

THE BOYS AND GIRLS

After the Rainbow

We followed the Rainbow Road
When the storm had grumbled by.
The rainbow stood by the big east
wood
With its top against the sky.
Dot and the dog and I,
—The dog with the curly tail—
And a spade to dig our treasure
big.

A spade and a new tin pail.
(She was the company, I in command,
And the dog went along to guard
the band.)
The colors came down to the ground.
—Somebody told us so—
And somebody told how a pot of gold
Was hid at the end of the bow.
We hurried along a-row,
Ready to seek and find;
I led the lot and next came Dot,
With the curly tailed dog behind.
(She was a girl, and so, in case
Of danger, I gave her the safest
place.)

O, we were almost there,
And we could have been rich, no
doubt,
But the wind came by with a dread-
ful cry,
And the Beautiful Bow went out.
When he turned to look about
The great black dark had come—
We ran so fast that Dot was lost,
And the dog was the first one home.
(And the rainbow came and the rain-
bows go,
But Dot and the dog and I— we
know!)

A Boy to the Rescue

Not long ago the driver of an ex-
press train was startled by the sud-
den appearance on the metals ahead
of a boy who was frantically waving
a large piece of red flannel. Inter-
preting this, of course, as a warning
of danger, the driver instantly whistled
"Down Brakes." Just then the
train, which had been going at the
rate of sixty miles an hour, turned a
sharp curve, and a cry of horror burst
from the lips of driver and stoker,
for, in the centre of the line, but a
short distance ahead, was a rock.
Thanks to the boy's warning, the
driver was just able to stop the train
in the nick of time.

A moment later, the boy who had
saved the lives of so many of his fel-
low-creatures was surrounded by the
pale and excited passengers, who
were listening to the story of the
rescue.

"I was walking along the line when
I saw that stone," began the little
fellow, modestly. "I knew this train
was due, and I made up my mind I
would stop her. So I looked round,
and I found this flannel, a piece that
some signalman threw away, and I
ran along with it. That is all there
is to tell."

"You are a very noble boy," said
an old gentleman in a voice broken
with emotion. "Friends," he added,
turning to his fellow passengers, "this
little hero must not go unrewarded."

I am going to pass my hat round for
contributions for his benefit, and here
is a sovereign for my share."

In a few minutes a heap of coins
was thrust into the hands of the
blushing and bewildered little fellow.
Then, the old gentleman who had
started the collection handed him a
card, saying:

"Here you have my name and ad-
dress, my lad, and if you ever need
a friend come to me."

Then, the piece of rock having been
removed from the metals, the train
once more resumed its journey.

Couldn't Find Them

A janitor of a school threw up his
job the other day. When asked the
trouble, he said: "I'm honest, and I
won't stand being slurred. If I find
a pencil or handkerchief about the
school when I'm sweeping I hang or
put it up. Every little while the teach-
er, or someone who is too cowardly
to face me, will give me a slur. A
little while ago I seen wrote on the
board, 'Find the least common multi-
ple.' Well, I looked from cellar to
garret for that thing, and I wouldn't
know the thing if I would meet it on
the street. Last night, in big writin'
on the blackboard, it said, 'Find the
greatest common divisor.' Well,
I says to myself, both them things are
lost now; and I'll be accused of takin'
'm, so I'll quit!"

Some Good Games

A CONTEST

Games which give opportunity for
showing skill are of special interest
to young people as they create in-
terest and excitement, which never
allow the time to lag.

A Jack-o'-lantern contest is a game
of this kind. The whole company
may enter the contest, or repre-
sentatives may be chosen, while the
remainder act as judges and audience.

Each contestant must be provided
with a pumpkin, a sharp knife and a
short candle, and instructed that at
a given signal he or she is to start
to make a Jack-o'-lantern. The time
limit may also be named to increase
the excitement.

If the contestants are representa-
tives of from three to six persons
there is often more merriment than
when they are working with only
their own interest at stake.

When completed, the candles should
be lighted, and the lanterns arranged
in a row ready to be judged. If
there are a good many it might be
well to number them. Three or five
judges may decide the question, or
the whole company, exclusive of con-
testants, may vote upon them.

Prizes may be awarded if desired.
A real pumpkin pie is appropriate for
the first prize, and the owner may
divide it as he sees fit—if he was a
representative, just his colleagues
might enjoy it. The booby prize may
be a small sized pumpkin with the
word "Practice" pinned on it; or else
a goose made of pumpkin seeds.

Bird Friendship

A curious case of friendship be-
tween birds most strangely assorted, is
reported from Prussia. "A hen had
just hatched a single chicken, when
one morning, nobody knows how,
there appeared in the nest a young
sparrow, just beginning to wear its
first fluff of feather. The chick and
the sparrow became fast friends at
once, and the parent hen, taking kind-
ly to the changeling, gave equal care
to both alike, the sparrow hopping
about the nest at first, and the hen
never going far away, and sheltering
both her young at night; as the spar-
row's wings grew stronger, he at first
indulged in little flights, returning to
the sheltering wings at night, and finally
disappeared altogether into the
sparrow world."



An Afternoon Call.