HISTORY
OF
PETER BROWN.

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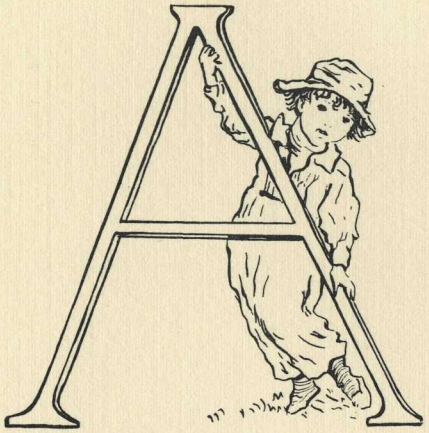

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PETER BROWN.

Not very far from Brentford Town,
A widow lived, nam'd Goody Brown,
She kept a huckster's shop,
There pretty little girls and boys
Might purchase sweetmeats and nice toys,
A kite, a hoop, or top.

Oft to the shop of Goody Brown,
The little children of the town
  Upon a holiday,
In merry groups, would run and buy,
A cheesecake or a penny pie,
  For very nice were they.

But Goody Brown had cause to grieve,
For she'd a son—would you believe?
  He did not love his school,
And when he should have learn'd his book,
He'd go and paddle in the brook,
  Or dabble in the pool.

Tho' Goody Brown oft cautioned him.
That he was much too young to swim,
Her kindness prov'd in vain,
For when he next to school was sent,
The disobedient urchin went,
To try to swim again.

At length, of swimming grown so fond,
He ventur'd in a deep Mill-pond,
Where rushes grew around:
But while he sported in the stream,
He caught the cramp, and with a scream,
He sunk—and so was drown'd.

A miller standing on the brink
Who heard his cries, and saw him sink,
  Now plung'd in from the shore,
Long time he search'd about in vain,
At length he brought him out again,
  But never breath'd he more.

On Sundays, when the church is done,
His little schoolmates often run
  His Epitaph to spell—
While some their artless comments make,
Some pluck a daisy for his sake,
  Who thus untimely fell.

Now o'er his grave the green grass grows,
And here and there a wild flower blows,
To deck his clay cold tomb;
A little stone plac'd at his head
Proclaims that Peter Brown is dead.
And how he met his doom.

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LIST OF BOOKS IN THIS SERIES.

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13—Death & Burial of Cock Robin.
14—Cock Robin and Jenny Wren.
15—Old Man and his Ass.
16—Peter Brown.

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