

The Children's Page

The Nightingale and the Glowworm

A Nightingale, that all day long
Had cheered the village with his song,
Nor yet at eve his note suspended,
Nor yet when eventide was ended,
Began to feel, as well he might,
The keen demands of appetite;
When, looking eagerly around,
He spied far off, upon the ground,
A something shining in the dark,
And knew the glowworm by his spark;
So stooping down from hawthorn top,
He thought to put him in his crop.
The worm, aware of his intent,
Harangued him thus, right eloquent:—
“Did you admire my lamp,” quoth he,
“As much as I your minstrelsy,
You would abhor to do me wrong,
As much as I to spoil your song;
For 'twas the self-same power Divine
Taught you to sing, and me to shine,
That you with music, I with light,
Might beautify and cheer the night.”
The songster heard his short oration,
And, warbling out his approbation,
Released him, as my story tells,
And found a supper somewhere else.

W. Cowper.

EDITOR'S CHAT

My Dear Boys and Girls:

In looking through many, many books today to find a poem for you we came across a lovely line, and this is it, “But June is full of invitations sweet.” And we began to think of all the sweet invitations June sends us, the wonderful welcome she gives us all. Rich or poor, pretty or ugly, young or old, sad or happy, we may all accept her invitations and be better and happier for doing so. The first and biggest invitation of June is “Come Outdoors.” The birds sing it, the trees whisper it, the flowers breathe it, the winds call it, “Come Outdoors.” And if we accept this invitation what do we find at

the great outdoor party? The first guests to arrive are the trees, good old maple tree, sturdy old oak, slim young poplar, graceful elm, drooping willow, smart young hazel tree, beautiful birch, flaunting cranberry, handsome wild plum and cheery, little blossomy Saskatoon berry. All these have arrived. And hidden by their leaves are some other guests, cheeky friend robin, dashing oriole, quiet little wren, dear little meadow lark, black-coated crow, sleepy old owl, neighborly woodpecker, and a host of others, and between them they furnish the music for our June party. And here are other guests: soft green grass, beautiful blushing wild rose, dancing