

THE GOLDEN BOOK MAGAZINE*

for January, 1931

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Poetry

- The Cap and Bells
—W. B. YEATS 28
- Haroun's Favorite song
—FROM THE ARABIAN 50
- Woo Not the World
—MU'TAMID 51
- Poem —GELETT BURGESS 60
- I Sought the Wood in
Winter —WILLA CATHER 70

Also

- Who's Who in the Golden
Book —THE EDITORS 4
- Authors and Books —F. F. 8
- January. *An Etching*
—GEORGE SHOREY 20
- I Meet R. L. S.
—HENRY ADAMS 33
- The Theorist. *A Cartoon*
—C. A. VOIGHT 34
- New Year's Eve
—CHARLES LAMB 45
- Little Fable —BARRY PAIN 62
- With All Due Respect to Our
Ancestors. *The Classics*
stoop to slang 65
- The Prize Essay Contest 82
- Winter in Our Southlands
—ROGER SHAW 90

Stories

- The Fugitive VINCENT STARRETT 21
Drawings by John Alan Maxwell
- How the Roast Goose Vendor Was Paid. . . . RABELAIS 29
- Tobermory "SAKI" (H. H. MUNRO) 30
- Her Own Room THYRA SAMTER WINSLOW 37
Drawings by Dorothy McKay
- The Third Circle FRANK NORRIS 46
- Faith R. B. CUNNINGHAME GRAHAM 49
- A Piece of Red Calico FRANK R. STOCKTON 58
Cartoon by Gluyas Williams
- The Dowry GUY DE MAUPASSANT 63
- The Corduroy Road S. CARLETON 66
- When Hannah Var Eight Yar Old. . . . K. P. GIRLING 73
Prize Winning Essay of Carrie Barden
- Ashenden, the British Agent . . . W. SOMERSET MAUGHAM 78
The First of Two Parts

Special Features

- Buffalo! Buffalo! FRANCIS PARKMAN, JR. 54
A great American story of adventure
- Dialogue of the Dead. *A Play* LUCIAN 61
- Lives of Highwaymen—I. Sawney Beane 72
- Virgil in Modern Italy ROBERTO PARIBENI 75
Translated by Arthur Stanley Riggs
- O Happy Husbandman. *From The Georgics* . . . VIRGIL 76
In Latin, English, French, Italian, Spanish and German
- The 20 Best American Short Stories. . . F. L. PATTEE 82
- The New Ice Age LEONORA R. BAXTER 83
Art in Everyday Living
- So They Say 35
- Cover Design W. STUART LEECH

Vol. XIII

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No. 73

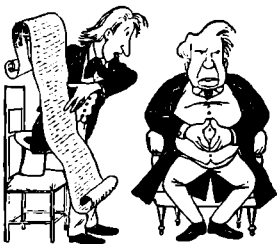
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A Little Fable



Caran d'Ache

THE Poet wrote a song, making out of the suffering of his own heart his message to the world.

The Man of Business read it, and shook his head. For there was no money in it.

The Man of Action was busy with a machine-gun, and could not be bothered with poetry.

The Scholar pointed out that the song did not conform to the best classical examples and contained metrical defects.

The Ordinary Man took pride and pleasure in saying that he could not make head or tail of the song.

And then the Poet found a blue-eyed Maiden, who knew nothing of money, or machine-guns, or pedantic rules, and had not yet lived long enough to have become quite ordinary; and to her he read his song. "And what do you think of it, little girl?" he asked.

"Well, speaking frankly, rot!" said the little girl.

MORAL: *The fact that your work is greeted with general neglect or disapproval does not necessarily mean that the other people are wrong.*—BARRY PAIN.