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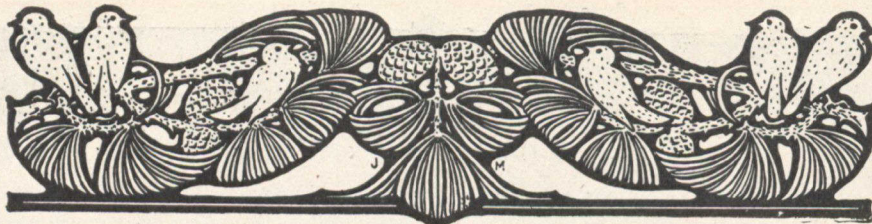
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FOR THE CHILDREN

THE EVENING PRIMROSE.

BY AMELIA DE WOLFFERS.

THE flowers all go to sleep at night; the beautiful rose folds up her many petals, the violet draws her pretty dress about her until she looks long and slender, and the daisy is like a little ball. While they were sleeping perhaps you have looked lovingly at them, and perhaps when the sun rose in the morning you watched them waking sleepily—unfolding their petals very slowly, just as we often creep lazily out of bed. When the sun has been shining for a long time, and it is warm, the flowers are wide open, and the air is full of sweet perfume; then the butterflies and insects go to the flowers to get honey and all day the bees hum happily.

At night these little creatures sleep, just as the flowers do, but there are also many insects that go out only at night and sleep in the daytime. The moth is the night-butterfly—how can it get any honey if the flowers are all closed? And not only the moth requires honey, but many little night-beetles and insects need it also; and how do they get it?

There are flowers that bloom at night; a very beautiful one is called the evening primrose; it is pale yellow and loves the light of the moon and stars as the other flowers love the sun. It awakens in the evening and goes to sleep in the morning. On dark nights when there is neither moon nor stars this flower gives light and the insects see it from far off, shining like a little lamp, and they go scurrying along, greedy little creatures, to get some honey, each afraid that the other will get there first. What fun it would be some night to go into a quiet spot in the woods to see them. It is like a fairy party that must be over before the morning breaks, and the little creatures are buzzing softly and drinking dew and eating honey.

Perhaps when the little moths and beetles fly in at our windows and flutter around the light they think they have found a big evening primrose—poor things, they get their wings burned if we do not catch them quickly and put them out of doors, where they may fly to the woods to find the flower that is ready to give them sweet honey.—*The Circle.*

THE CAMEL'S COMPLAINT.

Canary birds feed on sugar and seed,
Parrots have crackers to crunch;
And, as for the poodles, they tell me the noodles
Have chickens and cream for their lunch.
But there's never a question
About my digestion—
Anything does for me!

Cats, you're aware, can repose in a chair,
Chickens can roost upon rails;
Puppies are able to sleep in a stable;
And oysters can slumber in pails.
But no one supposes
A poor camel dozes—
Any place does for me!

Lambs are inclosed where it's never exposed,
Coops are constructed for hens;
Kittens are treated to houses well heated,
And pigs are protected by pens.
But a camel comes handy
Wherever it's sandy—
Anywhere does for me!

People would laugh if you rode a giraffe,
Or mounted the back of an ox;
It's nobody's habit to ride on a rabbit,
Or try to bestride a fox.
But as for the camel, he's
Ridden by families—
Any load does for me!

A snake is as round as a hole in the ground,
And weasels are wavy and siek;
And no alligator could ever be straighter
Than lizards that live in a creek.
But a camel's all lumpy,
And bumpy and humpy—
Any shape does for me!

CHARLES E. CARYL, in *The Admiral's Caravan.*

AWFUL PRIDE.

The first time Johnny put on pants he was very proud, and after marching around and showing himself to us he went to the chicken yard and marched up and down before the chickens. Then, standing in front of them, he said, very straight, "Chickens, do you know me?"—*Delineator.*

MARRIED THEM ALL.

Esther and Baby Lois and mother were having one of their confidential talks the other day. "Is papa married?" Esther asked, suddenly. "Why, Esther!" mother exclaimed. "Don't you know who papa married?" Esther reflected for a moment, and then said, radiantly, "Course I do! He married us—you and Lois and me!"—*Youth's Companion.*

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