ONLY A BABY.

Only a baby,
  'Thout any hair,
'Cept just a little
  F'uz here and there.

Only a baby,
  Name you have none,
Barefooted and dimpled,
  Sweet little one.

Only a baby,
  Teeth none at all;
What are you good for,
  Only to squall?

Only a baby,
  Just a week old—
What are you here for,
  You little scold?

BABY'S REPLY.

Only a baby!
  What should I be?
Lots o' big folks
  Been little like me.

Ain't dot any hair!
  'Es, I have, too;
S'pos'n I hadn't,
  Dess it tood drow.

Not any teeth—
  Wouldn't have one;
Don't dit my dinner
  Gnawin' a bone.

What am I here for?
  'At's pretty mean;
Who's dot a better right
  'Tever you've seen?

What am I dood for,
  Did you say?
Eber so many sings
  Ebery day.

'Tourse I squall sometimes,
  Sometimes I bawl;
Zey dassn't spant me,
  'Taus I'm so small.

Only a baby!
  'Es, sir, 'at's so;
'N if you only tood,
  You'd be one, too.

'At's all I've to say;
  You're mos' too old;
Dess I'll det into bed,
  Toes dittin' told.

WONDERFUL CALCULATING BOY.

WHEN Bidder was 10 years old he answered in two minutes the following question: What is the interest of £4,444 for 4,444 days at 4½ per cent. per annum? The answer is £2,434 16s 5¼d. A few months later, when he was not 11 years old, he was asked, how long would a cistern 1 mile cube be filling if receiving from a river 120 gallons per minute without intermission? In two minutes he gave the correct answer, 14,300 years, 285 days, 12 hours, and 46 minutes. A year later he divided correctly, in less than a minute, 468,502,-413,563 by 6,076. This has been tried with pen and paper, and, after getting an incorrect result in one and a quarter minutes, the mathematician went through the sum again, with correct result (51,629,838 and 5,875 over), in about the same time. At 12 years of age he answered, in less than a minute, the question, If a distance of 9¾ inches is passed over in 1 second of time, how many inches will be passed over in 365 days 5 hours, 48 minutes, 55 seconds? Much more surprising, however, was his success, when 13 years old, in solving the question, What is the cube root of 897,339,273,974,002,153? He obtained the answer in two and one-half minutes, viz., 964,537. It is thought that not one arithmetician in a thousand would get out this answer correctly, at a first trial, in less than a quarter of an hour. No date is given to the following case: "The question was put by Sir William Herschel, at Slough, near Windsor, to Master Bidder, and answered in one minute: Light travels from the sun to the earth in 8 minutes, and, the sun being 98,000,000 of miles off (of course this is quite wrong, but sixty years ago it was near enough to the accepted value), if light would take 6 years and 4 months, travelling at the same rate, from the nearest fixed star, how far is that star from the earth, reckoning 365 days and 6 hours to each year, and 28 days to each month?" The correct answer was quickly given to this pleasing question, viz., 40,633,740,000,000 miles. On one occasion, we learn, the proposer of a question was not satisfied with Bidder's answer. The boy said the answer was correct, and requested the proposer to work his sum over again. During the operation Bidder said he felt certain he was right, for he had worked the question in another way, and before the proposer found that he was wrong and Bidder right the boy told the company that he had calculated the question by a third method.