Each galloping reader's requested to stay,
And a toll of respect to this gentleman pay;
Observe well his stops, and the whole of his train,
Then the rest of your road will be easy and plain.

PUNCTUATION IN VERSE;

OR, THE

GOOD CHILD'S

BOOK OF STOPS.

By MADAME LEINSTEIN,

Author of

RUDIMENTS OF GRAMMAR, MAMMA'S TALES, UNLUCKY JOHN,

&c.

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PRICE ONE SHILLING.

COMMA ,

At the Comma each reader should stay and count one:

As, "Charles had an orange, a tart, and a bun."

SEMICOLON ;

At each Semicolon take breath and tell two:

As, "This is a Christian; the other a Jew."

THE STOPS.

—

COMMA ,

At the *Comma* each reader should stay and count *one:*

As, " Charles had an orange, a tart, and a bun."

SEMICOLON ;

At each *Semicolon* take breath and tell *two:*

As, " This is a Christian; the other a Jew."

COLON : PERIOD .

For the *Colon* count *three*—for the *Period four:*

As, " The robin is dead: he now is no more."

EXCLAMATION !

Four, also, we count to the mark *Exclamation:*

INTERROGATION ?

The same we allow to an *Interrogation.*

These rules but observe, you'll be sure to read well;

And from reading, in speaking learn soon to excel.

Mr. STOPS.

At her book, little Jane was no dunce, all agreed,
Though the sense was oft spoiled, for she read with such speed,
That her schoolmaster, Stops, out of kindness and love,
Just set her two little examples, to prove
That, without *punctuation*, we find, to our cost,
How sense goes for nothing, and reason is lost.

EXAMPLES.

Four rooms I have and hating gloom
I've twenty candles in each room
Five and twenty in the four
Indeed there are not less nor more

THE SAME, PROPERLY POINTED.

Four rooms I have; and, hating gloom,
I've twenty candles. In each room
Five: and twenty in the four.
Indeed there are not less nor more.

Cook Comma, marked thus ,

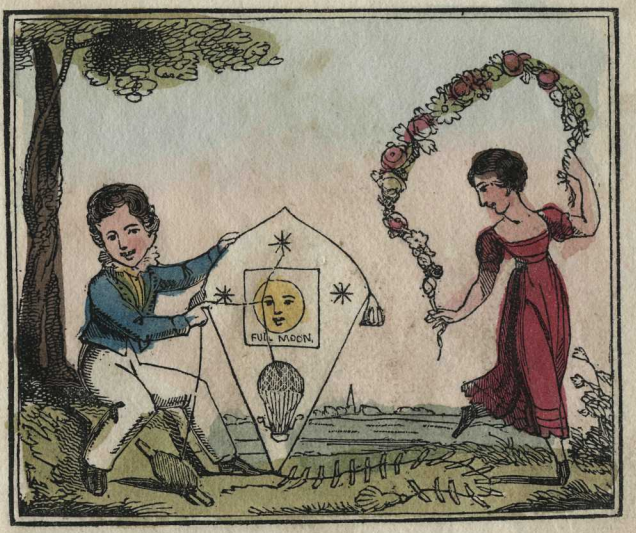
Cook Comma, 'tis known, was a brisk little man,
Not given, however, to worry;
To be sure he would tarry at each pie or pan,
Nor was ever too much in a hurry.
And to show by a method how things should be done,
At each pause that he made 'twas to stay and count *one:*
As " I can bake, broil, stew, and steam, in a trice,
Peas, apples, potatoes, wheat, barley, and rice."

Black Semicolon, marked thus ;

As I passed through Hyde Park, in the heat of the day,
Semicolon came there on the cymbals to play;
I observed that he spoke with a diffident air,
Dividing each sentence with delicate care:
As " I play very well; but my brother excels:
I strike but the cymbals; he, harp, lute, and bells."
I pulled off my hat; and I bade him adieu.—
With friend Semicolon you stay and count *two.*

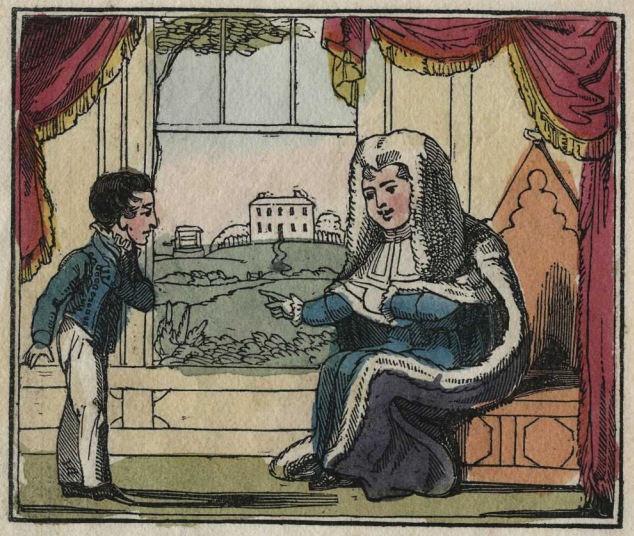
Aunt Colon, marked thus :

Two dots form a Colon so funny and round,
Like Aunt Prim in her hoop, with a curtsey profound.
While you count *one, two, three,* of her you'll have need,
Where the sense is complete, though the sentence proceed:
As, " Minced pies are nice: they are best when they're warm."
Good nature is pleasing: 'tis certain to charm."



A Period or Full Stop, marked thus .

Like the full moon, as aptly round,
The solemn Period is found:
'Tis he the verse and chapter ends,
And while we *four* can count, attends:
As " Larks soar swiftly to the sky."
" Time and tide wait no reply."
" William's kite is made of paper."
And " See Eliza dance and caper."



The Interrogation point, marked thus ?

Good morrow, says Interrogation,
Who often causes much vexation;
For sometimes, like a judge, he'll ask
"Who gave you leave?—Who set your task?—
What is your business? Can't you tell
Who built that house?—Who dug yon well?"

The Exclamation point, marked thus !

To gaze at Punch, all admiration,
Stands gaping, wide-mouthed Exclamation;
He looks amazed, and as you pass
Cries out, "O dear! behold! alas!
What strange events! heigho! good night!
Ah, fatal hour! heart-rending sight!

An Apostrophe, marked thus ’

What than *Apostrophe* can better
Fill up the absence of a letter?
In poetry it most avails:
As, “ Summer winds have *swell’d* the sails:
The man is *lov’d:*—the lion *fear’d:*
Wisdom *approv’d:*—old age *rever’d.*

A Quotation, marked thus “ ”

Commas, when thus reversed, are meant
Another’s words to represent:
As thus, “ Time little loss affords,”
Doth mean we quote some author’s words.
As, William said, “ Be not too vain:”
“ Vice is to fame a deadly stain.”

Dash — Hyphen - Section § Asterisk *
Obelisk † Braces ⁓ Parenthesis ( )
Ellipsis ——

A Dash stands thus —; a Hyphen next is seen,
Uniting tea-pot, lap-dog, and Kew-green:
Of Sections, Asterisks, Obelisks, we hear,
As reference marks, to make the subject clear.
Braces, three rhyming lines together bind:
Ellipsis makes K——g King, you'll find.