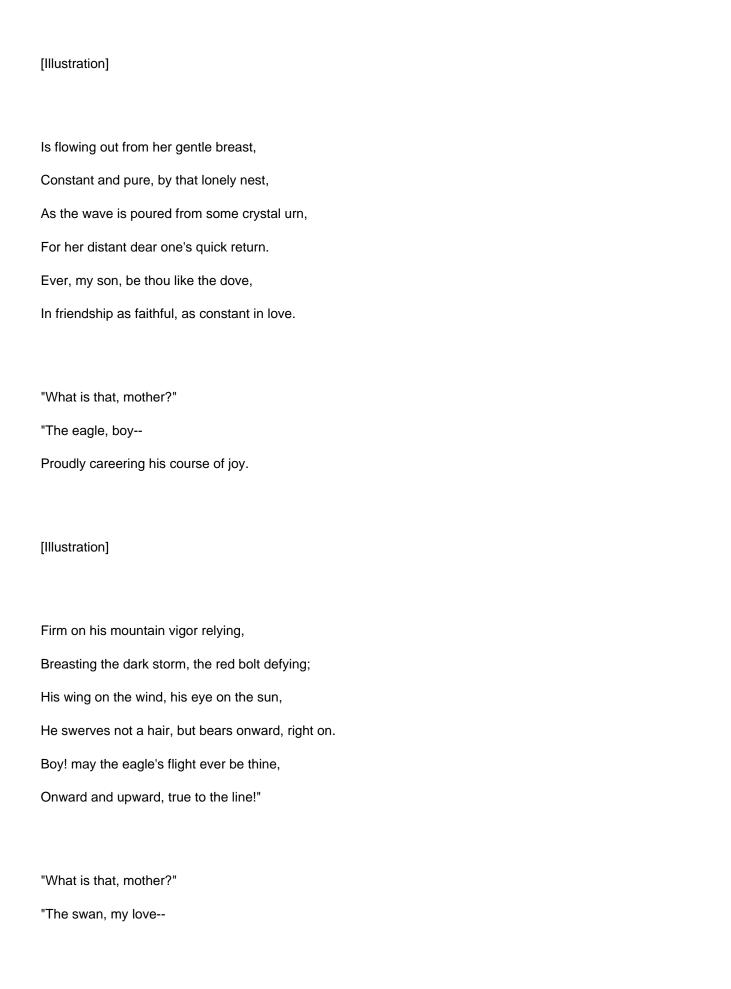
And sighs for the bucket which hangs in the well.

The old oaken bucket--the iron-bound bucket--

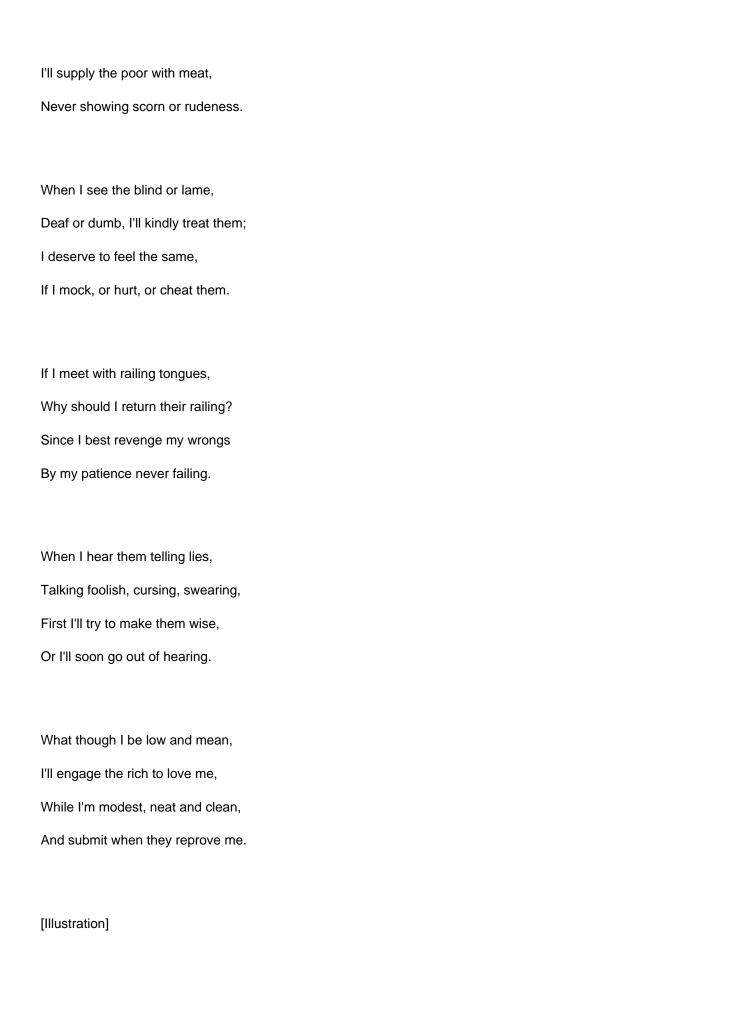
The moss-covered bucket which hangs in the well.

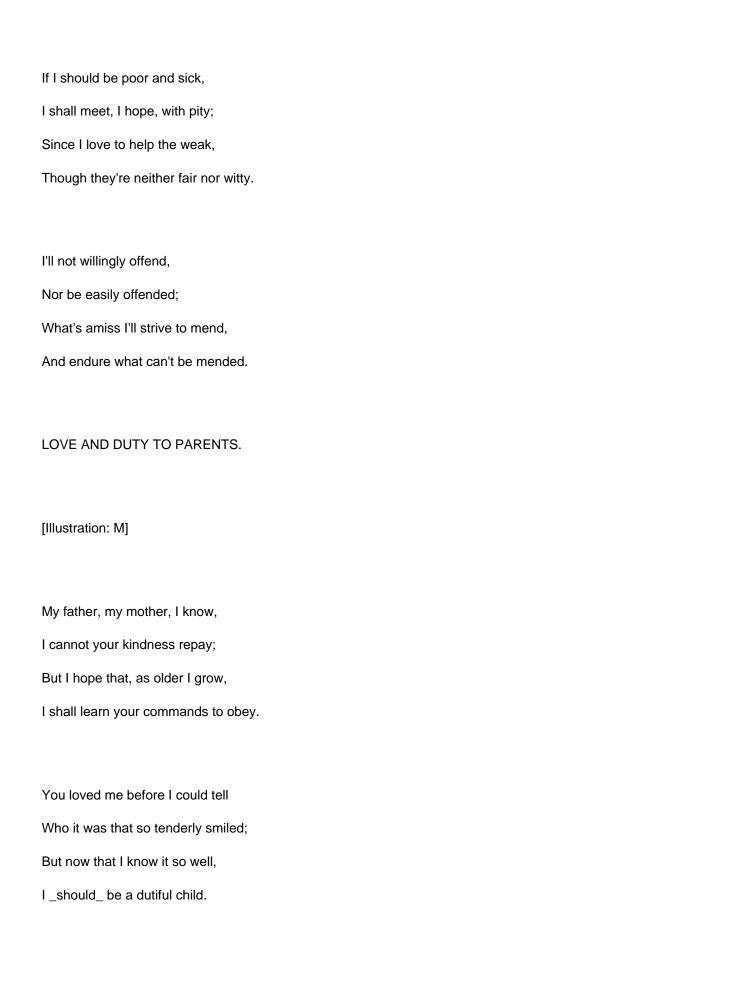
[Illustration]
THE GOOD-NATURED GIRLS.
[Illustration: T]
Two good little girls, Julia-Ann and Maria,
As happily lived as good girls could desire;
And though they were neither grave, sullen, nor mute,
They seldom or never were heard to dispute.
If one wants a thing that the other could get,
They don't go to scratching and fighting for it;
But each one is willing to give up her right,
For they'd rather have nothing than quarrel and fight.
If one of them happens to have something nice,
Directly she offers her sister a slice;
And not like to some greedy children I've known,
Who would go in a corner to eat it alone.
When papa or mamma had a thing to be clone,
These good little girls would immediately run;
And not stand disputing to which it belonged,
And grumble and fret and declare they were wronged.





He is floating down from his native grove,
[Illustration]
No loved one now, no nestling nigh;
He is floating down by himself to die;
Death darkens his eyes, and unplumes his wings,
Yet the sweetest song is the last he sings.
Live so, my love, that when death shall come,
Swan-like, and sweet, it may waft thee home."
[Illustration]
CHILDREN PROMISING THEIR GRANDFATHER THEY WILL BE GOOD.
[Illustration: T]
Though I am now in younger days,
Nor can tell what shall befall me,
I'll prepare for every place
Where my growing age shall call me.
Should I e'er be rich or great,
Others shall partake my goodness;





I am sorry that ever I should
Be naughty and give you a pain;
I hope I shall learn to be good,
And so never grieve you again.
But, for fear that I should dare
From all your commands to depart,
Whenever I'm saying my prayer
I'll ask for a dutiful heart.
THE APPLE-TREE.
[Illustration: L]
Let them sing of bright red gold;
Let them sing of silver fair;
Sing of all that's on the earth,
All that's in the air;
All that's in the sunny air,
All that's in the sea;
And I'll sing a song as rare,
Of the apple-tree!
The red-bloomed apple-tree;
The red-cheeked apple-tree;

That's the tree for you and me,
The ripe, rosy apple-tree!
Learned men have learned books,
Which they ponder night and day;
Easier leaves than theirs I read,
Blossoms pink and white;
Blossom-leaves all pink and white,
Wherein I can see
Charactered, as clear as light,
The old apple-tree;
The gold checked apple trace
The gold-cheeked apple-tree;
The red-streaked apple-tree;
All the fruit that groweth on
The ripe, rosy apple-tree!
[Illustration: W]
Winter comes, as winter will,
Bringing dark days, frost and rime;
But the apple is in vogue
At the Christmas-time;
At the merry Christmas-time
Folks are full of glee;
Then they bring out apples prime,

Of the primest tree;
Then you the roast apple see,
While they toast the apple-tree,
Singing, with a jolly chime,
Of the brave old apple-tree!
[Illustration]
[mustration]
RUFUS MERILL
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CONCORD, N.H.
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Bibles, Testaments, Hymn Books, &c. &c.
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