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## THE

## Runaway Lovers

ANı) THE

# Humorous Pranks of 0 ther Very <br>  

WITH

MANY VIEWS FROM REAL LIFE

## Both Stories and Pictures

## BY <br> PALMER COX <br> Author of The Brownies

HUBBARD PUBLISHING CO. PHILADELPHIA, PA.

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## 



But who can fathom love affairs,
Or who account for ill-matched pairs?"
Enough, a blessing we'll bestow,
And watch them as away they go.
No angry kindres eed pursue,
Nor alter wills, or mischicf brew.


The loss of friends or rich cetate
Will not make her formike her mate;
Nor theats of pumishment or pain
Giunc him to turn or draw the rein;
So those who may olject or rave
May calm their minds and lamstrege satve.


The wondering crowde may shut the door, And close the b,lind and sash once more; The gensip ring may leave the fire And to the bed again retire,
For miles will shortly intervene
And hearts be joined at Gretna Green.


## A BACK-I'ARD PARTY.

NI: evening bright there was a sisht
That shoukd recorded be.
All gazed in wonder-well they might-
Such funny things to see.
I neightor's yard is smooth and hard, And through the block extends, And there, came lively rats and mice, With town and country fricnds.

It may have been a weading scene They celcbrated there,
A birthday party, or soivee, Enjoyed in open air.


> But this is plain, whatever train
> Ilad brought the rogues that way, From loft and lane and bins of grain, A jovial troop were they.

The houschold cat, so sleek and fat,
Is by the servants feci,
And only leates the rug or mat
To find her cream and bread.
So nought was there to harm or scare The lively groups below
That danced and played in light and shade, Or rambled to and fro.


No slaves were they to fashion's sway, With all its outs and ins: For some wore gatuze or summer straws, While others dressed in skins.


Beside the gate, upon a crate
That once held earthen ware,
An old musician, throned in state,
Gave many a pleasing air.
He scraped and paw'd and chopped and saw'd, But never seemed to tire


Or slip and slide and trip and glide Through some plantation reel.

The smallest mouse about the house,
And most destructive rat, Danced half an hour with grace and powerAn Irish jig at that ;

Upon a pan the dance began,
And round the yard they pass'd. But dancing still for life, until The rat gave out at last.

The Highland fing and pigeon-wing, The polka and quadrille;

The waltz and schottish-

> everything-

Was found upon the bill.
The latest dance
that came from France,
From (sermany or Spain,
The most delightitul hop or prance,
Their programme did contain.
And people who coukd gain a view
()f either jig or reel

Would hardly grudge
the liscly crew


A little corn or meal.


## THE l:ARILS' GIFT.



HEN the Kilderminster Fairies heard the rumor groing round, Ilow the young and favord Forester, who guarded game and ground, Was to wed the Florist's daughter, one as good as the was fair,


They resolved to make a wedding-gift befitting such a pair. Soon the golden day of promise came, which saw the couple wed, When the solemn vows were spoben and the larson's blessing satid.

Lo! that night the from the Eist, From the North and to some land the

Over mountains, through the fields


Fairies gathered and from the $\backslash 1$ est; South they hastened youth possess d.
over rivers, and forests green,

Still they mustered by the hundred, at the summons of the Queen. Every trade was represented, all the occupations through, From the man who planned a building to the one who perged a shoe, And they set to work in carnest, throwing jackets all aside. To erect a stately mansion for the husband and his bride.
'Twas a mighty undertaking,
of such magriturle indeed,
Nothing else but Fairy workmen could with such a task succeed.
There they bustled without resting, as though life itself was bet,
Till their little hands were blistered and their garments wringing wet,


How they satwed, and bored, and "boosted up" the timbers, through the night,

How they hammered, hemmered, hammered, to get done ere morning lisht;
For the Earies who from labor by the dapple dawn are chased, While their work is yet unfinished, are forevermore disgraced.


Oh, what harmony existed! Not a breath was wasted there, Notan oath or harshexpres- Liw men
sion fell the poison on the air.

Here the blacksmith and his helper made the solid anvil sound While they forged the bolts and loraces that secured the structure round. There the mason with his trow a kept the hod-men moving spry, Till the massise chimney towerd twenty cubits to the sky, And the painters followed after with their ladders and their pails
 Spreading paint upon the finish cre the joiner drove his natis. Even cobblers with their pincers, and their awls and pegs of wool, Were assisting in the enterprise by pegging as they could. There the glazier with his


When no article was wanting for the comfort of the pair, From the scraper at the entrance to the rods upon the stair, Then the wizened little millionaires, possess-
 ed of wealth untold.

Into traburc-ualts and coffers many ride domation rolld; and betome the Bast was puppled by the amows of the smen All the lairice hase departed, for the edifi : was dones.

So that couple took possession,


## A NIGHT ALARM.

 'There's something in the well below: I hear it splashing round.

It's not a frog, a hen, or cat,
But something larger yet than that;
It weighs an
hundred
pound.
It sinks at times, but rises still, Then splashes, like a water-mill, And makes a
grunting
sound.
Come bring a lantern, bring a line, For something's in this well of mine, And something
stout and
big.
Now hold the light and let us see The object plainly; mercy mel

It's widow
Murphys
pig!


## KING CAULHFIOMIER



Caulithower was a king
who ruled oier land and sea;
He took a penny from the till
of his great treasury, And with the money in lis hand,
he ran about the town,
To make a purchase of a pint of pea-nuth ronsted brown.
The kine was not,

as monarchs go,
decidelly severe,
But, in financial matters, he, perhaps,
was rather near.
IIe haggled with old women
at the corner of the square,
Then found a dark Italian,
who did stammer and did stare.
The monarch overaved him,
with his flowing ermine gown,
His gold-enameled sceptre, and his diamond-studded crown; So the took the proffered penny, at a sacrifice, no doubt, And, afraid of royal anger, the pea-nuts measured out.

And when he brought them to his room it was the king's intent, To eat the peatnuts in the bed before to sleep he went. To this the queen objection made, and very well she might, For he was well atong in years, and late it was at night; Then said the crabled Cauliflower: "Am I not a king? And may 1 not do what 1 please, and swallow anything? O, have a care, my fuecnly dame, my wish is law, you know, And, if I do but say the word, your satucy head may go!"


Then quick the fearless queen replied: "Go, frighten slave or fool, But I would have you understand that here 'tis I who rule; So take your pea-nuts somewhere clse, and may they cost you dear, For, were you fifty times a king, you'll not be munching here!'. Then, out upon the steps of stone, in silence sat his grace, And ate the pint of roasted nuts before he left the place.


## FAIRH:S ANO THIE INCDOTS.




Amd c.alleal , momme a lairy lamel.

fom phand ring tribes that fill the air.
Fent exer y forter, here ther conne SVith whiming solys and hums? hame.
From pink to pink, from rose to fored.

The lee the on the frow folls, And in the bedl the emmet (rathts.
 Whase lestec of life is lorict at meme ; And buttertlich in more! patre, Whas no defon-ive weaporll bedr,
But, be their attoms nome the bx-
Thes ent examples for the rest;
So, all alibe munt feel the amart,
Of severad head or helecdins heart.



And dral jour howe
(oll cucry heal,
That vemutures mish a hoth or beal.


Are nothing slow a war to wase;
They'll shower dangers thick and fast, And test vour mettle to the last. Beware the cmmet's poison breath, And beetles arms that hug to death

And in the itht, I $\Rightarrow$ you well,
Beware the bee "an hornct fell.
I or swift and recens thonsts they deal,
That soon can make the ste nesest recl."


According to her strict command,
With ready weapons, stood the band,
Aromed the flowers, and hurled the thiceses,
By thonsands, fiom the trembling leates.
A, day adsanced, and up the shy
The sun was rolling, hot and high:
The insecta, thick and thicker blew,
And fiereer still the battle grew.
The hornets fell with broken stings, With crippled legs and tattered wings; The beetles tumbled rommed the beds, With aching back and dizoy heads;

While emmets, madedened by the blows,
Attacked, alike, their friends and foes;
And than, maceasing, raged the fight, Till cioced aromid the shates of night.


Then baffed bees fled in dismay, The horncts dragged themselves away;

The beetles crept is mossy walls,
ihe ants retired of .arthen halls,


And then the bat of evening rise,
To guatd the nowers through swe t repose.

## LISTENING TO THE R()USTER CROW.



Hoc)(ill the might be dark or clear,
Or tine erround be white with snow;
still I have to listen here
To the Rooster's lusty crow.
"Oh, the thrush may chant her hymn,
With a voice so swect and rarc;
Or the robin from the limb,
Fill with melody the air.
"Oh, the nightingale may cheer, And the lark its pernen show; But more plasing to mine cart, Is the Rooster's rousin: crow.
"Ah, tis lucky for the rogue
That the burn is boarded tight; Ans the butwon on the flons Is ainule my reach, tu-nisht.
"Or, from there ammst the hens,
 I wonld haul him with a flury;


When the farmer may forget
To securely shut the dwor,
And reward my patience yet.
" So let skices be dark or bright Let the snow conceal the crest,

Of the hill, or mountain height, And the blizzand do its best.


While I have a heart to beat, And a foot to come and go,
Here I'll listen in my seat
'1o the kooster's lusty crow."

## THE ELEPHANT AND DONKEY



HIERE cvery step required care Once met by chance a rural pair, A Donkey with assurance filled, And Elephant of heavy build.

The latter said, with manners kind, "Here one alone cin footing find, So let us chouse the safent scheme And singly cross the brawling stream. Voure nearest to the shore you see And should, I think, wive way to me. When I have crossid the dangerous place Then you cius soon resume your pace."

Now, angered at conceit so great, The Elephant cut short debate


He gazed a moment in surprise, And cried, with fire in his eyes,
"Then matk how abon you fonlish pride Will bring reward:" lle marke a stride, Snd reathing ont his trunk, he gate
The bonkey such an mpard wate,


Jieh ower heat, throurh air he passed, I ntil some branchen held him fast: And penple patsing by maty see llis bones, still hansing in the tree.

## DIVIINN(; THE (



They traveled free, and traveleil far, Bencath the light of moon and star.


And then, as dawn of morning came, It found the rogues dividing game. One fox had bagged a rooster stout That seven years, on thereabout, Had sat above the rattling horn Of stabled cows, and hailed the morn.

One caught a duck of Russian line, Of heavy build and feather fine, And both at once, with even leap, Had mabloel a snipe while fast asleep.
No easy job it secmed to be,
Between the two, to halve the three.
One claimed the rooster, one the duck,
But still the snipe was there to pluck.

And cach one thonglit it was but fair 'To add the dodger to his share
So there they sat, till day was ripe,
bisputing who should have the snipe,


Each puoting I aw to hack his clam,
Like lawters in pursuit of game.
At last, a hunter passing by
Ejon the robbers set his eye,
And with his double barrel true.
Soon rid the country of the two.


THE TURKEY IN DANGER.
While turkeys roosted on a fence,
A fox approached with
care


And soon within
her basket lay
The largest gobbler there.

Then,
as
the Christmas
times
were nigh,
The fox went off 111
glee;
Her youngster trotting by her side, The smallest one of three.

It make with her that carly start
${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{O}$ exercise and run.
To take some lessons in the att, And kearn how work was done.
"Voure growing old," the youngster said,
" [ sall you limp, to-day;
 Foure not forsot the w.1!
""Yis true," hes sude, "of hite Ire had Kheumatics in my loc;
Gut I'll not take the sewond place To any bo I hnow.
*There may be some with equicker car,
With harper sisht another;
But there's not wne can bay if forld In nitely ats reur mother.
"Ire wften hearl !our bather say, When | wat youns and free,
He nover saw in fox could clear I prancl fence like inc.

"I think I see him - it and smile
[jon me, sweet and fon!.
When he obictical how puick I could
()f goslings strip the pond.

He said I far excelted himself,
Thoush he wats widely famed,
Ind by the farmert, far and near,
lor many geirs was blamed.

He died at last, while breaking fast, Behind yon rocky hill,
It makes me satd to think your dad, Mistook that awful pill. .

May palsy shake the guilty hand, That did the dose provide;
Which turned him almost inside out, Ere I could reach his side.

your nose, my dear, however grand, full and clear, understand.
trouble in my day now explain, or games of chance, in their train.
hour passes by, plans are laid, tures, low and high, move they've made.
avoid the trap, tempting pill;
that never shap tent to kill.

> Nor blindly be enticed astray,

By pleasures s, ead around;
To be the sport, if not the prey, Of every yelping hound."
"I'll bear your counsel in my mind,"
The baty fox repliced;
"And think of thee wheneer I see,
Temptations at my side."
"That's gool," the smiling dame remarked, "Advice is vain indect,

Unless the soil whereon it falls,
Is mellow for the seed."
"That's fine discourse," the turkey thought,
 As there he lay in fear;
"1had I with caution thus been taught, I hardly would be here.


The tallest post the farm can boast, Will not my wishes meet; But, in the tree, cath night I'll be, And there myself secrete.
['ll trust to neither kith nor kin, Nor on the dog rely;

And should I roost upon a spire,
I'll keep one open eyc.'
Thus, while they moved upon their way,


To gain the forest green,

They reached a place where cedar rails Were laid along between.

To mount a fence has never been
An easy thing to do,


When those who climb convey a load, That must be rising, too.

But, nothing daunted by the sight,
She, step by step, arose;
At times employing elbow joints,
As well as all her toes.
bite as she restace the topumat bat.
And patancel, her breath lo 11 mm .
The turkey, tathen with a cramp,
Regat to harch within.
The fowl wan not arranged with care,
decording to its mind;
The head was down, the hecls in arr,
The tal wats left behmel.


Itw hati spratimed in ankle-gont
When from tar fence sha rolled;
Ime most, although she sitamed it point.
Agrainst her specel it told,
The highest ratil the yomerster found
from which the chase to view:


Ind cricel, ". Wlas! 'tis saininer ground-
Im dreadfu! humery, tow:"
"Iwas hocl and toe, and eral) and so, Around the rocks and trees;

Ind luch wis that fowl to know His featheris pulled with case.

Their coming out at "clutches stout" still left him free to run:
Had they been rooted fast, no doubt, His goblating dats were donc.

The turkey, when the barn wis myh, Thotyh out of wod, and weak,


The fox one moment viewed the fowl,
Then turned her from the seene
And never ran so mad a roguc Through field or forest green.

But never : ance that time of fear, At least so rums the tale,
Has man or beast that turkey found Aslecp upon a rail.


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