And lucky was that fowl to know His feathers pulled with ease. Their coming out at "clutches stout" Still left him free to run; Had they been rooted fast, no doubt, His gobbling days were done. The turkey, when the barn was nigh, l'hough out of wind, and weak, Now summoned all his strength to fly, And reached the highest peak. the graceful flight His rise was not Of birds of eagle breed; But grace or style is valued light When safety lies in speed. It bore him from the reaching paw, And from the shining teeth, And left him looking down in awe, Upon his foe beneath.

The fox one moment viewed the fowl, Then turned her from the scene And never ran so mad a rogue Through field or forest green.

But never since that time of fear, At least so runs the tale, Has man or beast that turkey found Asleep upon a rail.