

The Dirty Child



Little
Slovenly Peter
SERIES.

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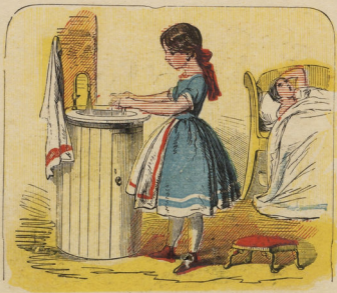
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The Dirty Child



The little girls whom
 here you see
 Were sisters in one
 family ;
 And both enjoyed
 an equal share
 Of a kind mother's
 anxious care.



The one in neatness took a pride,
And oft the brush and comb applied ;
Oft washed her face, and oft her hands ;
See, now, thus occupied she stands.
The other—oh! I grieve to say
How she would scream and run away,
Soon as she saw her mother stand,
With water by, and sponge in hand.



She'd kick, and stamp, and jump about,
And set up such an awful shout,
That one who did not know the child,
Would say she must be going wild.
In consequence it came to pass,
While one was quite a pretty lass,
And many a fond admirer gained,
And many a little gift obtained;



The other, viewed with general scorn,
Was left forsaken and forlorn;
For no one can endure to see,
A child all dirt and misery.
Behold how needful 'tis that we
Should clean in dress and person be;
Or else, believe me, 'tis in vain
We hope affection to obtain.

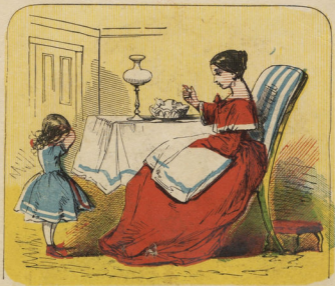


A sloven will be always viewed
With pity by the wise and good ;
While ev'n the vicious and the base
Behold with scorn a dirty face.





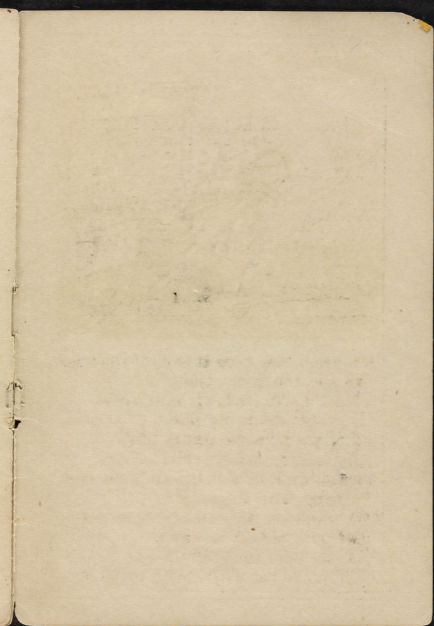
Oh! how this Mary loved to eat,—
It was her chief delight;
She would have something, sour or sweet,
To munch from morn till night.
She to the pantry daily stole,
And slyly she would take
Sugar, and plums, and sweatmeats, too,
And apples, nuts, and cake.



Her mother Mary oft reprov'd,
But, ah! it did no good;
Munch, nibble, chew, from morn to night,
The little glutton would.
One day, upon some bee-hives near
She chanced to cast her eyes;
"How nice that honey there must taste!"
She cried, and off she flies.
On tiptoe now the hives she nears,
Close up to them she creeps,
And through the little window panes
Quite cautiously she peeps.



“Oh, dear! how good it looks!” she cries,
As she the honey sees;
“I must, I will, indeed, have some;
It cannot hurt the bees.”
And now a hive she gently lifts,—
Oh, foolish, foolish child!—
Down, down it falls—out swarm the bees,
Buzzing with fury wild.
With fright she shrieks, and tries to run,
But, ah! 'tis all in vain;
Upon her light the angry bees,
And make her writhe with pain.



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