

the picnic. All the toads jumped every which way for their lives, and some of them got nearly caught in the knives.

But Doady Toad took Spotty Dot, and hopped away to another lot.

They came to a place where the grass was high, under a fence. 'Come,' said Doady to Spotty, 'take a good long jump.'

Spotty was tired, but he did his best. He held Doady firmly by the arm, and together they gave a fine long jump. Down, down, they fell into the ground, far out of sight. Doady looked round, and said, 'Well, this is an empty post hole, and if no one comes to get us out, we'll be right here next year.'

Doady tried to jump out of the post-hole, but his highest hop was only half-way to the top. 'It's no use,' he said. 'We must make the best of it. Perhaps supper will come.' It did. A bungling bug suddenly dropped, but before it reached the bottom of the hole Doady opened his mouth and shut it. That was all. The bug was gone! Then one fell for Spotty. More came—and went.

Night came on, and Spotty cuddled down close to Doady, but neither was sleepy. They could not be. If little boys and girls were toads, they would never be sleepy at night. After they had waited a while, Spotty said, 'Doady, it's tiresome doing nothing. Please tell me a story about your pollywog days.'

At that moment they heard a queer sound, as of some one digging near at hand, and presently Mrs. Chloe Mole walked into the hole.

'Well,' said she, 'you're caught, I see. I cannot wait to know your fate.'

She put her head against the sand, and scooped a bit with either hand. And in a minute she was gone, and the little toads were left forlorn.

'I suppose she is very busy,' said Doady, 'and has a great many mole-hills to make before morning.'

Dawn came at last, and at the very first ray of light the two little fellows heard a sound of 'Zee! zee! zee! Oh, Zee-e-e-e-e!' 'It's Juella in a tree!' cried Doady. Then he called in his loudest voice, 'Juella, please go to Hoppiti-High and ask

all the toads to come and get us out!'

And Juella went as she was sent. Presently she returned, and with her came Thomas Toad and Thaddeus Toad, and Nippy and Tucky, the twins, and Hannah Luella and Deborah Ella. They all stood round and made remarks.

Nippy and Tucky, although they were two, could not think of a thing to do. Said Hannah Luella, 'It's worse than a cellar.' And Deborah Ella echoed Hannah Luella.

Presently the toads of Hoppiti-High heard Juella give a cry. They all looked scared and ran away, for the farmer was coming to plant his post, and that meant for them to clear the coast.

But the farmer was a kind man, and he knew that little toads sometimes fall into post-holes; so before he planted the post he looked into the hole, saw Doady and Spotty trembling at the bottom, and politely lifted them out.

'That is the very best farmer I ever knew,' said Spotty, as they hopped away to Hoppiti-High. 'I wish we could eat all the bugs on his crop.' Doady was doubtful, but he replied, as he hopped gaily away, 'We will try.'

### 'Things That S'prise You.'

There's lots o' things that s'prise you

When you're little, just like I;  
When you bump your head they tell you

'O, you're too big to cry!' But when there's pie for dinner,  
And you want another bite,  
The big folks say: 'O no, indeed;  
You are too little, quite!'

Then when there's company, you know,

They wash you up so clean,  
'And tell you little bits o' folks  
Must not be heard, but seen.  
But next think that you know about

You hear 'em say: 'Now, dear,  
Stand up and say your little piece  
For Mrs. Smith to hear.'

That's just the way things s'prise you

When you're little just like I;  
But I s'pose you'll understand 'em  
When you're older, by and by.

—M. C. Advocate.

### Days and Nights.

If days were only twice as long, ]  
'Twould be a splendid thing! ]  
'Cause, don't you know, 'fore you're  
quite dressed

The breakfast bell will ring;  
'And then it's time to go to school;  
'And then run home at noon,  
'And back to school; and four  
o'clock

'Most always comes real soon;  
'And then you just begin to play,  
'And then it's time for tea;  
'And then, in such a little while,  
Your bedtime comes you see!  
If nights were only twice as long  
'Twould be a splendid thing!

'Cause, don't you know, when  
you're tucked up,  
Sometimes your mother'll sing;  
'And first you lie and watch the  
stars,

Or maybe there's a moon;  
'And then you get all nice and  
warm

'And sleepy pretty soon;  
'And then, perhaps, you shut your  
eyes;

And then your mother'll say,  
'Have I a little boy that means  
To lie in bed all day?'

### Building Blocks.

(By Rose Mill Powers, in the  
'Pilgrim.')

When Bobby has the building  
blocks,

A battery he rears,  
And then such thundering cannon  
shocks

And firing as one hears!  
The dollies shiver in their socks  
When Bobby has the building  
blocks.

When Barbara has the blocks, we  
know

A bake-shop we shall see,  
With bun and biscuit, row on row;  
The dollies all must be  
In apron clad and kitchen frocks  
When Barbara has the building  
blocks.

When Benny has the blocks, be  
sure

He'll play at engineer,  
With railroad trains in miniature;  
The dollies all appear  
As tourists now, with bag and box,  
When Benny has the building  
blocks.

When Baby Betty has the blocks,  
A bed we always spy.

Away with cannons, cups, and  
corks,  
And choo-choo cars—'By-by,'  
Her darlings all to sleep she rocks  
When Baby Betty has the blocks.