

FOR THE CHILDREN

WHY THE PRINCESS PARTED WITH "MARIA."

**D**URING a summer holiday spent by the Italian Royal Family at Racconigi, the Queen visited the Children's Hospital there. She found that the height of one little girl's ambition was to possess a doll. Her Majesty at once promised her one of her own little girl's most magnificent creations. But at first the Princess Yolanda did not care to part with any of her charges. In the end, however, the claim of mercy and sympathy prevailed. Which of her dolls should she give away? One was ill, another was only learning to walk, and the third had not cut its teeth. At length she resolved to send the last to the sick bairn. So she packed up its wardrobe and furniture, and had the doll and its belongings taken to the hospital. Yet, though in a good cause, the parting caused the tiny Princess a bitter pang, and she sobbed as the carriage rolled away, "I will never see poor Maria again!"—Little Folks.

THE SECRET OF IT.

**W**HERE does the clerk of the weather store  
The days that are sunny and fair?  
In your soul is a room with a shining door,  
And all of these days are there.

Where does the clerk of the weather keep  
The days that are dreary and blue?  
In a second room in your soul they sleep  
And you have the keys of the two.

And why are my days so often, I pray,  
Filled full of clouds and gloom?  
Because you forget at the break of day  
And open the dreary room.  
—St. Nicholas.

AGE LIMIT.

"O H, Tommy, you're too old to cry."  
"Yes; an' I'm too y-y-young ter have w-wot I'm cryin' fer."—Cassell's Magazine.

WHY TIGERS CAN'T CLIMB.  
AN EAST INDIAN LEGEND.

**T**HIS tale is of the Tiger and his Aunt who is the Cat:  
They dwelt among the jungles in the shade of Ararat.  
The Cat was very clever, but the Tiger, he was slow;  
He couldn't catch the Nilghau or the heavy Buffalo;  
His claws were long and pointed, but his wit was short and blunt;  
He begged his wise Relation to instruct him how to hunt.

The Cat on velvet pattens stole along the quiet hill;  
"Now, this," she whispered, "Nephew, is the way to stalk your kill."  
The Cat drew up her haunches on the mossy forest couch;  
"And this," she said, "my Nephew, is the proper way to crouch."  
She hurtled through the shadows like a missile from a sling;  
"And that, my loving Nephew, is the only way to spring!"

Oh, hungry was the Nephew, and the Aunt was sleek and plump;  
The Tiger at his Teacher made his first apprentice jump;  
He did it very ably, but the Puss, more quick than he,  
Escaped his clutching talons and ran up a cedar tree,  
To purr upon the Snarler from the bough on which she sat,  
"How glad I am, my Nephew, that I didn't teach you that!"  
And, since that curtailed lesson in the rudiments of crime,  
No enterprising Tiger has discovered how to climb. —St. Nicholas.



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Peggy—"Was that P'liceman ever a little baby, Mother?"  
Mother—"Why, yes, dear."  
Peggy—(thoughtfully). "I don't b'lieve I've ever seen a baby P'liceman!"—Punch.

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