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A Bedtime Story.

The shadows were creeping in the corners, the fire was blazing on the hearth, the kettle singing and bubbling for Honora to make tea. Papa's train was coming across the meads ; Jack was wiping the frost from his skates and mamma was saying to baby what a cold night it would be when Little ened. Brown Bess put on her red cloak and mittens and slipped out of the door. She had a tiny basket on her arm in which were soma kernels of corn and a piece of bread.

Where was Little Brown Bess going just at nightfall, alone? The stars peeped at her and winked their

bright eyes and whispered among themselves. Peter Peterson, the giant, with his cart, stopped and smiled at her. "Ah ha, it is the leetle Bessie! Whither dost thou go?" said Peter, taking a red apple from his pocket and putting it is her basket.

But little Brown Bess only laughed and took a good bite out of the red apple with her sharp little teeth.

"Schack Vroost 'll get ye," said Peter, drawing his woolen cap over his ears. By and by came Herr Lorenz, the milk man, with his white pony and his rattling

"Gute nacht mein leetle madchen," cried a sup o' milk?" He held the brimming cup

By and by she came to the drug store, with its shining windows and red and green and yellow jars. In went Little Brown Bess and looked at the drug-store man. "Ah, there comes my little sweetheart,"

said the drugstore man, and he lifted her, basket and all, and gave her a kiss on her red, red cheek. "Will my sweetheart have some peppermints this evening?" 'em !" Then he filled a bag with pink and white The kittens seemed to enjoy it, too. peppermints and put it into her basket. As for Where are you going, Brown Bess," ion.

"I'm doin' to find my Doocey Daddles. Him ranned away," said Bess-and she pulled off her mitten and put a beautiful, big round pepperment between her little

track and it looked at her with its big bright the figures painted on their walls. eye. It sent some smoke up to the stars It is not, however, as Kakodaemon, but

But she laughed and dodged away from him, and ran as fast as she could across the To the non-legal mind the term "accitrack into the darkness, dropping her dent" would appear to be easily defined, but peppermints and her mitten as she went. 'Jack Frost will get you," called he.

ed about her. It was quite dark and the courts of law. It has been decided that

"I wonder where is my mitten?"-" I contribute to an accident, it is covered by wonder where is my Doocey Daddles?" "I the policy. wonder-where-is-my mamma?" A big The relatives of a man who, while bathtear rolled down her cheek and fell upon her ing inshallow water, was seized with a fit little cold red hand. "I wonder," said and suffocated, sustained their claim, as did she slowly, "what 'faid is? I wonder- those of a man who, when similarly seized,

Some one was coming down the road. Very tall and dark he looked. It was the shoulder was put to bed and carefully nurs- ways well in advance of the fashions. funny letter man, and he knew the little ed, but in less than a month he died of "Little Brown Bess," said he, "where

are you going ?" "I is doing to find my Doocey Daddles," said she. "Him runned away."

Then the funny little man doubled up like a jackknife and said : "Feel in my pocket, Brown Bess."

She put her little cold bare hand into his pocket. It was warm and nice and soft, ence which disturbs the balance of a man's and something stirred inside. Presently mind or the intelligent exercise of his fac-" croon -cr-oo-n" came a little voice from ulties," and injuries received while in that

you and him, Mr. Letter Man ?" "I found him over at Tommy Peabody's,

and I thought I'd bring him. Brown Bess pulled the little bantam rooster out of the big pocket, and held him

under her chie. "He is nice and warm," said she. "I love him."

"Put him in your basket quick, and get on my back," said the letter man. "I want to get you home in a hurry before Jack Frost catches you."

So little Brown Bess put Doocey Daddles in the basket along with the apple and the corn and the bread and the peppermints, and the funny letter man trotted all the way home with her, and Jack Frost did not catch her.

Punch and Judy.

On the shore of a little river a quee house stood. It was built on high poles that stood up out of the water. The lower floor of the house was on a level with the bridge that crossed the river, and here there was a little candy shop. On the upper floor of the house lived a man and order to purchase the repute of a good his wife and their little curly-headed boy.

In this queer house lived Punch and bread whether the weather is cold than when it is nild the weather is cold than when Judy, two gray and white kittens.

The two kittens amused themselves by jumping in and out of the boats, running around the float and chasing each other's tails in a mild scramble up and down the ladder that led to the water.

The little boys and girls who went out in the boats gave funny shrieks as the boats tipped over when they stepped into them. But Punch and Judy jumped over the seats | London at the rate of about a penny per of the author's death to assure themselves something was wrong.

"Do they like fish?" asked Millie one trict. day. "We'll bring them home some." "That's just what they do like," answered the man who kept boats. "But you needn't go away from the float to get the

kind that suits them."

"How ?" inquired Millie. "I'll show you," said the man.

So he went and got a big crab net. Oh, you must know what a crab net is! Into it in breweries in the United Kingdom was

Millie had to wait a long while, for the tiny fish were shy. But, presently, they

Then with a quick turn of his hand the man lifted the net out of the water. Ah, what a lovely dinner for kittens! No wonder they liked it. The little fish

disappeared down the little red throats of societies, England has over 2,000. he. "Dost go to seek the moon this fine see how eagerly they snapped at them. the kittens. Millie stood by laughing to "And they're really getting fat !" she to her lips and she took a good drink of the but skin and bones before, and now they're as pretty and plump as can be.'

But a fish diet can't be very durable, so to speak. The kittens ran after Millie every day whenever she appeared and seemed to be able to swallow as many fish as tion of England are fined for drunkenness "They don't stay plump, do they?" ex-

. As for the fish, nobody asked their opin-

Sacred Serpent, Egypt.

A general belief in the divine character and healing powers of the sacred serpent is white teeth. "Dood-by, Mr. Peppernit- to be met with all over Egypt. Even the open in New South Wales. myths which the old Egyptians associated "Good-by, little sweetheart. Aren't you with the snake are still prevalent. Egypstraid?" said the drug-store man, opening tians of all classes still believe that when "a serpent grows old, wings grow out of "Faid? What for?" said Brown Bess, its body," and that there are serpents opening her big eyes very wide. But the which kill by darting flames in the victim's drug-store man only laughed and said face. How old such beliefs are in this "Don't let Jack Frost catch you," and country need not be repeated to those who little Brown Bess trotted out under the have seen the pictures in the Tombs of the stars, and they whispered and laughed and Kings at Thebes. The seref, or "flying serpent," and the snake from whose mouth The great engine was just across the flames issue are among the commonest of

in a soft gray wreath, and the smoke as Agathodaemon, that the divine serpent whispered: "That is our own Little of ancient Egypt still maintains his chief Brown Bess. Don't let Jack Frost get her," hold on the belief of the Egyptian people. and then went snorting off into the dark- Each house still has its harras, or "guard- pipes. ian snake," commonly known as the harras All the people came crowding across the el-bet, "the protector of the house." The spinster named Mary Wales has departed One of the Terrors Which Beset the Wheat hungry and in a hurry, and they rubbed is taken not to do it harm. A servant of Are you looking for your papa? He is not of his father's house. It was a large one, been found to be too small. on the train. Come home with me, little and used to come out at night for the sake There are over 2,500 public schools in of the food that was offered it and to glide New South Wales, with accommodation for Bess shook her head. "Oh, no," said over the bodies of the sleeping family. It 222,411 pupils, and an average attendance she. "But I will div 'ou some peppernits." never did any of them any mischief, "as it She pulled off her mitten and took all she was always treated well." One day a

could from the little bag and held them out stranger snake made its appearance at the door of the house; the harras at once went "I don't want your candy, darling; I against it, and after a short struggle killed want you," and he stooped down to lift her the intruder .- [The Contemporary Review. Wh at is In Accident?

the late Lord Chief Justice Cockburn thought not, and on several occasions insur-By and by she stopped running and look. and look and some sought a deminion in strange, and a little shiver ran down her a sunstroke is not an accident, but that injury to the spine through lifting a heavy She looked over her shoulder and said : weight is one. Even if physical ailments

fell under a train and was killed. Again, a pneumonia. The connection between that complaint and a dislocated shoulder is not restlessness and susceptibility to cold produced by the accident led to the disease which killed him, the relatives were held to be entitled to claim.

"The influence of intoxicating liquor" has been authoritatively defined as "influthe pocket, and Brown Bess screamen with condition are not covered by an accident policy. Nor are those caused by running "It is my Doocey Daddies! Where did obvious risk, as crossing a railway, even at a proper place, without exercising due care to avoid passing trains. -[Chambers's Jour-

Words of Wisdom.

Knowledge is the knowing that we can-

It is not knowledge, but little knowledge, that puffeth up. Reasons of things are rather to be taken and pears.

by weight than tale. plunge hat once and have it over.

No labour is hard, no time is long, wherein the glory of eternity is the mark

Great wits are sure to madness near allied, and thin partitions do their bounds

I weigh the man, not his title; 'tis not the king stamp can make the metal any It is little the sign of a wise or good man

BRIEF AND INTERESTING.

The Manchester Ship Canal will be opened in January next. "Bread and Cheese Land" is the parish

of Biddenden, in Kent.

There are 14,108 houses licensed for the sale of drink in the Metropolitan Police dis-

In the Established Church of Scotland

he threw a few bits of meat and lowered the 1,126,353 cwt.; last year it was 2,092,302

Including the London police stationed at came wriggling in, one by one, until twenty strength of the Metropolitan Force is placed at about 15,000.

The cost of the Albert Memorial was £150,000.

Half-a-million packs of playing cards are made annually in Britain.

The Scotch are more generally well educated than the English, Welsh or Irish. Paris has now a new water supply

brought to the capital in an acqueduct 63 miles long. Seven of every thousand of the popula-

in the course of a year.

mind! It's fun to catch the fish for million pounds through the coal strikes. to smoke a cigarette in her presence. She has the gaeatest horror of a woman smoker.

tons of coffee per annum-that is, about four-fifths of the whole amount consumed in the world.

There are nearly 2,400 miles of railway The Tartars take a man by the ear to

invite him to eat or drink with them. Artificial limbs are usually made of willow wood on account of its lightness.

most expert fruit growers in the world. restaurateurs to serve beer to people who have eaten fruit.

A man has been known to stay for five minutes in an oven in which the temperature was 380 degrees.

The first mention of the pipe organ in being maimed for life. history is in connection with Solomon's Temple, where there was an organ with ten

street, and nearly ran over her. They were snake is fed with milk and eggs, and care this life, leaving \$8,000 to her tom cat Otto. their hands together, and one gentleman mine, who was born at Helwan, near Cairo, ular in Paris, and the crematorium erected said: "Why, this is Bessie Bright-Eyes! has often told me about the guardian snake at the cemetery of Pere Lachaise has already

It is estimated by the Canadian authori-

ties that at least 100,000 pounds of opium, refined in British Columbia, are annually smuggled into the United States. There are only 58 prisons in England. Less than 20 years ago there were 113. Ab-

solute uniformity prevails in them all, alike in regard to diet, discipline, and clothes. The Queen has granted to the daughters of the late Mr. Wagland, who was for many years her chief coachman, the use of the cottage and grounds of Bushey House, as

a residence during their lifetime. bow, which took part in the bombardment they get the swollen grains with the himself up to his full height, looked down of St. Jean d'Acre, has been condemned at blades and then eat the whole. A and instructions have been given for her to be sold out of the Royal Navy.

tall and striking-looking woman, who pays person having fallen and dislocated his great attention to her wardrobe, and is al-

The Prince of Wales, simple and unostentatious as he always desires his priat once visible, but on the ground that the tained for even two or three days without an expenditure of £3,000 or £4,000.

cabs in the British Metropolis, they are get very close to the geese. Take fourteen required to go through an examination at or sixteen teams, each with a big plow that must possess what is spoken of as an ex-Scotland Yard. The examination extends turns four furrows. They come along in a bank doubt if you possess this At the to a knowledge of the chief thoroughfares, string. The first one is a good way off. The haps doubt if you possess this. At the

elephants, one buffalo, 43 black bucks, 39 killed them myself many a time. The an-

The quantity of fruit in South Lincolnshire, England, this season has exceeded all kind of reality and means a heavy loss if previous years. Some farmers in the dis- warfare is not kept up against them." trict have been feeding their stock on apples

Don't stand shivering upon the bank; be counted Miss Mabel Besant, the sister of Among enthusiastic tricycle riders is to the novelist. She thinks nothing of taking a "spin" of thirty or forty miles.

Children were last year admitted to Dr. Barnardo's home from 161 different districts in the British Metropolis; from 262 cities, towns, and villages in England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales, and from fifteen places

the son of an old English solicitor, and was borr at Bourne, in Lincolnshire. When his father died he went to London. It was in 1858 that he finally set up an establishment in Paris.

A colporteur was recently arrested in the Galata district, Turkey, for selling the Epistle to the Galatians, on the ground

that the document was not of recent origin. Exports of coffee from Ceylon last year came across a bombshell half embedded in "I am, of course," she replied. "Has out a cellar in the Croix Rousse Quarter, to jar the house from cellar to garret. were 43,143 cwt.—less than half the quanti- the ground. Further examination of the anything happened to the interior of our which one is of the calibre of nine inches. "If there is another house in North the average income of the teneficed clergy Two of the projectiles were empty, and America run on your system, I'd like to

The paupers of Lewisham workhouse. England, are credited with consuming a goodly portion of food and strong drink, the room like a tiger driven to bay. 462 bottles of brandy were consumed in 1892-93, as against 306 in the previous year. pened?" quietly asked Mrs. Bowser. The number of eggs was 97,663, as against 72,871; the quantity of milk 24,890 gallons, as against 15,769 gallons; of cocoa, 2,934lb., While Scotland has only 68 building as against 1,694lb.; and of meat 92,529lb., as against 81,190lb. But the most amazing item is mineral water, which stands at 30,. 782 bottles as against 12,860 bottles.

One of the problems which the theatregoer in winter has not solved is what to do with his wife's cloak and his own overcoat at such theatres as have no cloak rooms or too small cloak rooms. The architect of the new concert-hall of the Gewandhaus, in Leipsic, thinks he has solved this problem of the concert-goer and theatre-goer by It is calculated that the principal English tains a locker for every person who buys a claimed Millie, in despair. "But never railway companies have lost nearly two reserved seat. The concert-goer at the providing a cloak room so large that it consame time that he buys a seat for a concert The Queen has never yet allowed a lady will be presented with a key for his private

The leaves and stems of the Laportea Brazil produces on the average 360,000 gigas, the "Burning Tree" of India, are covered with stinging hairs after the manner of the common nettle, but of a far more virulent nature. When touched the sensation felt is as of being burnt with red-hot iron, the pain extending over other parts of

the body, and lasting several days. The use of the knout by the Russian left it there. That was one of the humps police as a punishment for various offences you felt." is on the eve of abolition. This step, it is Chinese gardeners are reputed to be the the Czar, who, having by some means at stated, is due to the direct intervention of length become aware of the excessive and, In Germany there is a law forbidding in many cases, unnecessary use of this instrument of punishment, ordered the governors of the various provinces to specially report on the subject. Women, girls, and ears." even children have not been exempt from this barbarous mode of punishment, which in many cases has resulted in the victim

SWARMS OF WILD GEESE.

Grower in California.

I had an experience with wild geese in California, and it is so big that few, except that I'm a born idiot!" howled Mr. Bowser those who are familiar with them, can as he danced around. "I know I never did readily believe it," said State Senator a thing of that sort." Dare to a San Francisco Examiner reporter. "I own a ranch of 14,000 acres at Knight's Landing, on the Sacramentothe Yolo ranch. I raise a great deal of wheat, and every year as soon as the wheat comes up the country is overrun with geese. I have seen droves of them two or three miles long, and so thick that when you shoot into them with a rifle you are bound to hit some of them. They are so plentiful that I am obliged to hire herders to keep them off. They settle in great bands. A band will settle down on five acres, say, and you won't hear a quack nor a squawk, but the geese are there and very industrious, and before you know it they have pulled up and eaten every bit of the The old wooden line-of-battle ship Benhow which took part in the bombardment they get the swollen grains with the line of the full height looked down storm is almost sure to bring them in large numbers, but they often come in entirely fair weather. I keep many herd-Lady Colin Campbell is an exceptionally ers to drive them away. If it were not for this I wouldn't have any wheat. The men are armed with loud-sounding Winchesters and they keep shooting among them all the time. At night the geese don't bother, but early in the morning and all through the day they literally swarm. The herders go out very early in the morning and stay all day. It is a continual battle. The geese Before men can obtain a license to drive is gone. When the men are plowing they public buildings, and railway stations in next is a little closer, and so on till the same time you must bear in mind that in and around London, and the most expedi- last one is fifty feet or more nearer than the case of a surgeon the coolness, or calmthe first one was. The geese don't notice ness, which is so admirable and necessary in In his hunting expeditions in India this this and a man can knock them over as he an operation does not imply the possession year it is stated that the Austrian Arch- goes by. I saw one man take a monkey- of any remarkable personal quality, but it duke Franz Ferdinand d'Este shot 2,800 wrench and bowl away and kill one. In is the simplest result of a complete knowlhead of game, including almost every vari- fact, if anyone wants geese he may easily edge of what he is doing. It is rather the ety of animal and bird met with in that kill them by thousands, and I was almost natural outcome of his accurate familiarity country. Amongst the large game are five going to say millions, up there. I have of anatomy, and his daily habit. nual visitation of the geese at Knight's to go to a masthead, or a sailor to ride an Landing is not a joke. It is the sternest

How to Dry Wet Shoes.

When, without overshoes, you have been caught in a heavy rain-storm, perhaps you enough courage to be a surgeon I should be have known already what to do with very much ashamed of you, and you would your best kid boots, which have been thor- turn out to be a very poor creature, what-Statistics show that in the third week of oughly wet through, and which, if left to ever occupation you might follow. Still last month London had a total of 96,420 dry in the ordinary way, will be stiff, this fact remains, and you may, perhaps, be persons receiving parochial relief; in the brittle, and unlovely? If not, you will be interested to hear that I, who have known corresponding period of 1892 the number glad to learn what I heard only recently, many good surgeons, have never seen one from one whose experience is of value.

surface water and mud; then, while still humble opinion, a very fine fellow, and wet, rub well with kerosene-oil, using for when I see (as I do see) the extraordinary the purpose the furred side of Canton flannel. achievements of modern surgery, I am Set them aside till partially dry, when a very proud of belonging to a profession second treatment with oil is advisable. They which has made life so much more endurhis whe and their little curry-neaded boy.

The man made his living by letting out boats to people who wanted to go fishing or rowing for pleasure. In front of the very difficult for their thoughts themselves to escape king the same.

If the vay in which men express their of Montreux, is preparing in this wise to ascend the Roches de Nayes by way of Glion Caux and Recourbes. The Professor does not anticipate a broken neck.

M Worth the great Paris dressmaker.

If the vay in which men express their of Montreux, is preparing in this wise to ascend the Roches de Nayes by way of the flannel, still slightly dampened with kerosene, and your boots will be soft and determination than to those persons of more weakly constituted minds, or to those who are less vertebrate altogether.

home mission board.

MR. AND MRS. EOWSER.

The Head of the House Dressed in a Hurry Hence the Family Jag.

"Are you sick, dear?" anxiously queried Mrs. Bowser as Mr. Bowser came home the Turkish authorities called for a certificate the legs which she well knew signified that

A curious discovery has been made at this house?" he demanded as he let his Lyons, where a concierge, while cleaning hat fall on the floor and sat down in a way

three fully loaded. The military authori- see it! The wonder to me is that I haven't ties, judging by the appearance of the been driven to the verge of desperation and shells, consider that they were hidden away committed some awful deed. Mrs. Bowin the cellar during the Revolution of 1848. ser, I give you fair warning that—that—" And Mr. Bowser swallowed the lomp in his throat and flushed up and glared around

"Will you please explain what has hap-"Look at me!" he hoarsely whispered as he rose up and extended his arms at full

"Why, what's wrong?"

"What's wrong! Look at the set of this collar-this shirt-this coat! I'n all hunched up and humped over! I've felt like a man tied up in a sack all the afternoon, and when I got off the street car I fell on my head and shoulders and was guyed at for being drunk !"

"Let me see if I can find out what's the matter. You were late this morning and in a great hurry about dressing. Let me help you off with your coat. Do you see this, Mr.

"See what?"

"Here is one of your suspenders twisted around on your back. In your hurry you forgot to slip it over your shoulder. The other end is also unbuttoned behind. It's no wonder you felt hunched up, as you call it. Let's get your vest off."

"I'd like to know who dared fool with my clothes in this fashion !" growled Mr. Bowser as he wriggled out of his vest. "Look at this !" said Mrs. Bowser as she removed a towel from his shoulder. "I gave you this clean towel as I went down stairs and you threw it over your shoulder and

"I'll give \$10,000 to find the party who played that game on me!" shouted Mr. Bowser, trying to look very fierce.

"And you say your shirt hunches up?" "Hunches! Why, the blamed thing has been trying to climb over my head all day, while my collar has almost sawed off my Mrs. Bowser turned him around and

opened his shirt and quietly observed: "Its no wonder I looked the whole house over for your night shirt and couldn't find "Oh! I suppose you have discovered it under my collar button !" he replied.

A portion of it is. In your hurry you didn't take it off, but put on your day shirt

"But it's there, and no wonder you felt so uncomfortable. I don't see how you got

your collar around your neck." "Do you mean to say I've got on my night shirt?" he demanded as a paleness succeeded the flush on his cheeks.

"I do, and here is one of your socks caught on the buckle of your trousers and rolled up

"And I did it myself?" "Why, who else could have done it?" Mr. Bowser marched off upstairs and redressed himself. In doing so he came across the necktie he had worn the day before smuggled away between the two shirts. He realized that he didn't have much of a

at her for a proper length of time, and then replied: "Mrs. Bowser, don't let this thing happen again-not if you wish to continue living in your present position! That is all. It is no use discussing the matter, and it doesn't look well for a wife to give her husband any back talk. We will now go down to dinner, and in overlooking the matter as I have I trust you will be induced to be more careful in the future!"

A Surgeon's Nerve.

A trooper would require a very fine nerve unmanageable horse across a country, but a sailor's confidence aloft is due more to a matter of habit than to any particular amount of courage. In saying this, I do not wish to depreciate the calmness of the surgeon in the face of difficulties, but I may tell you quite plainly that if you haven't who has not possessed a very fine courage.

First wipe off gently with a soft cloth all In short, a very good surgeon is, in my

Lena-"This is the \$200 diamond ring The slipper was probably the very first Jack gave me." Maud-"Is it? I wonder what it cost him."