

## WHY TIGERS CAN'T CLIMB.

This tale is of the Tiger and his Aunt who is the Cat;  
 They dwelt among the jungles in the shade of Ararat.  
 The Cat was very clever, but the Tiger he was slow;  
 He couldn't catch the Nilghau or the heavy Buffalo;  
 His claws were long and pointed, but his wit was short  
 and blunt;  
 He begged his wise Relation to instruct him how to hunt.  
 The Cat on velvet pattens stole along the quiet hill;  
 "Now this," she whispered, "Nephew, is the way to stalk  
 your kill."  
 The Cat drew up her haunches on the mossy forest couch,  
 "And this," she said, "my Nephew, is the proper way to  
 crouch."  
 She hurtled through the shadows like a missile from a  
 sling;  
 "And that, my loving Nephew, is the only way to spring!"  
 Oh, hungry was the Nephew, and the Aunt was sleek and  
 plump;  
 The Tiger at his Teacher made his first apprentice jump;  
 He did it very ably, but the Puss, more quick than he,  
 Escaped his clutching talons and ran up a cedar tree,  
 To purr upon the Snarler from the bough on which she sat,  
 "How glad I am, my Nephew, that I didn't teach you  
 that!"  
 And, since that curtailed lesson in the rudiments of crime,  
 No enterprising Tiger has discovered how to climb.

## THE MELANCHOLY PIG.

There was a pig that sat alone  
 Beside a ruined pump,  
 By day and night he made his moan;  
 It would have stirred a heart of stone  
 To see him ring his hoofs and groan,  
 Because he could not jump.

Lewis Carroll.

## A LITTLE GIRL'S WISH.

"Beside the door a maple tree  
 Stands up for all the world to see,  
 And through the branches all about,  
 The little birds hop in and out.

I've stood and watched beside the door,  
 Quite motionless, an hour or more;  
 But not a butterfly or bird  
 Lit on me, though I never stirred.

The maple does not seem to care  
 How many birds are singing there;  
 But, oh, how happy I should be  
 If they would sit and sing on me!"

Exchange.

Here are sweet peas on tiptoe for a flight,  
 With wings of gentle flush o'er delicate white,  
 And taper fingers catching at all things  
 To bind them all about with tiny rings.

Keats.

## THE EMPIRE BUILDERS.

BY MARGARET ELLIS LAWRENCE.

(A fantasy, adapted and arranged for school purposes.)

## Characters:

*Peace*—A young girl, fair, with a white gown, over  
 which she wears a long dark cloak.

*Patriotism*—A young girl, tall, dark, dressed in red,  
 white and blue, and carrying flags—she must be very  
 bright and gay.

A Boy Scout.

A Sailor Boy.

A Boy in Khaki.

A Red Cross Nurse.

*Chorus of children carrying flags of the Empire and those  
 of the Allies.*

(The ingenuity of the teacher may introduce other  
 characters, songs, recitations, etc. Those may readily  
 be obtained).

*Peace enters walking slowly, and as though weary. Sits  
 down clasping her hands on top of her staff, and looks out,  
 saying sadly:*

Oh, will the time ever come, I wonder,  
 When war and the terrors of war shall cease,  
 When no more shall be rolling the cannon's thunder—  
 Silence, blessed silence of peace?  
 When armies no more are by bullets riven,  
 And prisoners all shall receive release;  
 And we see, flung aloft to the cloudless heaven,  
 Floating fair, the banner of peace?

As she ends the sound of music is heard and the children  
 all enter led by Patriotism and singing very spiritedly,  
 "We'll Never Let the Old Flag Fall." Peace must bury  
 her head in her hands, but as the little play goes on, she  
 must gradually become more and more interested.

After the song, Patriotism says:

"Oh, I am the patriot spirit!  
 My heart for my country beats true.  
 My ancestors' love I inherit  
 For the glorious red, white and blue!

Accepting each patriot's ovation,  
 May the country we love ever stand;  
 Hurrah for the flag of our nation!  
 And may God bless our dear native land."

Children all sing, forming half circle about Patriotism with  
 Peace outside of it, "O Canada" or, "The Maple Leaf  
 Forever." When singing the children must not wave their  
 flags, but stand with them "at attention." After this,  
 the children all say together very distinctly, holding aloft  
 the flag carried, "I pledge my allegiance to my flag and  
 to the country for which it stands, one nation indivisible,  
 with liberty and justice for all."

Then the soldier boy steps forward with the sailor on  
 one side and the Boy Scout on the other, and recites  
 (or if they care to sing, all sing:

## THE UNION JACK.

Oh flag of a mighty Empire!  
 Oh banner of the free!  
 Old Union Jack, you nothing lack  
 To bind our hearts to thee.