

A Few Books for the Nursery

- The Pied Piper of Hamelin.* Robert Browning. Illustrated by Kate Greenaway. New York: Frederick Warne & Co.
- The Regatta in Animal Land.* Pictured by G. H. Thompson and described by Clifton Bingham. (Nister.) New York: E. P. Dutton & Co. \$1.50.
- The Adventures of Benjamin and Christabel.* Pictured by Hilda Austin and written by Cyril F. Austin. (Nister.) New York: E. P. Dutton & Co. \$1.50.
- The Life and Adventures of General Spoolley.* A Story of a Toy Soldier. D. W. C. Falls. (Nister.) New York: E. P. Dutton & Co. \$1.25.
- The Adventures of Prince Kebole.* A Story of the Limbersnigs. Flora and Lancelot Speed. New York: Frederick Warne & Co. \$1.25.
- Father Tuck's Annual.* Edited by Adrie Vredenburg. New York: Raphael Tuck & Sons.
- Good and Bad Cats.* Pictures and Verses by Frederick White. New York: Frederick A. Stokes Co. \$1.
- Go to Sleep.* Stella G. S. Perry. New York: Frederick A. Stokes Co. \$1.



THE UGLY DUCKLING
From "The Big Book of Fairies" (Caldwell)

**The So-and-So Family*. Ethel C. Brown. Introduction by Abbie Farwell Brown. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co. \$1.25.
**The Dutch Twins*. Lucy Fitch Perkins. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co. \$1.

[Volumes starred (*) are of particular worth.]

There is no artist more welcome to the nursery than Kate Greenaway, and this reprint of her *Pied Piper of Hamelin* gives us the hope that the publishers will rapidly put upon the market all of her gay pictures—some of them out of print for many years. The joyousness of childhood never had a better illustrator.

The Regatta in Animal Land is a very humorous pictorial account of boat-racing and water contests among the animals. Place these clumsy creatures in positions familiar to human beings, and the humor is all the more effective. La Fontaine after all was not so far wrong. The color plates and sketches are excellent. *The Adventures of Benjamin and Christabel* thru Alphabet-land is not very thrilling, and the pictures are more stilted and bold in color than bright in conception.

DeWitt Clinton Falls has a clever idea in his *Adventures of General Spooley*, the toy soldier cut from a tree in the forest. All youngsters, to whom soldiers—lead, wood or real—are an attraction, will find excitement of a quiet order in this picture book.

The Limbersnig adventures escape being cleverly original, tho there is interest in the fate of Kébole, who had to take Gogo's medicine to make him grow, and who for ever after had to avoid the schemes and plots of the evil-faced and black-hearted wretch. The pictures are imaginative, and the cover will attract.

Father Tuck's Annual contains the usual assortment of stories and verses to be found in all collections of the kind. For quite young people it fills a field supplied to older readers by the perennial "Chatterbox."

There are all kinds of felines in Mr. White's *Good and Bad Cats*, and some of the Puzzling Problems are clever. The contrast of tempers in some of the verses reminds us of the ever famous "Goops."

The *Go to Sleep* stories might also be called humdrum narratives, and the humdrum is done on purpose to put the reader to sleep. Every motion, every word value, is selected for its somnolent possibility. Here is a book that warrants

to put to sleep any fretful child, and pleasant dreams are promised.

We recommend Miss Brown's *So-and-So Family* for its brightness and for its graphic and realistic manner. When the artist was nine years old, she invented this prolific family, and she pictured their doings in drawing books. These books have now been hauled from their shelves, and form the whole of the story now given to young readers. It is, therefore, something for nine-year-olds by a nine-year-old, and the grown-up who does not laugh over this book is difficult to please.

Another book we cheerfully recommend is Mrs. Perkins's *Dutch Twins*, pictured and told by her. Much of Holland, and much of child nature and much of sweetness are crammed into this nursery story, and what makes it all the more attractive is that most of the adventures befalling this tiny couple are softly sketched—so simply, indeed, that they might be easily copied by the reader, even traced over tracing paper. Here is a good bed-time treat.