

BABY MARGARET

“There are babies and babies,” said Patsy,
“But none like this sweetest new girl!
Daddy calls her his dear little Peggy,
But her real name is Margaret—a pearl.

“Does she fear that we don’t want to keep her
That she holds to my finger so fast?
Why, Daddy says every new baby
Is a far finer one than the last!”

AFTER SCHOOL

When the school is closed at evening,
And I hear the gay “Good-night!”
As the troops of merry children
Scamper home with hearts so light,
And their happy, gleeful voices,
Clear and joyous, reach my ear,
Like the warble of the song birds
In the springtime of the year,—

I forget the care and trouble
They have caused me through the day,
And I pray that God will keep them
Free from guilt through life’s rough way;