

# **THE MODERN MOTHER GOOSE**

**A PLAY IN THREE ACTS**

**HELEN HAMILTON**



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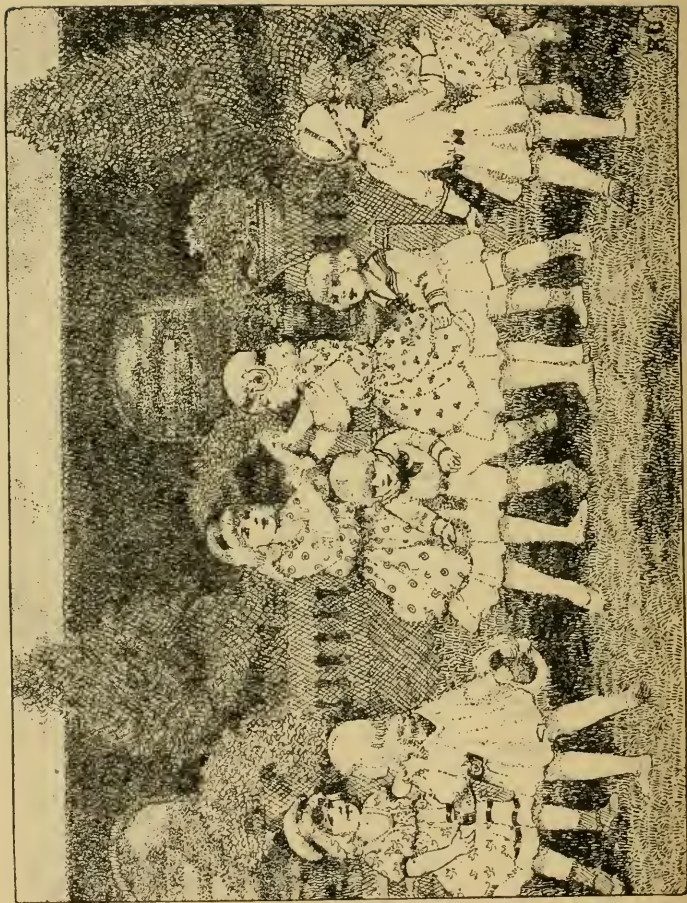
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Cohan's Grand Opera House

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for the

DAILY NEWS FRESH AIR FUND SANATARIUM



*London Bridge is falling down*

# THE MODERN MOTHER GOOSE

A PLAY IN THREE ACTS

By  
HELEN HAMILTON

Being the first of a series of dramas for  
Young People

Produced under the auspices of the  
EDUCATIONAL DRAMATIC LEAGUE  
CHICAGO CHAPTER

RAND McNALLY & COMPANY  
CHICAGO

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no. 1

To  
HARRIET ANN BOGARDUS  
Dramatic Director

and the  
CHICAGO CHILDREN'S PLAYERS

through whose pleasant association in rehearsals

"THE MODERN MOTHER GOOSE"

was first produced

this book is affectionately dedicated





## THE COSTUMES

In general, the costumes of the play of "The Modern Mother Goose" should follow the "period of 1776,"—that picturesque period of powdered hair and of beauty patches, of voluminous petticoats, high-heeled slippers, and silken panniers.

For no less attractive than these habiliments of royalty were the clothes of humbler folk:—the loose frock of the peasant, the linsey woolsey of the villager,—the black bodice, the quaint cap, the home-spun smock, and the white kirtle of the dairy maid or the shepherd lad.

That was an age when Little folk as well as Big folk, prince as well as peasant, each told by his dress and his adornment his station in life,—his vocation,—his recreation.

Hence each character should be so differentiated in the play as to be immediately recognizable,—Tom should have his pig, Peter his bagpipe, the Bachelor his barrow—and Bo-peep her famous crook.

The pictures are for suggestions rather than copies. The whole play can easily be costumed and acted by amateurs, under the guidance of any earnest director with a love for Mother Goose and her Children in her heart.

Photographs and notes made from the Chicago production, also the music for the songs, may be had of Rand McNally & Company, Chicago, publishers.



## SYNOPSIS OF PLOT

Mother Goose, to save the children of the Old Lady who lived in the Shoe from going supperless to bed, tucked them away in the nice soft down of her Gander, on whom she was accustomed to fly through the sky. And she flew with them right up to the moon, where Mistress Mary, every evening, gave a party in her garden. All the fairies of Fairyland came to the party, and brought with them whole troops of good little earth-children whose nurses thought them fast asleep in their own downy cots. And they danced, and played, as only fairies and children can. And *oh!* what a luscious supper they had at that party! with butter cakes,—and barley cakes,—and hot cross buns; with custards, and tarts, and plum cakes, and honey,—and strawberries, sugar, and cream.

All too soon the bells of London town sounded the midnight hour, and the children started on the journey back to earth in charge of Mistress Mary and Marjorie Daw, who were instructed not to let them fall, but to take them carefully down the moonbeam ladder, and tuck them again in their own warm beds.

But the Old Lady in the Shoe had discovered her loss and she persuaded the Giant, whom Jack had not yet killed, to capture her children on their way down. The maidens were disconsolate. Mother Goose called upon all the kings in Gooseland to restore the lost children. Then forth they marched, and brought the Giant back in chains. But still he would not surrender the keys to the dungeon, for his heart was hard. He mumbled his "fe, fi, fo, fum," and rattled his keys, until even the residents of Gooseland trembled for their own safety.

Then entered Old King Cole in state and majesty. "Where are the children?" he asked. The whole story was told to him. He bade his fiddlers play their sweetest music. The heart of the Giant was melted. He unlocked the door, and out trooped the children, none the worse off for their night in the dungeon. As a reward, the fiddlers were knighted by the king, and the wedding bells rang out in Gooseland when Old King Cole married Mistress Mary, and made the Giant Lord High Chamberlain of the kingdom.

CHARACTERS IN  
THE MODERN MOTHER GOOSE  
in the order of their appearance

THE PROLOGUE

LITTLE MISS MUFFET	Clare Vaughan Wales
PETER, THE PIPER . . . . .	Mildred Arnold

ACT I

OLD MOTHER GOOSE . . . . .	Rachael James
MISTRESS MARY . . . . .	Ethel Levy
MARJORIE DAW . . . . .	Anna Spahn
THE LITTLE DAME ON THE WHITE HEN . . . . .	Charline O'Shaughnessy
THE BABES IN THE WOOD {	Vernon Carlstrand
	Bernice Carlstrand
ROSEMARY GREEN . . . . .	Charlotte Headen
LAVENDER BLUE . . . . .	Florence O'Shaughnessy
TOM, TOM . . . . .	Herbert Amo Ingraham
JOHNNY ON THE COCK-HORSE	Jack Byfield
ELIZABETH } FOUR {	Gertrude McKinley
ELSBETH } MAIDS {	Frances Scudder
BETSY } OF {	Mildred Henkel
BESS } PERTH {	Marion Birmingham
BETTY BAKER . . . . .	Ruth Towle
THE BOY IN THE LANE . . . . .	Dorothy Kniss
BAA BAA, BLACK SHEEP	Sybella Heileman

DAFFY DOWN DILLY	Marjorie Bowden
JACK HORNER	Dorothy Pfeiffer
LITTLE JOHNNY GREEN	Frances Cassidy
GOLDY LOCKS	Florence Boam
BIG TOM STOUT	Rosalie Budinger
LITTLE MISS ETTICOAT	Katherine Shannon
TOMMY SNOOKS	Evelyn Cassidy
BESSIE BROOKS	Dorothy Wallace
JOCKEY ON DAPPLE GREY	Charles Currie
SIMPLE SIMON	G. Warren Slater
WEE WILLIE WINKIE	Weslie Raubolt
LITTLE TOMMIE TITTMOUSE	William Jordan
LITTLE POLLY FLINDERS	Elizabeth Thomas
LITTLE JUMPING JOAN	Vartanoush Magarian
JACK AND JILL	{ Walter Raubolt Dorothy Brown
LITTLE BETTY BLUE	Geraldine Swinton
CURLY LOCKS	Katherine Bernice Slater
JACK-BE-NIMBLE	William Raubolt
BETTY THE LADY	Mary Louise Wynekoop
JACK-A-DANDY	Rose Byfield
LITTLE TOMMY TUCKER	Ray Currie
PETER, PETER'S WIFE	Martha McKellops
THE BACHELOR	Nathan Fuller
THE BACHELOR'S WIFE	Virginia Jurs
FIDDLE-DE-DEE	Harriet Jones
BURNIE BEE	Catherine Wynekoop
OLD WITCH	Dorothy Sloan

THE GIANT

ACT II, SCENE 1

THE HARLEQUIN . . . William Maurer

THE FOUR KNAVES

HEARTS . . . Gwendolyn Daniels

SPADES . . . Mildred Rhynes

DIAMONDS . . . Lucile Nichols

CLUBS . . . Lucile Fisher

THE FOUR QUEENS

HEARTS . . . Dorothy Jones

SPADES . . . Frances Klassen

DIAMONDS . . . Bonnie Kniss

CLUBS . . . Margarette Myers

THE FOUR KINGS

HEARTS . . . Walker Wynekoop

SPADES . . . Daniel Delaney

DIAMONDS . . . William Jamison

CLUBS . . . Wolcott Andrews

THE WISE MAN . . . Lawrence Jamison

THE BUTCHER . . . Carl Bertram

THE BAKER . . . Ferdinand Fuller

THE CANDLESTICK MAKER . . . Earl Wynekoop

CAPTAIN JINKS . . . James Griffin

THE SOLDIERS OF THE KING

PATROL OF THE BOY SCOUTS

## ACT II, SCENE 2

LITTLE BO-PEEP . . . Beatrice Stibgen

BOY BLUE . . . Katie Griffin

“THE MAIDS ARE IN THE GARDEN”

“There are Bessie Bell and Mary Grey,  
Dolly Dimple and Jane-O’Day.”

Jessie Tyrrell Alice Boor

Katherine Volz Bernice Rafferty

## THE COURTIERS OF OLD KING COLE

THE CHANCELLOR . . . Jane Newbre

THE SECRETARY . . . Bessie O’Brien

THE LORD OF HIGH FINANCE Gladys Bezazian

THE ADMIRAL . . . Gertrude Cassidy

“FOUR AND TWENTY BLACKBIRDS” . . .

. . . Naomi Becketel

SWEET COLUMBINE . . . Mary Burton

PRETTY MAID. . . Elizabeth Jamison

BONNIE PRINCE CHARLIE Rosamond Polachek

THE HERALD . . . LeVere Weideling

## ACT III

OLD KING COLE . . . William Delaney

	{	Carl Bertram
THE FIDDLERS THREE .		Frederick Fuller
		Earle Wynekoop





## PROLOGUE TO PLAY

*[To be recited before the raising of the curtain]*

Once upon a time,—long, long, ago,—there was an old lady named Mother Goose. You've all heard of Mother Goose, have n't you, dears?

In Gooseland she lived,—a queer country close by the sea,—where wishes were horses, and beggars might ride;—where every Jack had his Jill, and where—most marvelous of all—every day a wonderful goose laid a wonderful golden egg. You've all heard of the goose that laid the golden egg, have n't you, dears?

That was during the Golden Age in Gooseland;—for up to that time no one had ever heard of witches, or goblins, nor of the Terrible Giant who lived in the land where the beanstalk grew. So in Gooseland every one was happy. Pearl necklaces hung up on trees, and the children played without fear.

But one day, when Mistress Mary was giving a party in her beautiful garden upon the moon, the Giant came and stole away the children, and locked them up in his dungeon; and all the people of Gooseland,—the Queen of Hearts, and Humpty Dumpty, and Simple Simon,—even the four and twenty Blackbirds,—all joined in the search for the little lost children. You all would like to hear this new story about Mother Goose's children, would n't you, dears?

# THE MODERN MOTHER GOOSE

## ACT I

SCENE—Mistress Mary's Garden on the Moon.

*On the stage are MOTHER GOOSE, who has just arrived on her Gander bringing with her the Children of the Old Lady who lived in the Shoe, and MISTRESS MARY, standing ready to welcome her guests, who arrive in the order named.*

*Mistress Mary:*

Goosey Goosey Gander,  
Whither wouldst thou wander?  
Up stairs, down stairs,  
In my lady's chamber.

*Mother Goose:*

There was an old lady who lived in a shoe,  
She had so many children she didn't know  
what to do.

Sometimes they had broth, sometimes they  
had bread,

But to-night she sent them all hungry to bed.  
So I tucked them all under my feathers  
instead

And up to the moon in a jiffy we sped.

*Marjorie Daw:*

Mistress Mary, quite contrary,  
How does your garden grow?

*Mistress Mary:*

With silver bells and cockle shells  
And pretty maids all in a row.

*The Little Dame on the White Hen:*

In London town I paid a crown  
To buy my little white hen,  
Trot! trot! he came, to bring his dame;  
And we'll trot, trot home again.

*Mistress Mary:*

We are very glad to welcome you,  
Rosemary Green and Lavender Blue.

*The Babes in the Wood:*

We're the Babes in the Wood.  
We've been very good.

*Rosemary and Lavender:*

See Saw, Marjorie Daw  
She counted her chickens one by one.

*Tom, Tom:*

I've brought a pig to dance a jig;  
I'm Tom, Tom the Piper's son.

*Chorus:*

Tom, Tom the Piper's son  
Stole a pig and away he run.  
The pig was eat and Tom was beat,  
And Tom went running down the street.

*Johnny on the Cock-Horse:*

I rode my cock-horse from Banbury Cross  
 To see an old lady upon a white horse.  
 Rings on her fingers and bells on her toes,  
 And so she makes music wherever she goes.

Four { *Elizabeth*  
 Maids { *Elsbeth*  
 of { *Betsy*  
 Perth { *Bess*

As we were all coming a long-long-long,  
 We were singing a wonderful song-song-song;  
 Girls and boys, come out and play,  
 The moon doth shine as bright as day.  
 Come with a whoop, and come with a call,  
 Come with a good will, or not at all.  
 Then up the ladder and down the wall,  
 For we knew Mother Goose would welcome  
 us all!

*Marjorie Daw:*

Elizabeth, Elsbeth, Betsey, and Bess,  
 Which one was which, you never could guess.  
 They built London Bridge, for they thought  
 it a sin  
 That all who crossed over should also fall in.

*Betty Baker:*

Hippity, Hoppity! my Black Hen,  
 She lays eggs for gentlemen.

Gentlemen come every day  
To see the eggs my hen doth lay.

*The Boy in the Lane:*

I'm the boy in the lane who could n't speak  
plain.

He cried, "Gobble! Gobble! Gobble!"

I met a man on the hill who could n't stand  
still.

He went Hobble! Hobble! Hobble!

*Baa Baa, Black Sheep:*

Baa Baa, Black Sheep,

Have you any wool?

Yes, sir, yes, sir,

Three bags full.

One for my master,

One for my dame,

And one for the little boy

Who lives in the lane.

*Daffy Down Dilly:*

I'm Daffy Down Dilly. I feel very silly  
Eating Jack Horner's pie.

*Jack Horner:*

I stuck in my thumb and pulled out a plum,  
And said, "What a brave boy am I!"

*All (in chorus):*

Ding, Dong, Ding, Dong, Ding, Dong Bell.

[Enter Little Johnny Green]

*Goldy Locks:*

Puss is in the well.

*All (in chorus):*

Who put her in?

*Goldy Locks:*

Little Johnny Green.

*All (in chorus):*

Shame! shame! shame! for that!

To try to drown poor pussy cat.

*Goldy Locks:*

Who pulled her out?

*Tom Stout:*

I pulled her out.

*All (in chorus):*

He pulled her out.

*Tom Stout:*

I'm Tom Stout.

*Mistress Mary:*

Little Miss Etticoat

In a white petticoat,

Where is your beau?

*Little Miss Etticoat:*

Bobby Shaftoe's gone to sea,

Silver buckles on his knee.

He'll come back and marry me,

Pretty Bobby Shaftoe.

*Tommy Snooks and Bessie Brooks:*

As Tommy Snooks and Bessie Brooks  
 Were walking out together,  
 Said Tommy Snooks to Bessie Brooks,  
 "How do you like the weather?"

*Jockey on Dapple Grey:*

I had a little pony—his name was Dapple  
 Grey;  
 I lent him to a lady to ride a mile away:  
 She shipped him, she lashed him,  
 She drove him through the mire.  
 I would not lend my pony now  
 For all that lady's hire.

*Rosemary Green:*

On St. Paul's steeple stands a tree  
 As full of plums as a tree can be.

*Lavender Blue:*

And apples grow upon the hedge  
 From St. Paul's down to London Bridge.

*Simple Simon:*

Simple Simon met a pieman  
 Going to the fair.  
 Said Simple Simon to the pieman,  
 "Let me taste your ware."  
 Said the pieman unto Simon,  
 "Give me first your penny."  
 Said Simple Simon to the pieman,  
 "Indeed I have n't any."



## SONG AND GAME

London Bridge is broken down—broken  
down—broken down,  
London Bridge is broken down, my fair lady.

How shall we build it up again, up again,  
up again?

How shall we build it up again, my fair lady?

Wood and clay will wash away—wash away  
—wash away,  
Wood and clay will wash away, my fair lady.

Build it up with stone so strong—stone so  
strong—stone so strong!  
Build it up with stone so strong, my fair lady.

It will last for ages long—ages long—ages  
long,  
It will last for ages long, my fair lady.

*Chorus:*

Cackle! Cackle! Mother Goose,  
Have you any feathers loose?

*Mother Goose:*

Truly have I, little fellow,  
Half enough to fill a pillow.  
Here are quills—pray have a rack full;  
Just one feather makes a sack full.

*Goslings:*

One to make ready,  
Two to prepare,  
Three for a starter,  
Jump if you dare.

*Chorus:*

How do you do! How do you do!  
And how do you do!—again.

*Wee Willie Winkie:*

Wee Willie Winkie  
Says 'tis ten o'clock.

*Tommie Tittlemouse:*

Then little Tommie Tittlemouse  
Must go and turn the lock.

*Polly Flinders:*

Little Polly Flinders  
Must sit among the cinders  
To warm her ten little toes.

*Jumping Joan:*

Here am I, Little Jumping Joan.  
When nobody's with me, I'm always alone.

*Jack and Jill:*

Jack and Jill went up the hill  
To fetch a pail of water.  
Jack fell down and broke his crown,  
And Jill came tumbling after.

*Betty Blue:*

Little Betty Blue  
Lost her holiday shoe.  
What shall little Betty do?

*Mistress Mary:*

Curly Locks! Curly Locks! Where have  
you been?

*Curly Locks:*

Gathering roses to give to the queen.

*Jack-be-Nimble:*

Jack be nimble, Jack be quick—  
Jack jump over the candlestick.

*Betty the Lady:*

Betty's a lady, and wears a gold ring.  
And Johnny's a drummer and drums for  
the king.

*Jack-a-dandy:*

Handy Pandy, Jack-a-dandy,  
Loves plum-cake and sugar candy.

*Tommy Tucker:*

Little Tommy Tucker,  
Is singing for his supper,  
But we can't find any knife.

*Mother Goose:*

I'll call for Peter  
The great Pumpkin Eater,  
And he will bring his wife.

*Peter Peter's Wife:*

Peter Peter, Pumpkin Eater,  
Had a wife and couldn't keep her.  
Put her in a pumpkin shell  
And there he kept her very well.

*The Bachelor:*

When I was a bachelor  
I lived by myself,  
And all the bread and cheese I got  
I put upon the shelf.  
But the rats and the mice  
Did lead me such a life,  
I was forced to go to London  
To buy myself a wife.

*The Bachelor's Wife:*

The roads were so wide  
And the lanes were so narrow,  
He was forced to bring his wife home  
On a wheelbarrow.  
The wheelbarrow broke,  
And I got a fall,  
For down tumbled wheelbarrow,  
Little wife, and all.

*Marjorie Daw:*

Polly put the kettle on,  
Polly put the kettle on,  
Polly put the kettle on,  
And we'll all take tea.

*Daffy Down Dilly:*

P is a pudding stuck full of plums,  
Q is for quartering! See, here it comes!

*Mistress Mary and Marjorie Daw:*

You shall have an apple! You shall have a  
plum!

You shall have some ginger cake  
As big as mother's thumb.

You shall have a cherry.

You shall have a tart.

And you shall have some bread and cheese—  
And then we'll all depart.

*Mother Goose:*

One away! Two away!

Ever must I roam.

At the midnight hour the children

Must all be safely home.

*Mistress Mary:*

Whither, oh, whither! oh, whither so high?

*Mother Goose:*

To sweep the cobwebs out of the sky.

I'll come back to you by and by.

[Mother Goose *disappears*—Giant and Old Witch *peek*  
*through dungeon door at children*]

MISTRESS MARY and MARJORIE DAW dance and sing:

Hey diddle diddle,

The cat and the fiddle,

The cow jumped over the moon.

The little dog laughed  
To see such sport,  
While the dish ran away with the spoon.

*Fiddle-de-dee:*

Just one more game before we go.

*Chorus:*

Before we go. Before we go.

SONG AND GAME—"Here we go round the  
Mulberry Bush."

*Giant:*

What 's the hour? What 's the hour?  
What 's the hour of night?

*Mistress Mary:*

The bells of London town strike twelve.

*Marjorie Daw:*

Then put out the light.

*Old Witch:*

Oh, Burnie Bee, I see, I see,  
Fiddle-de-dee, Fiddle-de-dee.

*Burnie Bee:*

Hark! Hark! The dogs do bark;  
The beggars are coming to town.

*Fiddle-de-dee:*

It 's twelve o'clock!  
Hear the witches knock,  
How shall we all get down?

*Witch:*

Here comes a candle to light you to bed,  
And here's a soft pillow for each sleepyhead.

[*Witch, pretending kindness, puts pillow under each  
sleepyhead's head*]

*Mistress Mary:*

Hinx! Minx! the Old Witch winks!  
We can't get away if we try.

*Marjorie Daw:*

She's in league with the Giant,  
And this is his cell—  
He'll put us in the dungeon to die.

*Rosemary Green:*

They're going to catch us—  
Run; boys, run!

*Lavender Blue:*

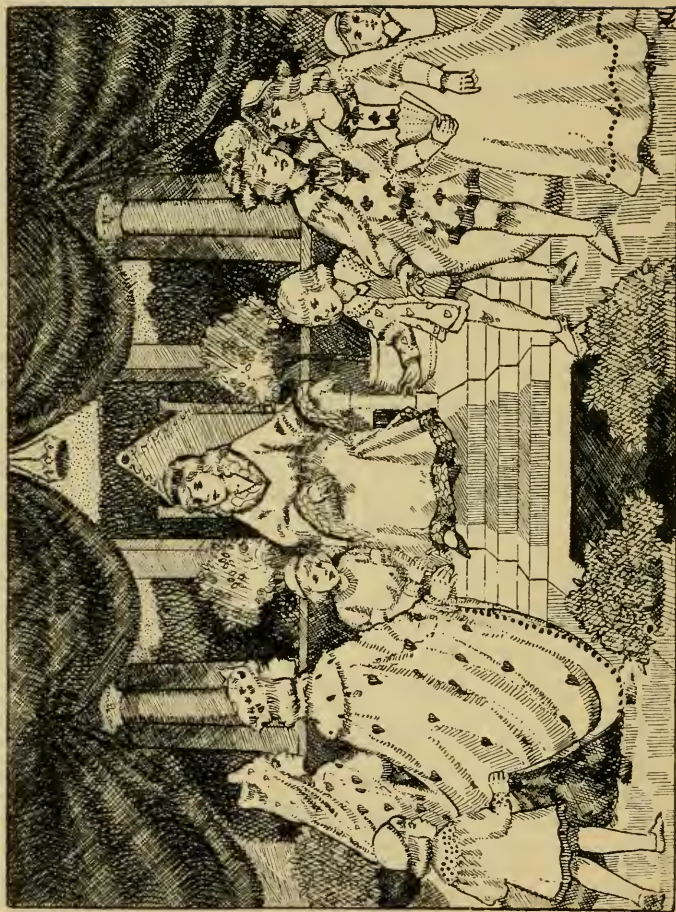
Will nobody help us?  
Run; girls, run!

*Giant:*

Fe! Fi! Fo! Fum!  
Come with me, and  
I'll take you home.

[*The Giant gently draws the tiniest children into the  
dungeon, the others grouping themselves around  
Mistress Mary and Marjorie Daw, on each side of  
the stage*]





*The kings and queens of Gooseland*



## ACT II, Scene 1

SYNOPSIS—Mistress Mary and Marjorie Daw tell Mother Goose of the loss of the children. She summons the Four Kings of Gooseland, with their armies “of twenty thousand men,” to restore them. The soldiers make merry before their departure on the perilous enterprise and join with the maidens in the dance of Captain Jinks.

SCENE—The Royal Hall of Gooseland.

*On the stage are MOTHER GOOSE in the center, MISTRESS MARY and MARJORIE DAW kneeling in contrition before her. JACK, the famed harlequin, curled up at her feet.*

*Mother Goose:*

What’s the news of the day, good neighbors,  
I pray?

*Mary and Marjorie:*

Oh, dear, all the children were stolen away.

*Mother Goose:*

What’s that that ye tell?  
I bade ye watch well!

*Mary and Marjorie:*

Oh, the Giant has locked them all up in  
his cell!

*Mother Goose:*

Call the Three Wise Men of Gotham  
And bid them storm the fort—  
The Butcher, the Baker, the Candlestick  
Maker,

[Enter Butcher, Baker, and Candlestick Maker]

The royal kings of court.  
Let each of them summon an army  
Of twenty thousand men,  
And he shall be king of Gooseland  
Who can bring them home again.

[Enter Knave, King, and Queen of Hearts]

*Knave of Hearts:*

The Queen of Hearts, she made some tarts  
All on a summer's day.  
The children's hearts were set on tarts,  
But now they're stolen away.

*Mary and Marjorie:*

Away! Away! Away!

[Enter Knave, King, and Queen of Spades]

*Knave of Spades:*

The King of Spades, he sought those maids  
But now he's vexed full sore—  
The Giant's wife pulled out a knife  
And sent him from the door.

*Mary and Marjorie:*

Methinks I hear him roar— roar— roar.

[Enter Knave, King, and Queen of Clubs]

*Knave of Clubs:*

The King of Clubs, his hands he rubs,  
And threatens he'll surround  
The Giant's den with all his men  
And raze it to the ground.

*Mary and Marjorie:*

Oh, what a fearful sound—sound—sound!

[*Enter Knave, King, and Queen of Diamonds*]

*Knave of Diamonds:*

And Diamond's queen, in velvet sheen,  
Pledges her royal crown  
To slave or knight who'll lead the fight  
And bring the culprit down.

*Mary and Marjorie:*

Oh, would that he could drown—drown—  
drown!

*Mother Goose:*

Now over the hills and far away,  
Go! Search for the children all the day.

*The Wise Man:*

My lords, 't were best we first take note  
What strength and numbers each can furnish.

*Harlequin:*

Well said, Old Wiseacre,  
And here are the hosts of the King's Armee.

[*Soldiers march on, singing or reciting chorus*]

*Chorus of Soldiers:*

We're the soldiers of the king,  
He has twenty thousand men,  
And he marched them up the hill  
And he marched them down again.

*Butcher:*

In me ye see the Butcher Big of the King's  
Armee.

I'll furnish the meat for the men to eat  
As they march on land or sail the sea.

*Baker:*

I'll furnish the bread, for I'm the head  
Of the Flying Squad of the King's Armee.

*Candlestick Maker:*

And the candles tall that stand on the wall  
Will light up the hall for the King's Armee.

*King of Spades:*

Comrades and fellow-kings,  
Ere we embark upon this enterprise  
Ye all should know  
The nature of our adversary.

*King of Clubs:*

He is no common foe—  
Forth from his eyes  
Flames issue,  
While a double mask wards every blow.

*King of Diamonds:*

He bears a charmed life.  
When once we've forced him from his  
buttressed walls  
In single combat must the fighting end.

*King of Spades:*

For this are ye prepared?

*King of Hearts:*

Aye! Aye! When duty calls,

Count ye on us.

*King of Diamonds:*

Methinks this jaunt

Doth smack of bold adventure.

*King of Clubs:*

But cautiously! And ere we boast

Let us first frame our plan;

Then have we but to choose our captain

And lead on.

*King of Spades:*

Here, let us pledge a toast—come,

Every man stand forth and raise his glass!

[Harlequin *passes beakers*]

*Harlequin:*

Are ye all filled?

*King of Hearts:*

Aye! Aye! The toast! The toast!

*King of Spades:*

Though crowns and lives be both in jeopardy,

To Cause and Country pledge we fealty.

[Four Kings *pledge, replace mugs, and draw swords*]

*Kings of Hearts:*

To Victory!

*King of Clubs:*

With honor!

*King of Diamonds:*

To Glory.

*King of Spades:*

Without shame!

*Four Kings (in succession):*

We swear—and we—and we—and we.

[*The Kings and Courtiers take partners for the dance,  
and preparations are hurried for the departure of  
the troops*]

*The Wise Man:*

The soldiers are marching over the lea.

*The Piper:*

The pipers a-piping, pipe for me.

*The Wise Man:*

The drummers a-drumming—hey, diddle,  
dee!

*The Piper:*

The maidens a-dancing, so gay-gay-lee!

[*Enter Captain Jinks*]

*Captain Jinks of the Horse Marines:*

I'm Captain Jinks of the Horse Marines;

I feed my men on corn and beans;

I teach the ladies how to dance;

I'm a captain in the army.

*Harlequin:*

The horses are saddled—  
We're off for the fray.

*Chorus:*

We're the soldiers of the king.  
He has twenty thousand men,  
And he marched them up the hill  
And he marched them down again.

*[The soldiers march away, the music growing fainter and fainter in the distance, while the Queens and maidens wave good-by and watch them out of sight]*

*[Stage is darkened and haystack is erected on left side, before Scene 2]*





*Little Bo-peep and Little Boy Blue*



## ACT II, Scene 2

SYNOPSIS: The Queens and their ladies relieve their ennui by rustic revels in the dairy yard, the "petit Trianon" of Gooseland, where they discover Little Bo-peep and Little Boy Blue. After the Humpty Dumpty antics they join the shepherdesses in a dance, which is cut short with a message that the battle will be fought on the morrow.

SCENE—The "Royal Hall," with as many barn-yard trappings as possible.

*On the stage are LITTLE BO-PEEP, rousing slowly, and LITTLE BOY BLUE, fast asleep.*

*Little Bo-peep:*

The songs of birds awake me from my sleep—  
What! Is it day? Then I must mind my  
sheep.

*Little Boy Blue* (talking in his sleep):

I dream of soldiers marching off to war—  
I hear the drums and bugles from afar!

*Bo-peep:*

Little Boy Blue! come, blow your horn.  
The children we've sought since early morn.  
The Giant has them in his dungeon to keep,  
While you're under the haystack fast asleep.

*Boy Blue:*

Oh, Little Bo-peep, pray, why do you weep?  
Was there nobody there to mind them?  
Just leave them alone and they will come home  
Or else I'll help you find them.

[Enter Harlequin]

*Harlequin:*

Why this delay? What's happening?  
Where is the king? Where is the queen?

*Bo-peep:*

The king is in his counting house  
Counting out his money.

*Boy Blue:*

The queen is in the pantry  
Eating bread and honey.

*Bo-peep:*

The maids are in the garden  
Sighing for their beaux.

*Harlequin:*

And where everybody else is, nobody knows.

*Bo-peep:*

When the cat's away, the mice will play.

*Boy Blue:*

Then I'll be king just for a day.

*Bo-peep:*

If for your royal favor I must sue,  
Perhaps a game of hide and seek will do.

GAME OF HIDE AND SEEK

[Enter the Four Queens]

*Queen of Hearts:*

Alack the day  
When all the Kings of Gooseland march  
away.

*Queen of Spades:*

We yawn meanwhile  
And plan how best the dragging hours we  
may beguile.

*Queen of Diamonds:*

Let us forget our state  
And in this rustic vale the news await.

*Queen of Clubs* (discovering Bo-peep):

What beauty!  
She could grace a court or throne.

*Queen of Hearts:*

Her creamy cheeks  
I'd relish for mine own.

*Queen of Spades:*

But soft! She'll hear!  
Your boldness makes her blush.

*Harlequin:*

Four Queens! A royal flush!

*Bo-peep:*

What would ye wish? Why are ye here?

*Queen of Diamonds:*

What's your position in this place, my dear?

*Bo-peep:*

In this domain I'm queen;  
My lambs and sheep the snowiest ever seen.  
Forget the war while here you're tarrying,  
And with my maidens play at dairying.

[Dairy Maids *run on stage one by one*]

*Bessie Bell:*

I've made a roll of butter.

I've made a jar of cheese.

*Mary Grey:*

And I have made the pans and pails

All shiny, if you please.

*Dollie Dimple:*

And I have kept the dairy.

And I have churned the milk.

*Jane O'Day:*

Cashy cow, bonnie cow, gave me a gown of  
silk.

[*Enter the Courtiers of Old King Cole*]

*Chancellor:*

I'm the keeper of the seal.

*Secretary:*

I'm the maker of the scroll.

*Lord of High Finance:*

I'm the Lord of High Finance

In the Treasury.

*Chancellor:*

I'm the august chancellor,

And I check the ex-checker.

*Admiral:*

While I dispense the favors

Of the ad-mi-ral-i-ty.

[Enter Bonnie Prince Charlie and Pretty Maid]

*Bonnie Prince Charlie:*

“But where are you going, my pretty maid?”

*Pretty Maid:*

“I’m going a milking, sir,” she said.

*Chorus:*

“Sir,” she said, “Sir,” she said;

“I’m going a milking,  
Sir,” she said.

*Bonnie Prince Charlie:*

“May I go with you, pretty maid?”

*Pretty Maid:*

“You may if you wish to, sir,” she said.

*Chorus:*

“Sir,” she said, etc.

*Bonnie Prince Charlie:*

“What is your fortune, my pretty maid?”

*Pretty Maid:*

“My face is my fortune, sir,” she said.

*Chorus:*

“Sir,” she said, etc.

*Bonnie Prince Charlie:*

“Then I cannot marry you, my pretty maid.”

*Pretty Maid:*

“Nobody asked you to, sir,” she said.

*Chorus:*

“Sir,” she said, etc.

## "FOUR AND TWENTY BLACKBIRDS"

Sing a song of sixpence,  
Pocket full of rye,  
Four and twenty blackbirds  
Baked in a pie.  
When the pie was opened  
The birds began to sing,  
Was n't that a dainty dish  
To set before the queen?

## "HUMPTY DUMPTY'S ANTICS"

Humpty Dumpty sat contented  
On the garden wall,  
Humpty Dumpty sat contented  
Till he had a fall.  
Then the king and all his minions  
Could n't mend poor Humpty's pinions,  
Oh! Oh! Oh—  
Humpty Dumpty Ump.

## DANCE OF THE DAIRY MAIDS

Interrupted suddenly by message from field of war  
*Harlequin:*

Stop all mirth!

A messenger on horseback comes in haste.

*Herald:*

I bring you greetings from the field of war:  
Our men are strongly placed;  
Tonight they rest. At break of day  
The sunrise guns will call them to the fray!

*Chorus:*

Hoo-ray! Hoo-ray! Hoo-ray!

## ACT III

SYNOPSIS: King Cole enters the throne room to hold a session of court, but Mother Goose declares the throne of Gooseland empty until the children are restored. From the lookout of the castle, Jack and Columbine report the progress of the battle, which ends with the capture of the Giant. He is brought, bound, to the throne room, still clutching the key of the dungeon in his hand. Here his fate is to be determined, but the sweet music of the Fiddlers Three melts his hard heart, and he surrenders the key. Then are the Fiddlers Three made knights of the kingdom of Gooseland and Mistress Mary comes to share the throne with Old King Cole, while the Four Kings and brave Captain Jinks dance at the wedding.

*On stage, MOTHER GOOSE, MARJORIE DAW, and MISTRESS MARY. Soldiers stand in file from throne on R.; dungeon door on L.*

SCENE: Throne room of Gooseland.

*[Enter Herald followed by Harlequin]*

*Herald:*

Hear ye! Hear ye!

Hear ye! And make way!

The king holds court today!

From far and near his faithful vassals come!

Play the fife and beat the drum!

Hail to the king.

*[Enter Old King Cole and his Court]*

*Harlequin:*

Old King Cole was a merry old soul.  
A merry old soul was he.  
He called for his pipe, he called for his bowl,  
And he called for his Fiddlers Three.

*Herald:*

And every fiddler could play on his fiddle  
A wondrous melody!  
He could charm the babies asleep in their  
cradles,  
Or the fishes out of the sea.

*Harlequin:*

With a Hey diddle, Hi diddle,  
Hey diddle, Hi diddle,  
Hey diddle, Hi diddle, dee.

*King Cole:*

Of this great land  
I am the king.  
Let joy bells ring.

*Secretary:*

Bring on all of your petitions.

*Admiral:*

Ask for castles or commissions.

*Lord of High Finance:*

. Or promotions in the Army or the big Navee.



*King Cole:*

For my rule is one of pleasure,  
Laughter is our greatest treasure—  
And good spirits are the measure,  
When I am king!

*Mother Goose:*

Hold! There is no king—  
The crown awaits a head.  
There are no men to shout,  
No bells to ring,  
For joy is dead.

*King Cole:*

Joy dead! How now?  
My senses you confuse!

*Mistress Mary:*

Ye do not know—  
Ye have not heard the news?

*Marjorie:*

The children! We lost them!  
We stayed past the hour!

*Mistress Mary:*

The Giant! He has them  
Locked up in his tower!

*Mother Goose:*

The Army! It hastens!  
The kings! They will fight!

*King Cole:*

Gone forever! The children!

Well—this is a plight.

[*Enter Columbine*]

*Columbine:*

Our soldiers are valiant,

Our armies will win.

*Chancellor:*

They gather for battle—

List ye to the din.

*Mother Goose:*

They're shouting—I hear them—

They've captured the fort!

*King Cole:*

Bring glasses! The lookout!

Send scouts to report.

*Columbine:*

Our banners are flying—

They challenge the foe.

*Chancellor:*

Then forth to the duel

Some brave knight must go.

*King Cole:*

What ho! Are ye watching?

What more can ye see?

*Columbine:*

The Captain and the Giant

Are fighting valiantly.

*King Cole:*

Look once again, and tell us  
Who loses and who gains.

*Columbine:*

Down! Down go horse and rider.  
The Giant is in chains.

[*Martial music, and the sound of tramping feet. The  
Four Kings lead on the Giant, bound. He holds  
the key to the dungeon*]

*King Cole:*

Whose is the credit of this victory?

*King of Spades:*

The honors are divided equally.

*King of Hearts:*

He fought with magic and still holds the key.

*Mistress Mary:*

The key—I beg—  
If pity ye can feel.

*Giant:*

They've chained my body, but my heart is  
steel.

*King of Clubs:*

What is your verdict?  
Shall he live or die?

*Mistress Mary:*

Loosen his chains—  
The power of music try.

*King Cole:*

What ho! my fiddlers,  
Play your sweetest air.

[*The Three Fiddlers play softly "Home Sweet Home."*  
*All are quiet, listening. A marvelous change takes place in the Giant. He slowly removes his mask, his face softens, his short dagger changes to a flute. Slowly he hands the key of the dungeon to Mistress Mary, and puts the flute to his lips. Mistress Mary glides softly to the dungeon door, opens it, and the children steal noiselessly out, happy and smiling, and surround Mother Goose, drawing the erstwhile Witch with them to her]*

*Little Miss Muffet:*

She is n't a witch any more, you know;  
'T was just our forgetting made her so.

*King Cole:*

Bravo, my Fiddlers Three!  
Ask what ye will as a reward from me.

*First Fiddler:*

Grant us, O king, the power to ever sway  
The hearts of men with music.

*King Cole:*

As ye say,  
So shall it be.  
Kneel and be knighted,  
Fiddlers Three.

*Mistress Mary* (as she touches each one on the forehead with a sword):

I dub thee Knight of the Golden Sword;

I dub thee Knight of the Hidden Word;

I dub thee Knight of the Spanish Main.

[*Turning to the Giant and presenting him with the sword*]

And thee I dub Lord Chamberlain.

*Giant:*

Upon this precious blade I swear

My dungeon dark shall henceforth be

The Children's Castle of Delight,

Where they shall play from morn till night

And laughter reign eternally.

*Little Miss Muffet:*

Kind sir, we thank you.

No longer shall we live in one small shoe.

*King of Diamonds:*

Brave men and loyal,

Are ye satisfied?

*King of Clubs:*

Aye, aye, and more!

Our cause is justified.

*King of Spades:*

Henceforth we hold ourselves

Ever in readiness

To fight for right

Or children in distress.

*King Cole:*

Then merry, merry ring the bells,  
And merry let us be,  
For Mistress Mary with her bells  
Shall share the throne with me.

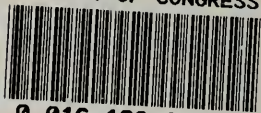
*Chorus:*

Huzzah! Huzzah for Old King Cole  
And for his Fiddlers Three!

*[The coronation of Old King Cole and Mistress Mary concludes with the "Court Quadrille," and the curtain falls on tableau of all the characters]*



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