

clear young voice, "no, I mean just ladies, you are always so kind about helping us with your money that when we saw you sitting out here we thought we would give our new entertainment. This is really truly brand new. We made up the verses ourselves. I did most of them, 'cause the boys aren't much good at poetry. Costumes are new, too, 'cept mine. I will begin with my 'Song of a Cat.' "

Then she made a pretty little bow, gave her long tail a throw, and began:

"THOMAS, THE NOBLE CAT" —

"One night, not very long ago,
Dear Thomas wandered to and fro.
He saw a man come in his house,
Creeping as quiet as any mouse.

"Said Thomas cat unto himself,
'This man is after wicked pelf;
Mayhap he'll creep right up the stair,
And steal the jewels of ladies fair.'

"He hied him to his mistress dear,
He told to her his fearful fear.
She called some bold men from upstairs,
And Tom was cured of all his cares.