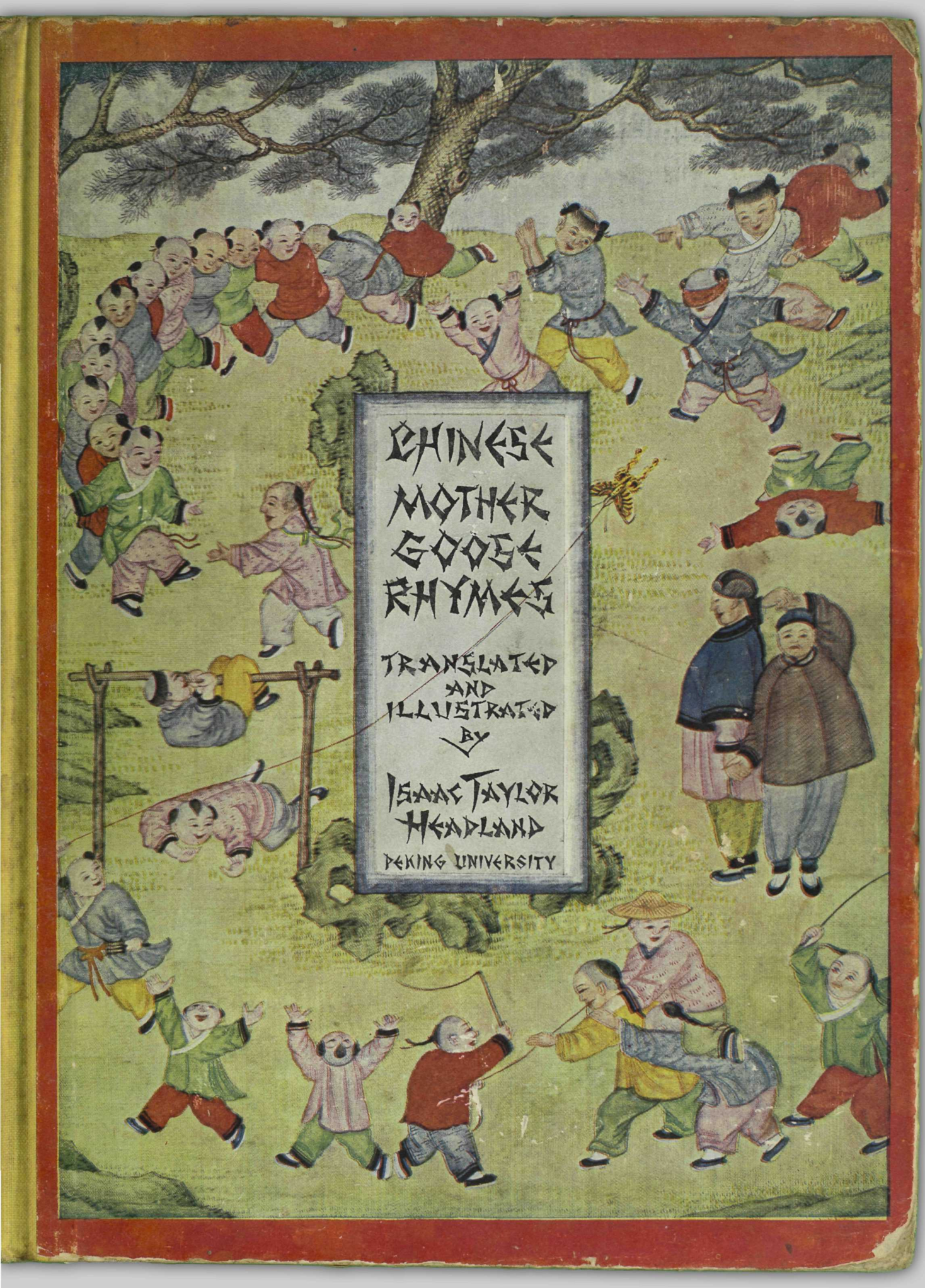
CHINESE
MOTHER
GOOSE
RHYMES
TRANSLATED
AND
ILLUSTRATED
BY
ISAAC TAYLOR
HEADLAND
PEKING UNIVERSITY

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孺子歌圖

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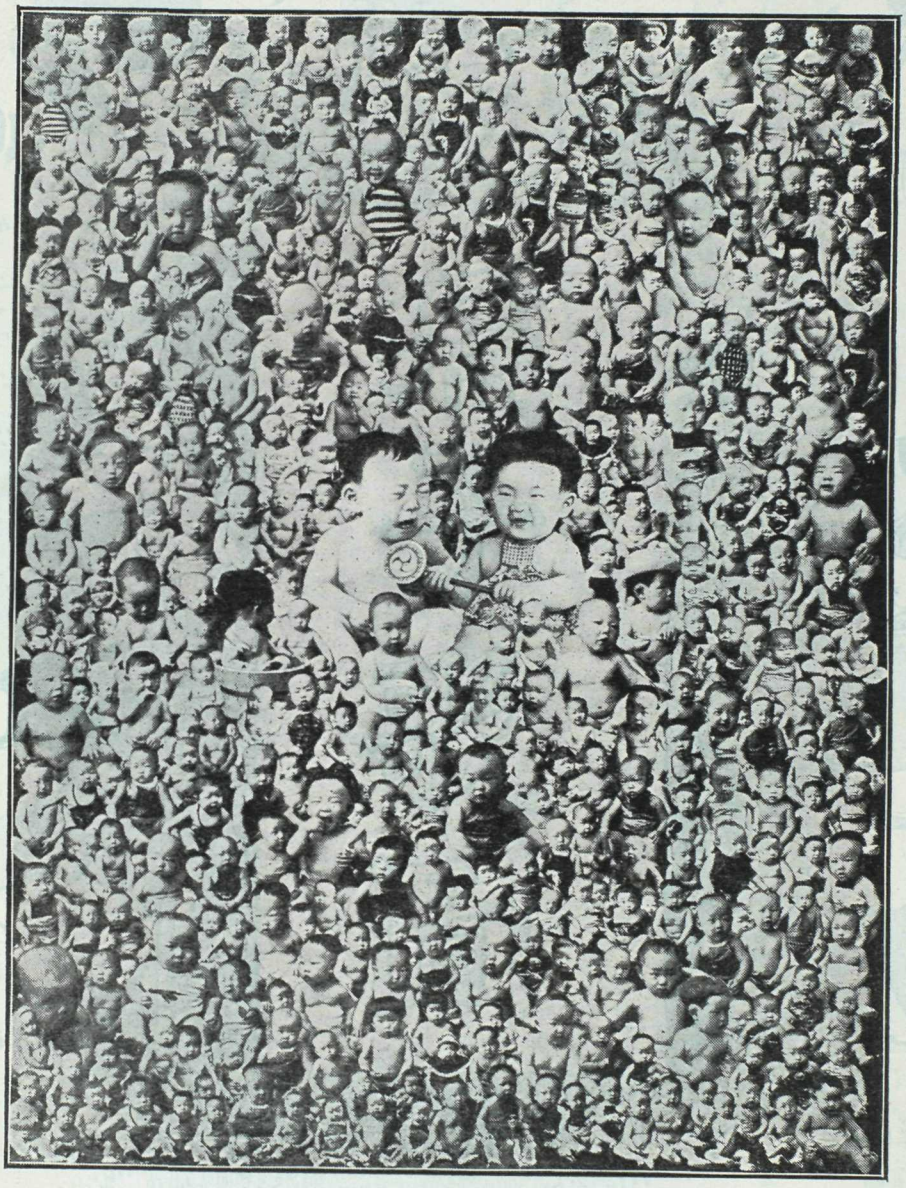
CHINESE MOTHER GOOSE RHYMES



LITTLE ORIENTALS

CHINESE MOTHER GOOSE RHYMES

TRANSLATED
AND
ILLUSTRATED

BY

ISAAC TAYLOR HEADLAND
OF PEKING UNIVERSITY.

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PREFACE

There are probably more nursery rhymes in China than can be found in England and America. We have in our possession more than six hundred, collected, for the most part, in two out of the eighteen provinces, and we have no reason to believe that we have succeeded in getting any large proportion of what those two provinces contain.

In most of the rhymes there are features common to those of our own "Mother Goose," among which are those referring (1) to insects, (2) animals, (3) birds, (4) persons, (5) children, (6) food, (7) parts of the body, (8) actions, such as patting, grabbing, tickling, etc., (9) professions, trades and business.

We have tried to reproduce the meaning of the original as nearly as possible; this has not always been an easy task. Let it be understood that these rhymes make no pretentions to literary merit, nor has the translator made any attempt at regularity in the meter, because neither the original nor our own "Mother Goose" is regular. Our desire has been to make a translation which is fairly true to the original, and which will please English-speaking children. The child, not the critic, has always been kept in view.

Attention is called to the affection manifested

in such rhymes as "Sweeter than Sugar," "Sweet Pill," "Little Fat Boy," and "Baby is Sleeping." There is no language in the world, we venture to believe, which contains children's songs expressive of more keen and tender affection than those we have mentioned. This fact, more than any other, has stimulated us in the preparation of these rhymes. They have been prepared with the hope that they will present a new phase of Chinese home life, and lead the children of the West to have some measure of sympathy and affection for the children of the East.

The compilation was much facilitated by the work done by Baron Vitali, of the Italian Legation in Peking; Rev. Arthur H. Smith, author of "Chinese Characteristics;" Miss Mabel Whiting, of Peking; Miss Mitchell, of Chinkiang; Mrs. McClure, of Honan; Miss Chalfant, of Shantung; Mr. Chao Tsz-chi, Chinese Consul at New York; Mr. Yamamoto, of Peking, and Rev. Chauncy Goodrich, of T'ung Chou, while the entire work is due to the fact that our attention was called by Mrs. C. H. Fenn, of Peking, to her old nurse repeating these rhymes to her little boy.

The illustrations have all been prepared by the translator specially for this work.

I. T. H.

October, 1900

小寶貝冰糖加梅桂
小貝寶桂花加小棗

SWEET-
ER
THAN
SUGAR

MY little baby, little boy blue,
Is as sweet as sugar and cinnamon too;
Isn't this precious darling of ours
Sweeter than dates and cinnamon flowers?

小脚兒娘愛吃糖
沒錢兒買
搬着小脚兒哭一場

LITTLE SMALL-FEET

THE small-footed girl
With the sweet little smile,
She loves to eat sugar
And sweets all the while.
Her money's all gone
And because she can't buy,
She holds her small feet
While she sits down to cry.

THE CRICKET

ON the top of a mountain
A hemp stock was growing,
And up it a cricket was climbing.

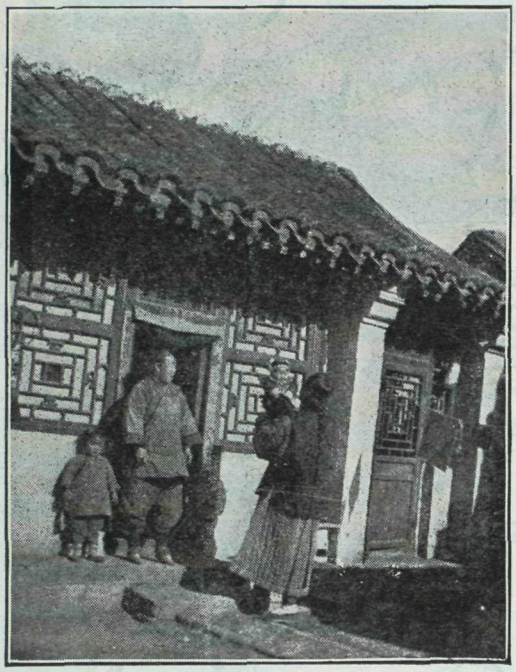
I said to him,
"Cricket,
Oh where are you going?"
He answered: "I'm going out dining."

高高山上一顆蘇
有個吉了兒往上爬
我問吉了兒你上那
他說渴了要吃蘇

蝴蝶飛我不追
蝴蝶落我不要

THE BUTTERFLY

AWAY goes the butterfly,
To catch it I will never try;
The butterfly's about to 'light,
I would not have it if I might.



養活猪吃口肉
養活狗會看家
養活貓會拏耗子
養活你這丫頭作甚麼

OF WHAT USE IS A GIRL?

WE keep a dog to watch the house,
A pig is useful, too;
We keep a cat to catch a mouse,
But what can we do
With a girl like you?

THE FIRE-FLY

FIRE-fly,
fire-fly,
Come from
the hill,
Your father and mother
Are waiting here still;
They've brought you some sugar,
Some candy and meat,
Come quick, or I'll
give it
To baby to eat.

火蟲兒火蟲兒
你下山兒來
你爺你媽
給你帶肝兒來

COME AND PLAY

小孩兒小孩兒
偕倆人玩兒
踢球打杆兒
逛二閘兒
吃我的飯兒
喝我的茶兒
叫你跟我打杆
你不跟我打杆

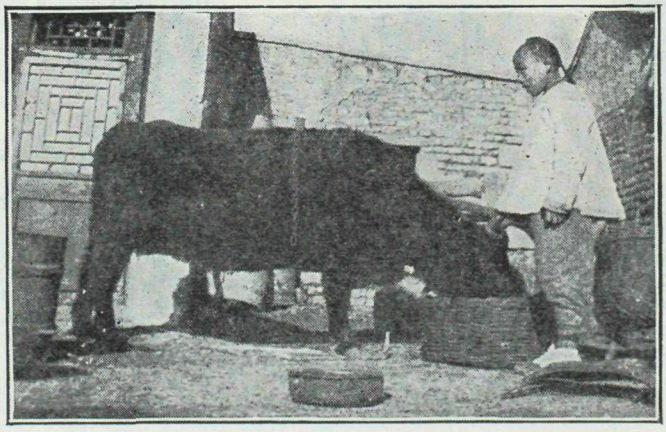
LITTLE baby, full of glee,
Won't you come and play
with me?
Strike the stick and kick the ball,
And at the pic-nic place we'll call.
And you shall come and eat with me,
And you shall come and drink my tea.

When I invite you
thus to play,
How is it that you
run away?

高高山上一個牛
尾巴長在屁股後
四個蹄子分八瓣
腦袋長在脖子上

THE COW

"THERE'S a cow
on the mountain,"
The old saying goes,
On her legs are four feet;
On her feet are eight toes;
Her tail is behind
On the end of her back,
And her head is in front
On the end of her neck.



爺爺抱孫子
坐在波稜蓋兒
羊肉包子蘸醋茶兒
吃完了撒嬌兒
過來打你爺爺
三嘴巴兒

GRANDPA FEEDS BABY

GRANDPA holds the baby,
He's sitting on his knee
Eating mutton dumplings
With vinegar and tea.
Then grandpa says to baby,
"When you have had enough,
You'll be a saucy baby
And treat your grandpa rough."

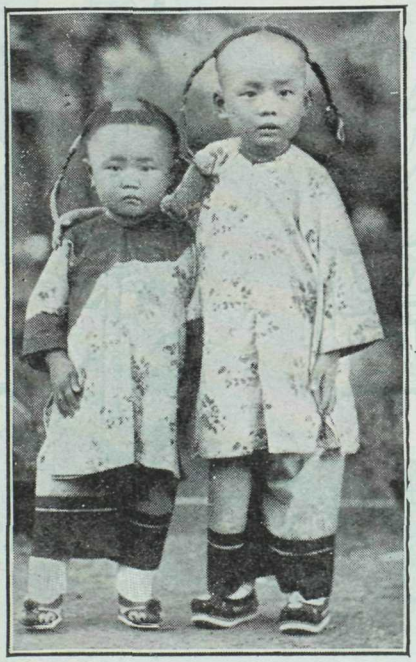
我一個大兒子
一個兒子
寶貝疙疸兒
開胸順氣丸

SWEET
PILL

MY big son,
My own boy,
Baby is a sweet pill
That fills my soul with joy.

THE BAT

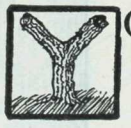
BAT, bat, with your flowered
shoes,
Come to us here in the room,
This little girl will be the bride,
And I
will be
the groom.



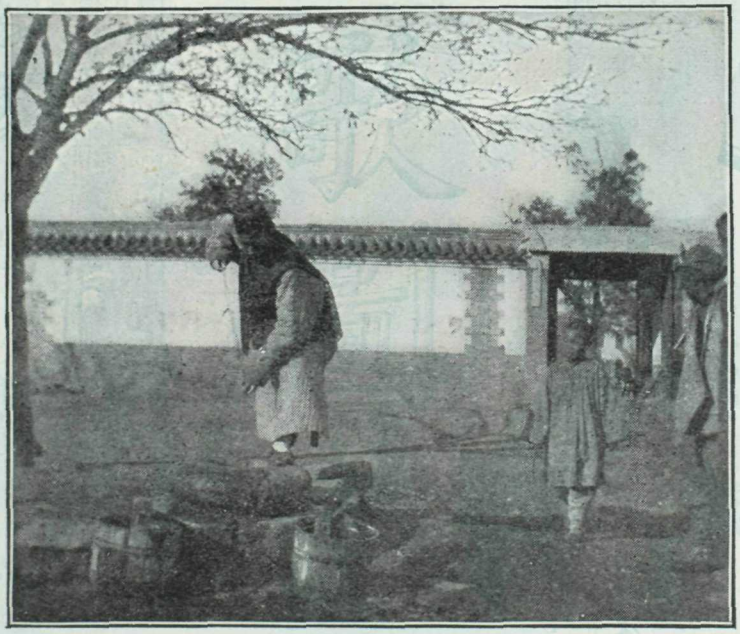
蒼蝙蝠
穿花鞋
你是奶奶
我是爺

小秃兒咧咧咧
南邊打水是你爹
你爹戴着紅纓帽
你媽穿着花板兒鞋
走一步蹓拉拉
十箇脚指頭露着三

THE LITTLE BALDHEAD

 OU dear little baby,
Don't you cry;
Your father's drawing water
In the south, near by,
A red tasseled hat
He wears on his head;

Your mother's in the kitchen
Making up bread.
Walk a step, walk a step,
Off he goes,
See from his shoe-tips
Peep three toes.

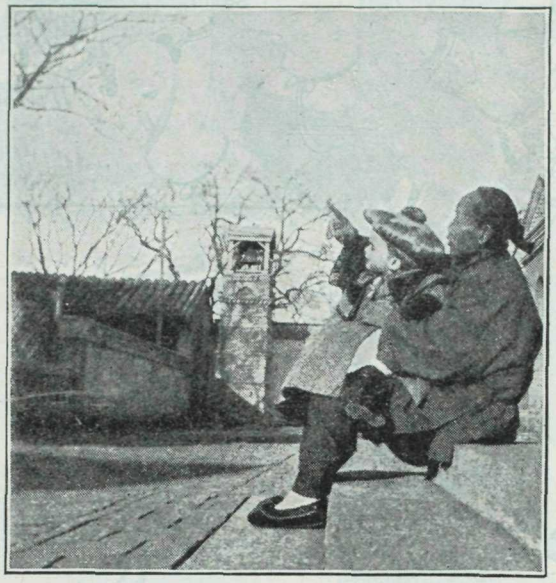


A
LITTLE
GIRL'S
WANTS

I WANT some thread,
Both green and red;
I want a needle long;
I want some strands
For ankle bands,
To give to Mrs. Wang.

花紅柳綠線兒
又買針兒
又買線兒
又買王媽媽褲腿帶兒

楊樹葉兒嘩拉拉
小孩兒睡覺找他媽
乖乖寶貝兒你睡罷
螞虎子來了我打他



GO TO SLEEP

THE tree leaves are murmuring hua-la-la,

Baby's very sleepy and wants his mama;

Go to sleep, my baby, and then go to bed,

And any bogie-boo that comes,

I'll knock him on the head.

鳥鳥鳥身量高
要吃飯先毛腰
要打架用手抄
要洗臉拿水澆

THE TALL MAN

OH dear! oh dear! just see how far
His head is from his feet!
So far indeed he has to bend
When e'er he wants to eat.

And when he wants to fight a man
He lifts him up anon,
And when he wants to wash his face
He pours the water on.

我兒子睡覺了
我花兒困覺了
我花兒把卜了
我花兒是個乖兒子
我花兒是個哄人精

BABY IS SLEEPING

MY baby is sleeping,
My baby's asleep,
My flower is resting,
I'll give you a peep;
How cunning he looks
As he rests on my arm!
My flower's most charming
Of all them that charm.

LITTLE FAT BOY

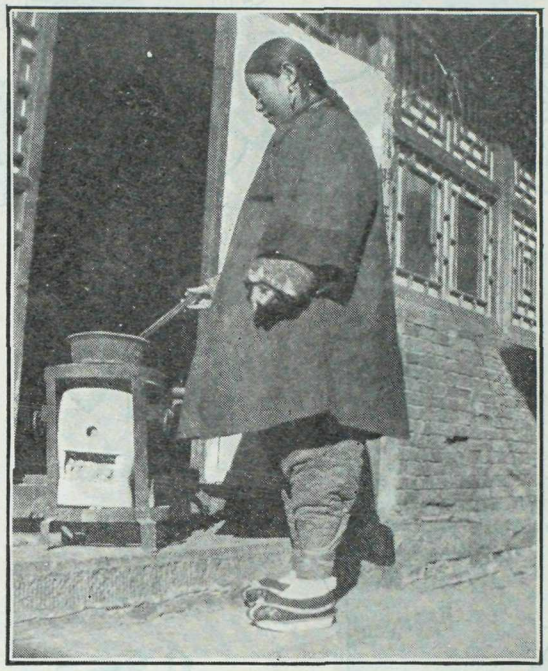
WHAT a bonnie little fellow is this fat boy of mine!
He makes people die of joy!
What a fine little fellow is this fat boy of mine!
Now whose is this loving little boy?

Do you want to buy a beauty?
Do you want to buy a beauty?
If you buy him he will watch your house,
And do it as his duty.

And no matter as to servants,
You may have them or may not,
But you'll never need to lock your door
Or give your house a thought.

小胖子真有趣兒
你可愛死個人兒
小胖小子兒胖達達
你是誰家的愛娃娃
買美人兒買美人兒
買到家裏作個看家人兒
有人兒沒人兒
不用鎖門兒

THE DRUM ON THE GROUND



THE drum on the ground is so
round, so round,
My mother just whipped me so sound,
so sound,
And I, oh dear, am as floating grass
here,
But I'll only remain a year, a year.

A husband I'd love and serve so true,
I'd worship his gods, that's what I'd do,
And I'd call his mother my mother, too!
You naughty girl, what's that you'd do?

I was saying the beans are boiling nice,
And its just about time to add the rice.

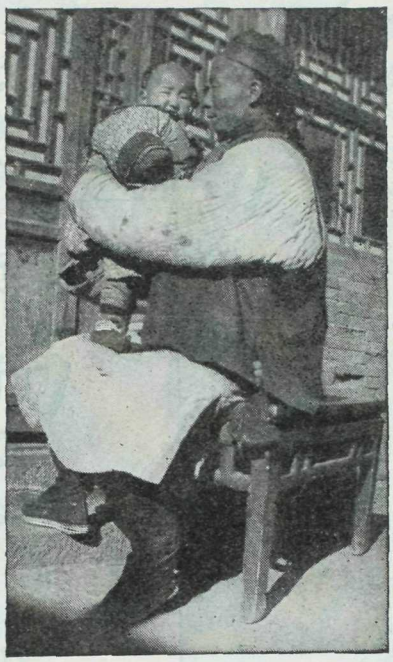
小鼓圓上圓
我媽打我真可憐
我是我媽浮心草
在家待幾年
人家地土我掃光
人家佛爺我燒香
人家媽媽我叫娘
他媽問他你說什麼
他說鍋閘豆爛煮來吃飯

MILKY WAY

WHEN e're the Milky Way you spy
Diagonal across the sky,
The egg-plant you may safely eat,
And all your friends to melons treat.
But when divided toward the west,
You'll need your trousers and your vest;
When like a horn you see it float,
You'll need your trousers and your coat.

天河打斜
吃瓜吃茄
天河劈岔
要袴要褂
天河吊角
要袴要袄

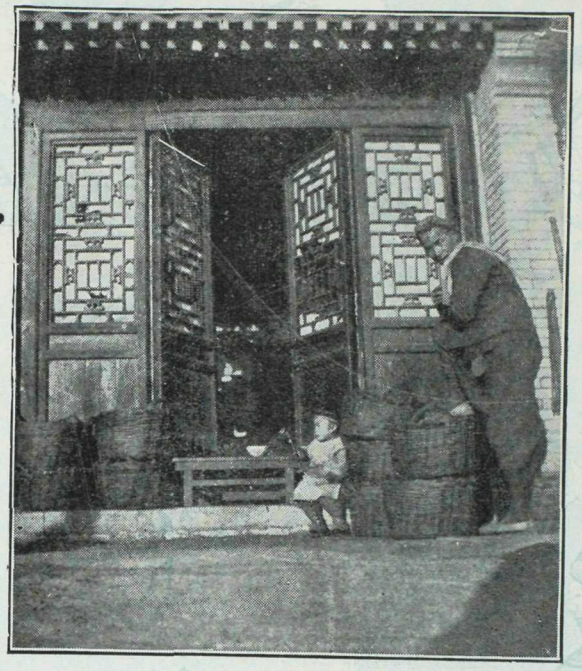
天皇皇地皇皇
我家有個夜哭郎
過往君子念三遍
一家睡到大天亮



A LULLABY

THE heaven is bright,
The earth is bright,
I have a baby who cries all night;
Let those who pass read what I write,
And they'll sleep all night,
Till broad daylight.

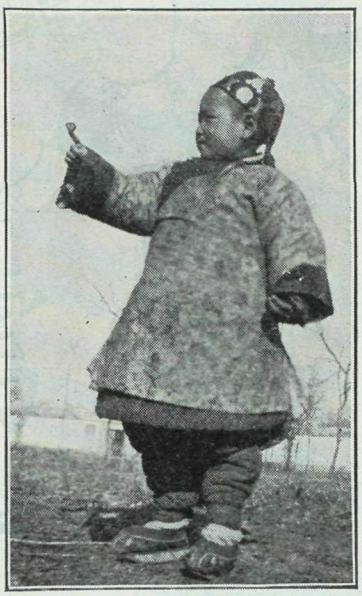
小小子兒開鋪兒
開開鋪兒兩扇門兒
小桌子兒小椅子兒
烏木筷子兒小碟子兒



THE SMALL STORE KEEPER

A WEE little boy
Has opened a store,
In two equal parts
Are his front door,
A wee little table,
A wee little chair,
And ebony chop-sticks
And plate are there.

蟲蟲飛
飛到南山
吃露水
露水吃飽了
回頭就跑了



LADY-BUG

LADY-BUG, lady-bug,
Fly away, do,
Fly to the mountain,
And feed upon dew,
Feed upon dew
And sleep on a rug,
And then run away
Like a good little bug.

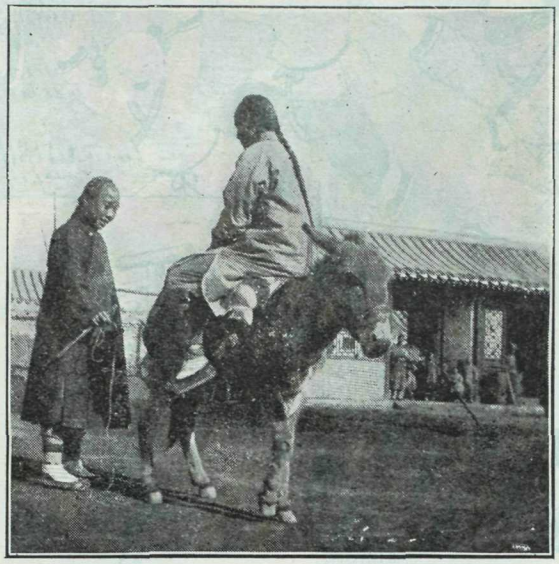
秃子秃上腦箍
箍出油来煎豆腐
豆腐黃見閻王
閻王戴着鐵帽子
嚇得秃子發瘧子

GO TO BED

LITTLE baby, go to bed,
We'll put a hoop around your head,
And with the oil we get thereby,
Our little bean-cake we will fry.

And when we've fried our bean-cake brown,
We'll see the king go into town,
An iron cap upon his head;
Now-you-must-surely-go-to-bed.

這個人生來性兒急
清晨早起去赶集
錯穿了綠布褲
倒騎着一頭驢



THE NERVOUS MAN

A NERVOUS disposition
He had when he was born,
To hurry to a fair one day,
He rose at early morn;
Put on his wife's green trousers
And started to the sale,
A riding on a donkey—
His face turned toward its tail.

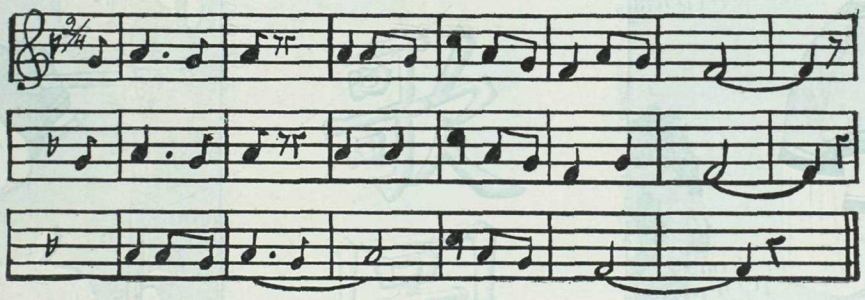
THE SNAIL

LITTLE snail, little snail,
With your hard, stony bed,
First stick out your horns,
Then stick out your head.

Your father and mother
Have brought you some food,
Fried liver and mutton,
Now isn't that good?

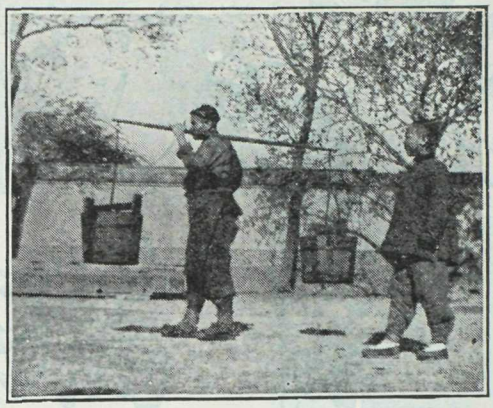
And now, little snail,
Just as sure as I say
You must eat it at once,
Or I'll take it away.

Oh where is the little snail gone, I pray tell?
He has drawn himself up, head and horns, in his shell.



水牛兒水牛兒
先出犄角後出頭兒
你爹你媽
給你帶來的燒羊肉
你不吃不給你留
在那兒呢
在墳頭兒後頭呢

挑水的哥聽着我說
南河沿兒你常在
晴天殷勤挑水多
陰天懶惰甚麼不作



THE WATERMAN

MY brother waterman,
Listen, I request,
On the south river bank
You sit and rest.
When the day is bright,
You carry all you can;
And when the day is dark,
You're a lazy old man.

THE LAMB

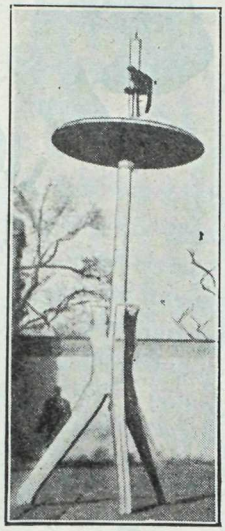
咩咩羊
跳花牆
抓把草
餵他娘

IT jumped the chequered wall,
The bleating little lamb,
And snatched a bunch of grass
To feed its hungry dam.

OLD CHANG, THE CRAB

OLD Mr. Chang, I've oft heard it said,
You wear a basket upon your head;
You've two pairs of scissors to cut your meat,
And two pairs of chopsticks with which you eat.

老張老張
頭頂破筐
剪子兩把
筷子四雙

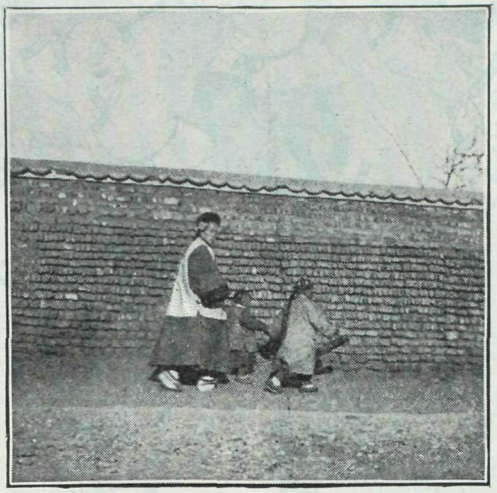


小耗子上燈臺
偷油吃下不來
叫奶奶奶奶不來
激溜轆轤衰下來

THE MOUSE

HE climbed up the candlestick,
The little mousey brown,
To steal and eat tallow,
And he couldn't get down.
He called for his grandma,
But his grandma was in town,
So he doubled up into a wheel
And rolled himself down.

家走喇家嗄喇
買的葫蘆摔破喇
再買呢不賣哩
家走喇



COMING FROM THE FAIR

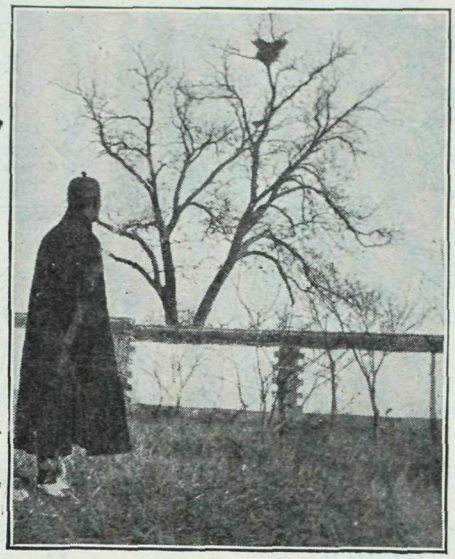
COMING from the fair!
Coming from the fair!
We bought a little bottle
For our baby over there;
Alas! for we broke it,
And we tried to buy another,
But the shops were all closed,
So we hurried home to mother.

老牛無言每日憂
牛棚夜晚冷風颼
牛皮鞔鼓用棒打
骨頭磋簪去駁頭
零碎骨
又把骰子做
牛肉割碎入湯鍋

WHAT THE OLD COW SAID

SAD old cow to herself once said,
While the north wind whistled through her shed:
"To head a drum they will take my skin,
And they'll file my bones for a big hair-pin,
The scraps of bone they will make into dice,
And sell them off at a very low price;
My sinews they'll make into whips, I wot,
And my flesh they'll put in a big soup pot."

老鴉落在一棵樹
張開口就招呼
老王老王
山後有個大綿羊
你把他宰了
你吃肉我吃腸



WHAT THE OLD CROW SAID

N old black crow sat on a tree,
And there he sat and said to me:
"Ho, Mr. Wang, there's a sheep on the hill,
Which I wish very much you would catch and kill;
You may eat meat three times a day,
And I'll eat the parts that you throw away."

BEANS

拉拉黑豆
拉拉黃豆
點燈沒日頭

PULL up your black beans,
Pull up your brown,
Then light your lamp
When the sun goes down.

THE SLOVENLY BOY

歪戴帽斜插花
尋了個媳婦會耍又
苫披着襖趿拉鞋
尋了個媳婦愛吃茄

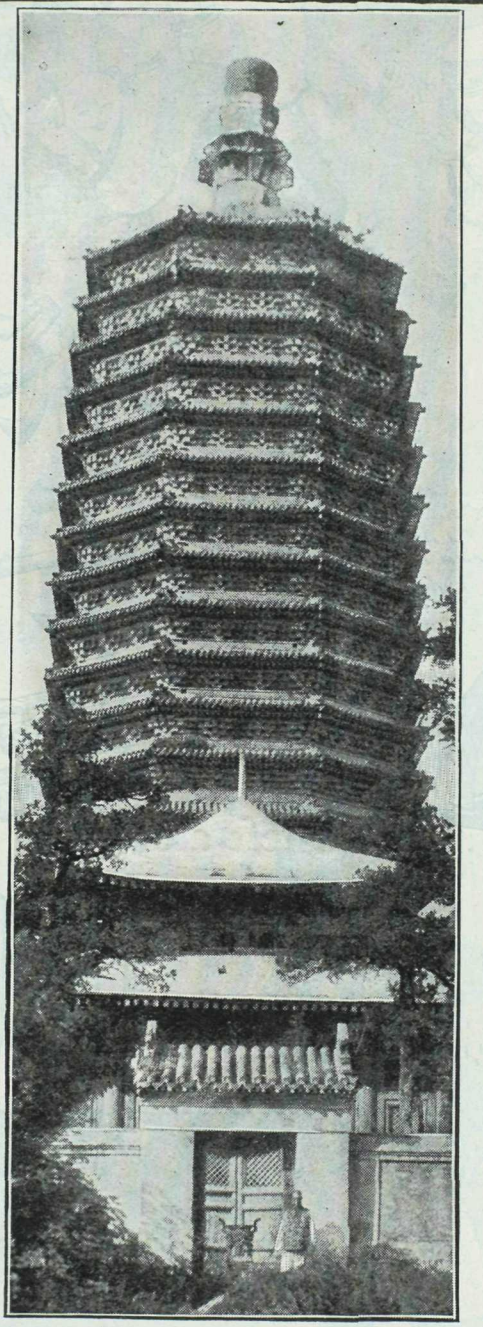
IF you wear your hat on the side
of your head,
You'll have a lazy wife
'tis said,
If a slouchy coat and slipshod feet,
You'll have a wife who loves to eat.

GRAB THE KNEE

一抓金兒
二抓銀兒
三不笑
是好人兒

ONE grab silver,
Two grabs gold,
Three, don't laugh
And you'll grow old.

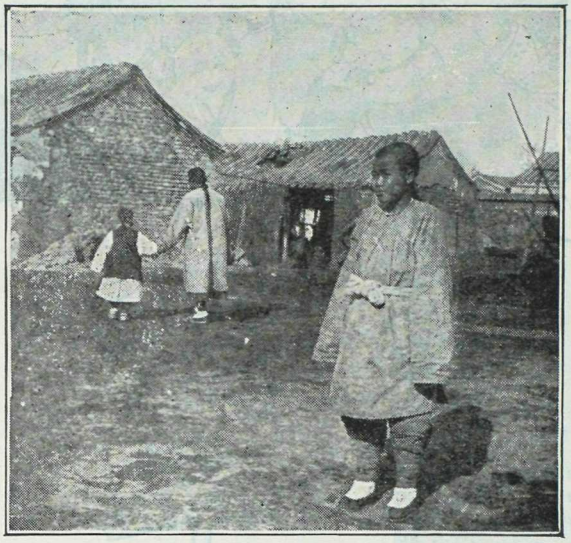
玲瓏塔
塔玲瓏
玲瓏寶塔
十三層



THE PAGODA

THE dragon pagoda,
It touches the sky,
The dragon pagoda,
Thirteen stories high.

THE LITTLE ORPHAN



LIKE a little withered flower,
That is dying in the earth,
I am left alone at seven,
By her who gave me birth.

With my papa I was happy,
But I feared he'd take another,
And now my papa's married,
And I have a little brother.

And he eats good food,
While I eat poor,
And cry for my mother,
Whom I'll see no more.

小白菜兒地裏黃
七八歲兒離了娘
好好兒跟着爹爹過
又怕爹爹取後娘
娶了後娘三年整
養了個兄弟比我强
他吃菜我泡湯
哭哭啼啼想親娘

忽聽門外
人咬狗
拿起門來
開開手
拾起狗來
打磚頭
又被磚頭
咬了手
騎了轎子
攆了馬
吹了鼓
打喇叭

MIXED

JUST outside my door, I heard someone say,
A man bit a dog in a dangerous way;
Such a message I n'er for a moment could stand,
So I took up the door and I opened my hand,
I snatched up the dog I should say double-quick
And threw him with all of my force at a brick;
The brick—I'm afraid you will not understand—
I found in a moment had bitten my hand;
I mounted a chair, on a horse I was borne,
I blew on a drum, and I beat on a horn.

THE LITTLE GIRL'S DREAM

THERE was a little girl
and she dreamed,
folks say,
That her future mother-in-law
came one day,

小姑娘作一夢　And gold and plated
夢見婆婆来下定　presents brought,
真金條裹金條　And a flowered
扎花兒裙子綉花兒袄　gown and em-
broidered coat.

光光碴光光碴
廟裏和尚沒頭髮
你撂磚我撂瓦
單打和尚禿腦瓜

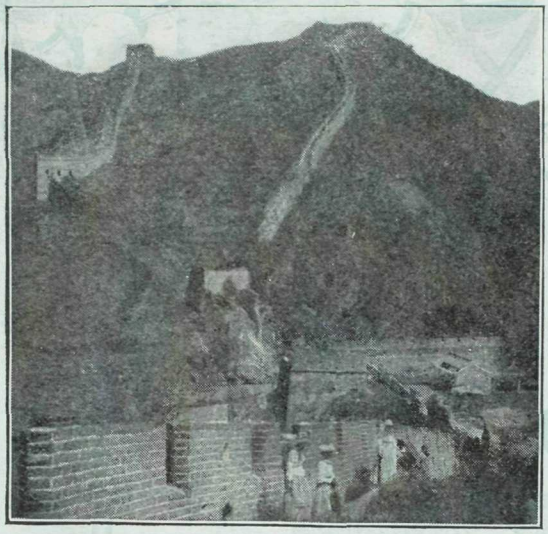
PAT A CAKE

PAT a cake, pat a cake,
Little girl fair,
There's a priest in the temple
Without any hair.

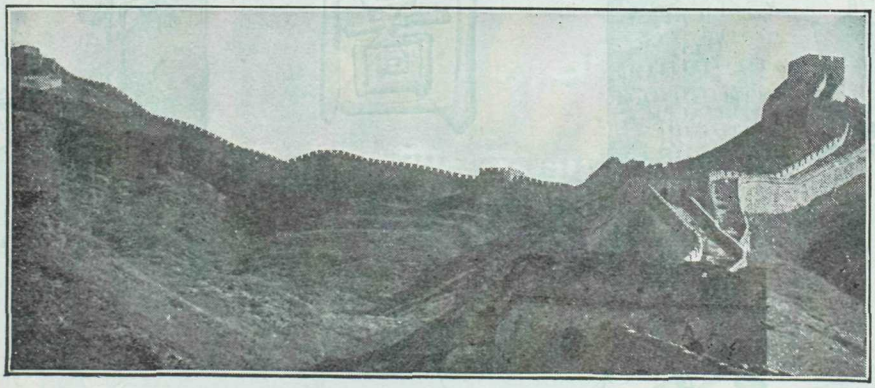
You take a tile,
And I'll take a brick,
And we'll hit the priest
In the back of the neck.

秦始皇砌城牆
牆頭兒矮
磴兒窄
擋着達子過不來

THE GREAT WALL



THE wily Emperor, Ch'in Shih Huang,
He built a wall both great and strong;
The steps were narrow, but the wall was stout,
So it kept the troublesome Tartars out.

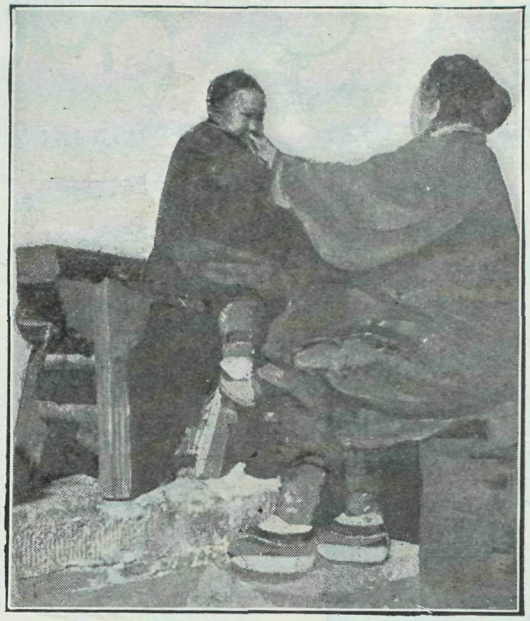


鐵蠶豆
大把兒抓
娶了個媳婦兒
就不要媽
要媽就要又
要又就分家

A DILEMMA

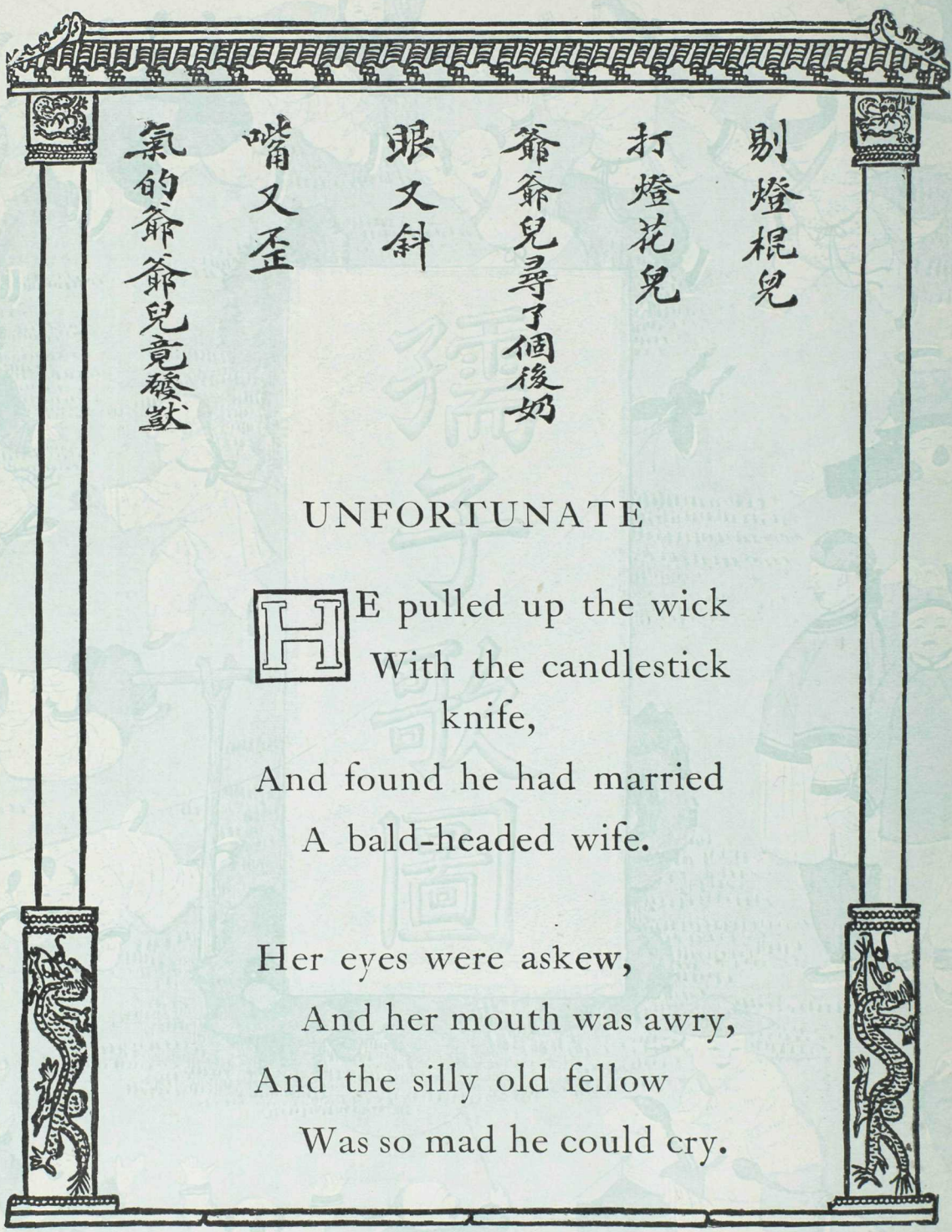
HARD worm beans
Without any bother,
A wife he has married
And doesn't want his mother.
He must leave his mother,
Or quarrel with his wife,
And thus they are separated
All their life.

CRUEL LITTLE GLUTTON



HE ate too much,
That second brother,
And when he had eaten
He beat his mother.

小二哥 吃飯多 吃完了飯 打老婆

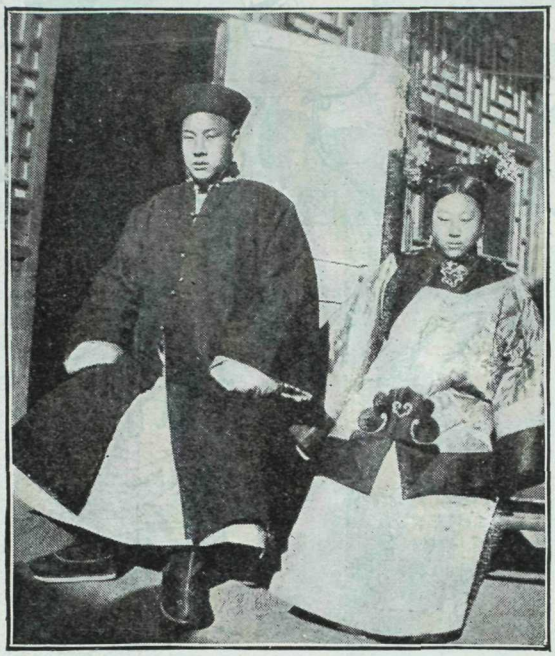


UNFORTUNATE

HE pulled up the wick
With the candlestick
knife,
And found he had married
A bald-headed wife.

Her eyes were askew,
And her mouth was awry,
And the silly old fellow
Was so mad he could cry.

新打的茶壺亮堂堂
新買的小豬不吃糠
新娶的媳婦不吃飯
眼淚汪汪想他娘



THE BRIDE

A NEWLY made kettle is bright,

A newly bought pig is a bother,

A new married wife will not eat,

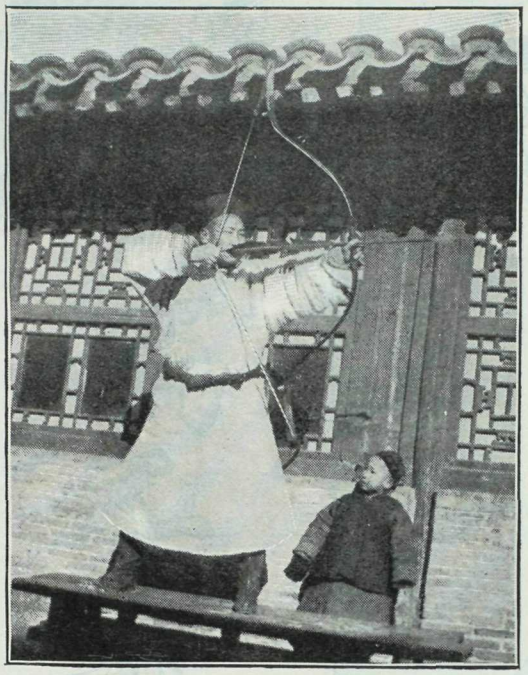
But cries and thinks of her mother.

你這孩子愛淘氣
送你南窪去看瓜地
多早看的瓜熟了
叫你才回去

A BAD BOY

THERE was a little fellow,
Who was mischievous, they say,
They sent him to the melon-patch
To watch it all the day.
They told him he must stay there
Till the mellons all were white,
And not come home to mama,
Not even in the night.

寒鴉兒寒鴉兒過
一遍打十個
熬着吃炒着吃
剝了皮兒更好吃



THE CROWS

LOOK at the white-breasted crows overhead!
My father shot once, and ten crows tumbled dead.
When boiled or when fried, they taste very good,
But skin them, I tell you, there's no better food.

喜兒喜兒吃豆腐
小鷄兒過来嗛把穀
狗兒汪汪看家
貓兒過来會撲鼠

FRIENDS OF THE HOUSE

THE thieving old magpie
has taken our food,
The chicken eats millet as if it
were good,
The faithful old watch-dog looks
after the house,
And the cat has come over to
catch us a mouse.

MY TEACH-ER AND I

AS the sun came up, a ball of red,
My teacher rode on his horse ahead,
While I followed close on my dragon steed,
He by the street
and I by the mead.

太陽出來一點紅
師傅騎馬我騎龍
師傅騎馬沿街走
我騎蛟龍水上游

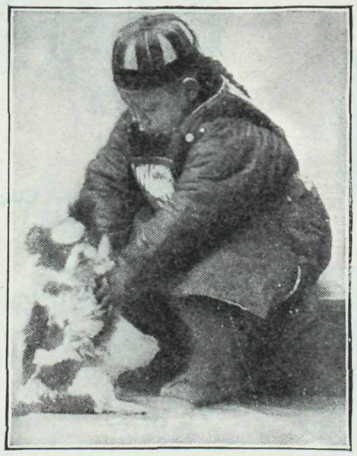
疙疸疙疸下去
别叫奶奶看見
奶奶若看見
不給我們飯錢

BUMP

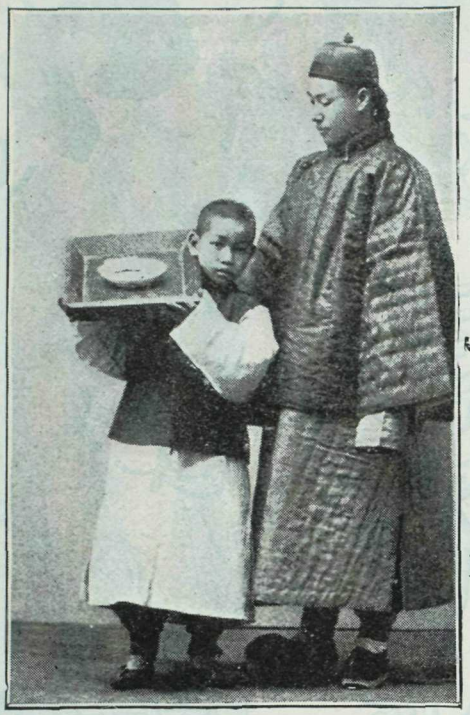
BUMP, bump,
go away,
Do not let our mama see;
If she sees you on baby's head,
She'll give no money for nurse's bread.

A RIDDLE

A PLUM blossom foot,
And a pudding face
sweet,
He's taller when he's sit-
ting
Than when standing on
his feet.



麵粽子臉
梅花脚
坐着倒比
站着高



我的兒我的姣
三年不見長這麼高
騎着我的馬
拿着我的刀
扛着我的案板賣切糕

THE CAKE SELLER

MY pretty little son,
I love him best of all,
Three years I have not seen him,
And he's grown so very tall.
My horse he can ride,
My knife he can take,
Can shoulder up my kneading board
And help me sell my cake.

THE UN-GRATE-FUL SON

THE tail of one magpie's as long as another,
He married a wife and he gave up his mother,
When asked by his mother to buy her some cake,
He wanted to know how much money 'twould take;
When his wife wanted pears he saddled his beast,

And started to market to buy her a
feast;
He took off the peeling with very
great airs,
And asked her politely to have a few
pears.

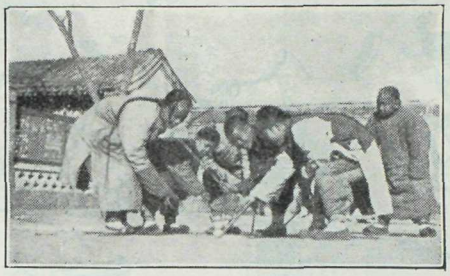
喜雀尾巴長
娶了媳婦不要娘
媽媽要吃窩兒薄脆
沒有閒錢補笊籬
媳婦要吃梨
備上驢
去趕集
打了皮
媳婦媳婦你吃梨

DEBTOR

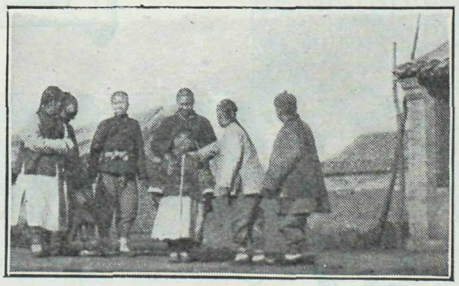
THE magpie sells his
bean-curd dear.
If you owe me,
Then you I would see
On just five days from the
end of the year.

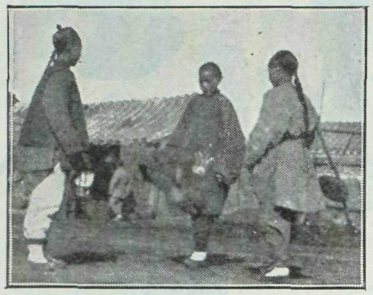
喜兒喜兒買豆腐
該我的錢
我要你見
今年臘月二十五

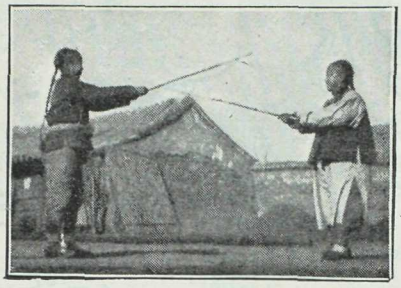
THE MIS-CHIEVOUS BOY



THIS mis-
chievous
boy
Is jumping
around,
On his head is a candlestick
Weighing a pound;
He is able to play
All the nine kinds of tricks,
From the bell and the foot-ball
To wood-ball and sticks.





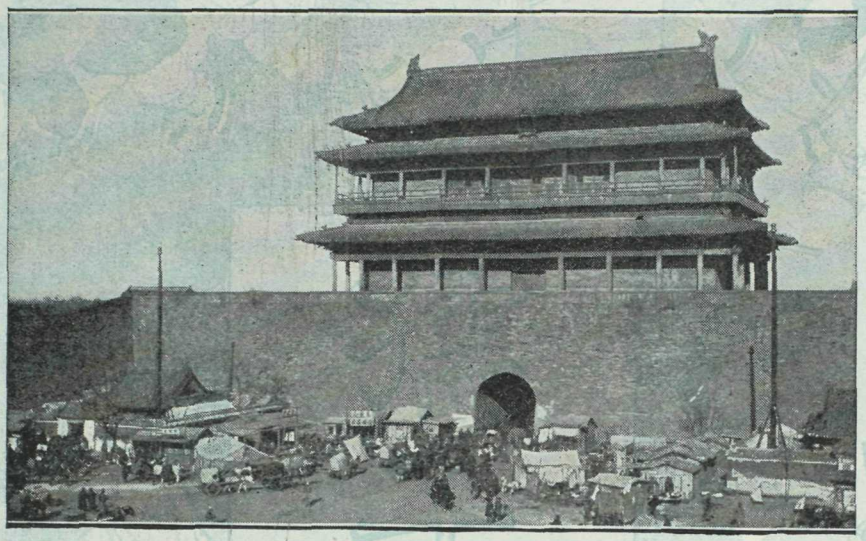


小陶氣兒
跳鑽鑽兒
腦瓜兒上
梳着個小蠟千兒
一人學了八宗藝
撞鐘踢球外帶打嘎

THE RICE SELLER

門兒敲得梆梆
狗兒咬得汪汪
我說一聲誰
騎着毛驢兒
扛着米
要細的要粗的
簸淨的量糠的

OMEONE is knocking loud at
the door,
The dog is making a great uproar;
Now I inquire, who can it be?
'Tis only a donkey-man I see,
Calling out at the top of his voice:
Here's the place to get your rice,
Coarse rice or fine,
Just to your mind,
Rice in the husk,
Or cleaned by the wind.



CHICKEN SKIN

I WENT ten steps outside the gate,
Which brought me to the ditches,
And there I found some chicken skin,
To mend my leather breeches;
If there had been
no chicken skin,
I could not mend
my trousers thin.

出前門走十步
揀了個鷄皮
補皮褲
沒有鷄皮
不必補皮褲

推磨帶磨
做箇燒餅
送外婆

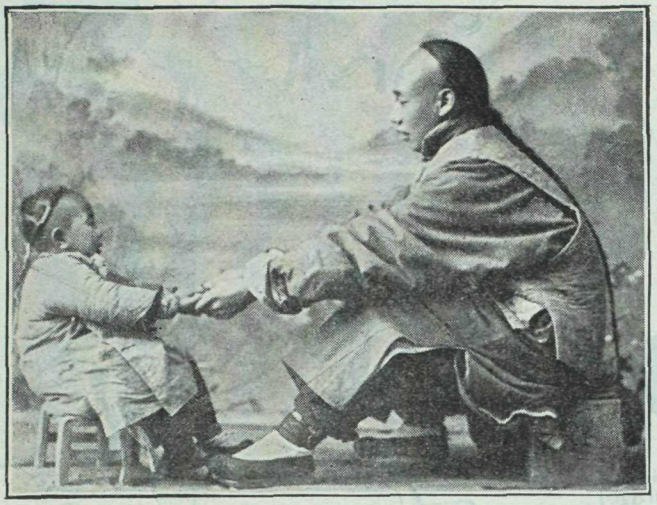
GRINDING FLOUR

WE push the mill,
The flour we make,
And then for grandma
A cake we'll bake.

THE FARMER'S GUIDE

N Spring, plant the turnip,
In summer, the beet,
When harvest is over,
We sow the buck-wheat.

頭伏蘿蔔
二伏菜
三伏来了
種喬麥



PULLING THE SAW

WE pull the big saw,
We push the big saw,
To saw up the wood,
To build us a house,
In order that baby
May
have
a
good
spouse.

拉大鋸扯大鋸
用木頭蓋房子
給貝貝娶娘子

THE DOCTOR'S PRE-SCRIP-TION

A PURSE, a purse, for better or worse,
Indeed, would you know it, I've married a purse.
My wife's little daughter once fell very ill,
And we called for a doctor to give her a pill;

He wrote a prescription which now we will give her,

In which he has ordered a mosquito's liver,

And then in addition the heart of a flea,

And half pound of fly wings to make her some tea.

褡連兒褡
我和褡連兒作親家
親家的姑娘病兒沉
請了個大夫把脈肫
開了個方兒把藥尋
開的是蚊子膽蛇蚤心
蒼蠅翅膀要半斤

丫頭子了不看家
偷老米換芝麻
媽不能管他裹他脚
再沒有姑娘比他好

LITTLE BOUND FEET

THERE was a little girl,
Who would run upon
the street,
She took rice and changed it
For good things to eat.

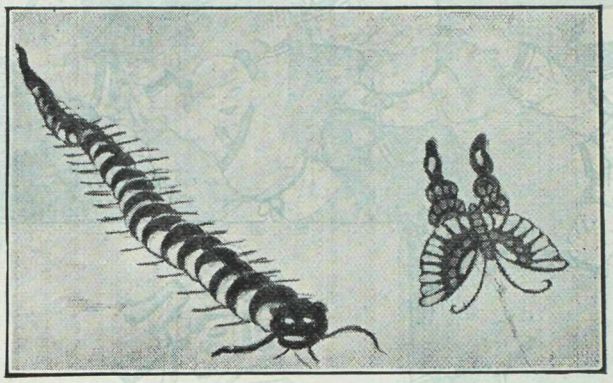
Her mother lost control of her
Until she bound her feet,
But now she's just as good a girl
As you will ever meet.

大肚子
開鋪子
沒本錢
賣褲子

THE FAT MER-CHANT

THE big fat merchant,
He opened up a stall,
But had to sell his trousers
To get the capital.

KITE FLYING



THERE were two little sisters went
walking one day,
Partly for exercise—partly for play,
Their kites they took with them they
wanted to fly,
Were a big centipede and a big butterfly;
In a very few moments they floated up
high,

姐妹二人到城東，
一到城東去逛青，
捎帶放風箏，
大姐放的花蝴蝶，
活蜈蚣，
飄飄起在空，
好似一條龍。

Like a dragon that seemed to be touching the sky.

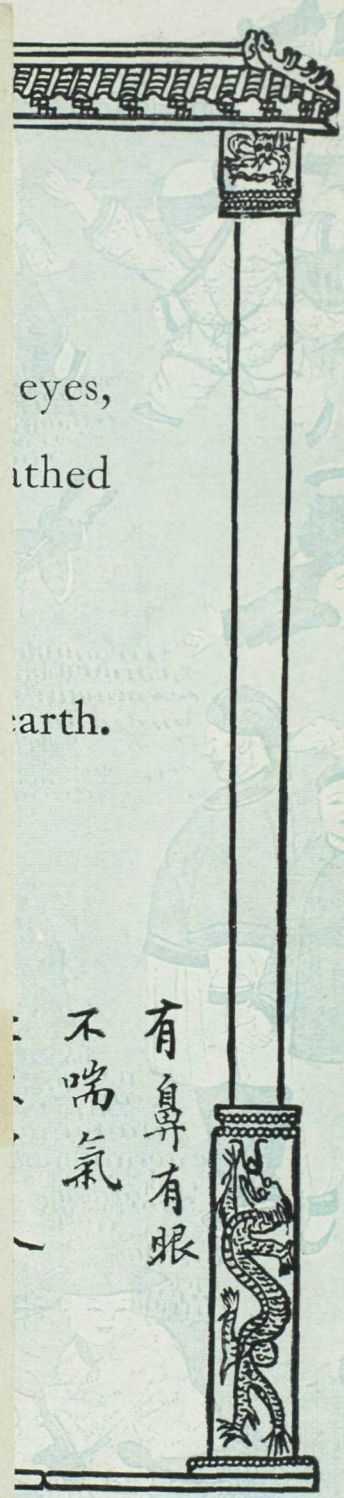
eyes,

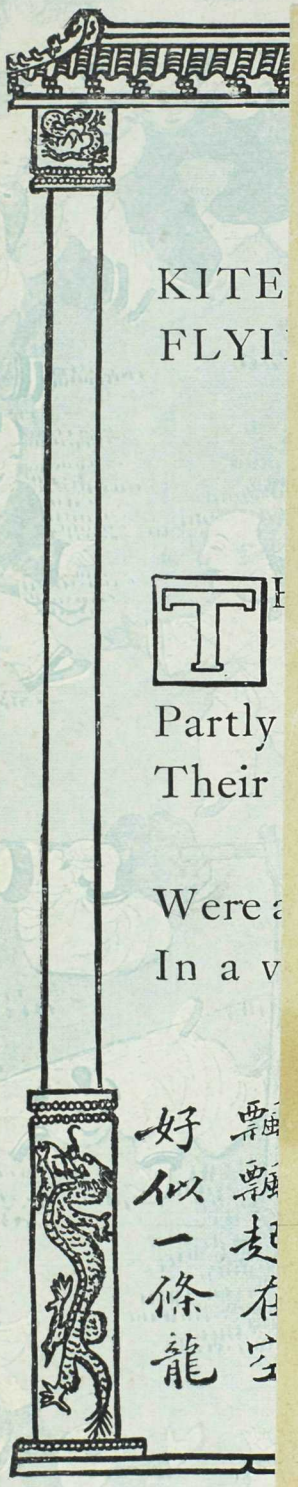
ıthed

:arth.

有鼻有眼

不喘氣





KITE
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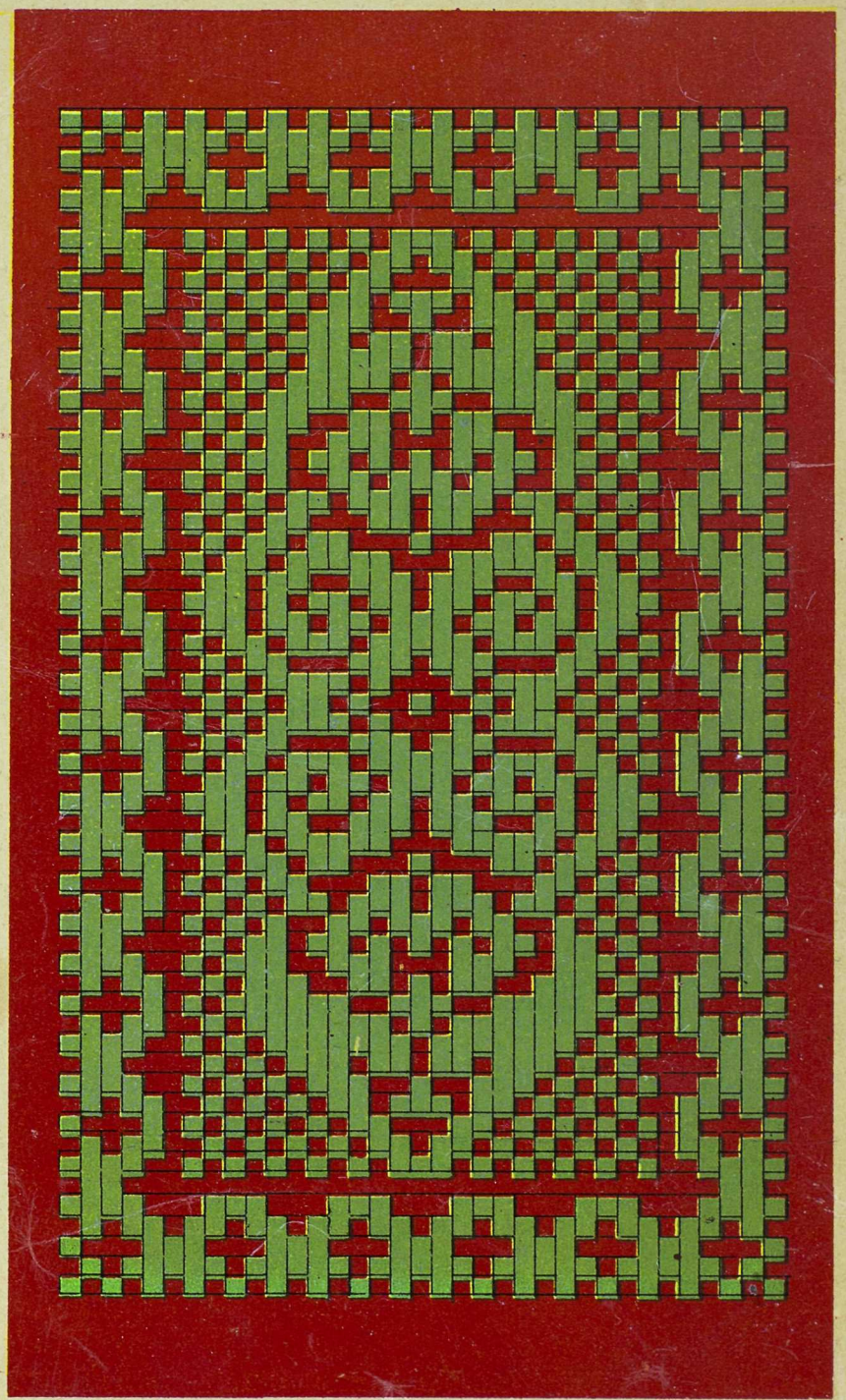
好似一條龍



WHAT IS IT?

IT has both nose and eyes,
But it has not breathed since birth,
It cannot go to heaven,
And it will not stay on earth.

有鼻有眼
不喘氣
上不了天
下不了地

YEL-LOW DOG

黃狗黃狗
你看家
我在南邊
摘梅花

YELLOW dog, yel-
low dog,
You stay and watch,
While I gather roses
In the south rose-patch.

GET UP

THE day has come,
I hear the cock;

Get up and
dress,
'Tis six
o'clock.

天明咧鷄叫咧
小秃兒起來
戴帽咧

高高山上一羅圈
上頭坐着個老奶奶
三根頭髮挽個髻
一心要戴兩樑簪
一戴一出溜
又戴又出溜
不戴不出溜

THE BALD OLD WOMAN

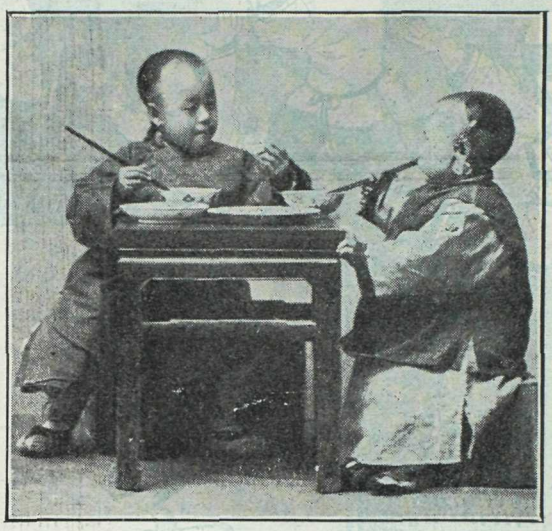
ON the top of the mount,
By the road, on a stone—
Or a big pile of bricks—
Sat a bald-headed crone.

On her head were three hairs,
Which you'll reckon were thin,
In which she was trying
To wear a jade pin.

She put it in once,
But once it fell out;
She put it in twice,
But twice it fell out.

But the old woman said,
"I know what I'm about,
I'll not put it in
And it cannot fall out."

THE CLOTHES VENDER



WHILE out selling clothes,
As our uncle must do,
He married a wife
Who is aunt to us two.

She loves to eat cake,
As you'll readily see,
For she's left but a half one
For brother and me.

貨郎擔賣褲腿
俺家有個小嬸兒
小嬸愛吃棗餑餑
留他半個給哥哥

別怕別怕
跟着媽媽穿袴穿褂
別號別號
跟着媽媽穿袴穿襖

MAMA'S BOY

DO not fear, do not fear,
We'll put the pants on
mama's dear,
Do not cry, do not cry,
We'll put the coat on mama's
boy.

THE CAKE SELLER

ROUND bean cakes with red spots bright,
The blind who eat them receive their sight;
They cure the deaf and neal the lame,
And preserve the teeth of the aged dame.

The bald who eat them grow a cue,

And the priest can read his bible through,

They help the Taoist a seat to take.

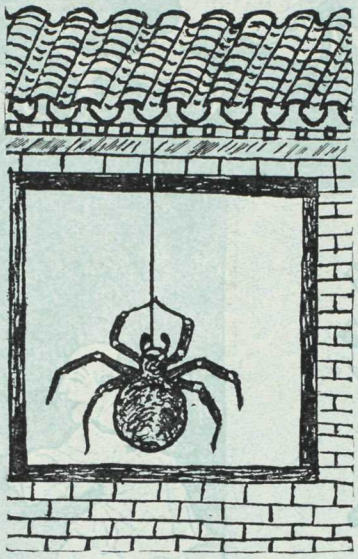
Their virtues are many—buy my cake.

The man who eats fears not his wife,

And the woman works better all her life.

豌豆糕點紅點兒
瞎子吃了睜開眼兒
瘸子吃了丟下拐
禿子吃了生小辮兒
聾子吃了聽的見
老老吃了不掉牙

一個小夥
天肚皮
臥在房簷
編笊籬



THE SPIDER

OH, my dear brother spider,
With your stomach big and red,
From the eaves you are hanging
On a single little thread.

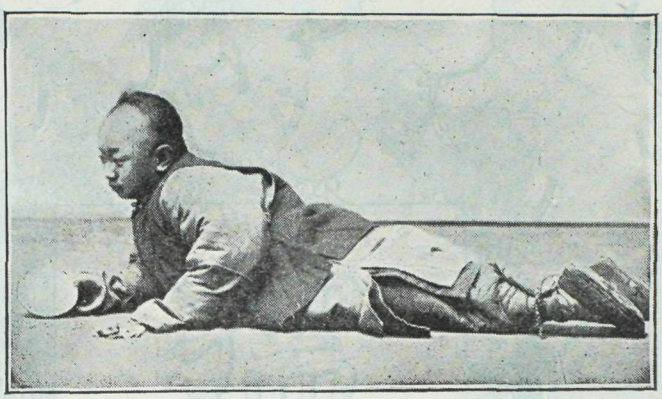
THE SMALL PUG DOG

小巴狗
跳南濠
又沒尾把又沒毛
有人来到他不叫
蘆葦塘裏滿處跑

THE small pug dog,
It jumped over there;
It has no tail,
And it has no hair.

It never will bark,
If a stranger come,
But runs here and there
Like a dog that is dumb.

THE LIT-TLE BOY

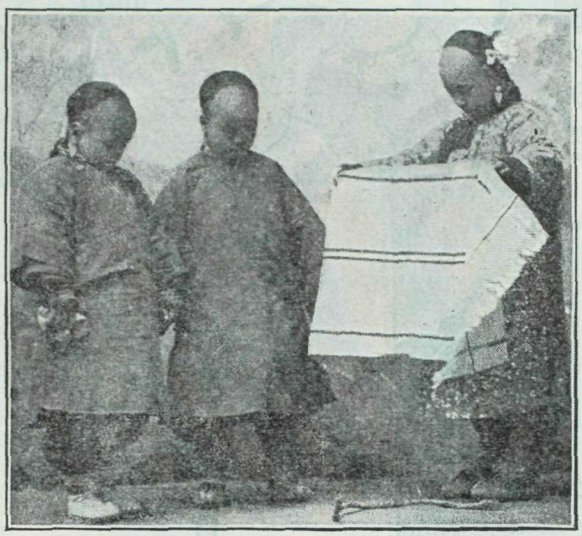


THE little boy,
He bought some oil,
But fell and spilled it
On the soil.

His mother said:
You careless lad,
I'll box your ears,
Because
you're
bad.

和尚頭買香油
摔了罐兒撒了油
他娘說他不小心
揪着耳朵打綉球

THE MAGICIAN



A BIG, dead snake is lying there,

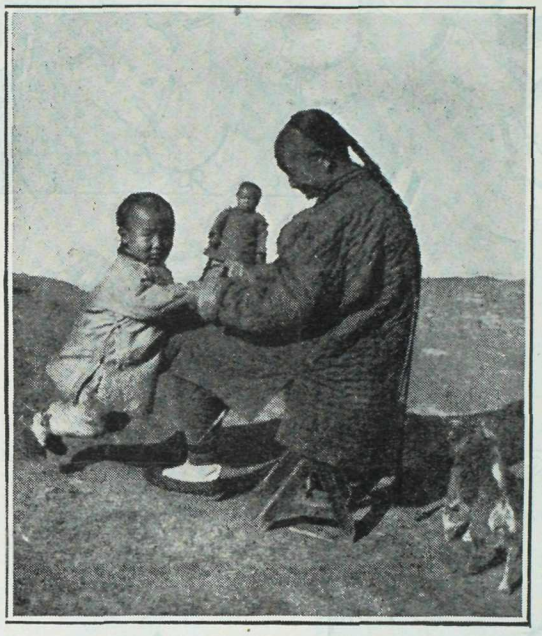
It has no ears and it has no hair;

I breathe on it some magic air,

And it lives and is running everywhere.

長蟲長蟲一大條
又沒耳朵又沒毛
吃了一口仙法氣
叫他復活滿地跑

RIDE A COCK HORSE



UP you go,
Down you see,
Granny's come
To pour the tea;
The tea is sweet,
The wine is too;
There are eighteen camels
With clothes for you,
The clothes are heavy,
And the dragon-fly

Has spurted water
On your ankle-tie.
Sister, sister,
Stop your fuss,
To-morrow the cart
Will come for us;
What cart, you ask,
The cart, of course,
With large, red wheels,
And a big, white horse;
And in it a beautiful girl, I note,
With a squirrel cloak and an otter coat,
Her betel-nut bag is a needle-worked charm,
And the stem of her pipe is as long as your arm.

上轎轆臺下轎轆臺
張家媽媽倒茶來
茶也香酒也香
十八個駱駝駝衣裳
駝不動叫麻愣
麻愣含着一口水
噴在小姐花褲腿
小姐小姐你別惱
明兒後兒車來到
甚麼車
紅轂轆轤車白馬拉
裏頭坐着個俏人家
灰鼠皮襖銀鼠褂
對子荷包小針扎
烟袋杆兒一尺八

THE LITTLE SISTER

MY little golden sister
Rides a golden horse slow,
And we'll use a golden whip
If the horse doesn't go.

A little gold fish
In a gold bowl, we see,
And a gold colored bird
On a gold blossomed tree.

A gold plated god
In a gold temple stands,
With a gold plated baby
In her gold plated hands.

小金妲騎金馬
金馬不走金鞭打
琉璃井金蝦蟆
梧桐樹金老鸛
開了廟門金菩薩
金手帶着個金娃娃

一朵芙蓉頂上栽
錦衣不用剪刀裁
雖說不是英雄漢
一聲喊叫萬門開

A RIDDLE

A COCK'S comb flower he wears
on his head.

For his clothes he needs neither thimble nor thread;

Though you be a great man, I'd have you know,

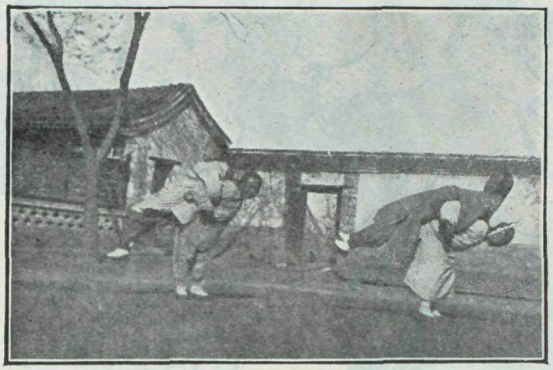
Ten thousand doors would open if he should crow.

月亮爺亮堂堂
街坊的姑娘要嫁粧
錠兒粉棒兒香
棉花胭脂二百張

THE BRIDE

THE moon shines bright,
The moon shines fair,
The girl wants wedding gifts to wear
in her hair;
A few blocks of powder,
Some incense tips,
And two hundred rouge-pads to paint
cheeks and lips.

POUNDING RICE



POUND, pound,
Pound the rice,
The pestle goes up
and down so nice,
Open the pot,
The fire is hot,
And if you don't eat
I'll
feed
you
rice.

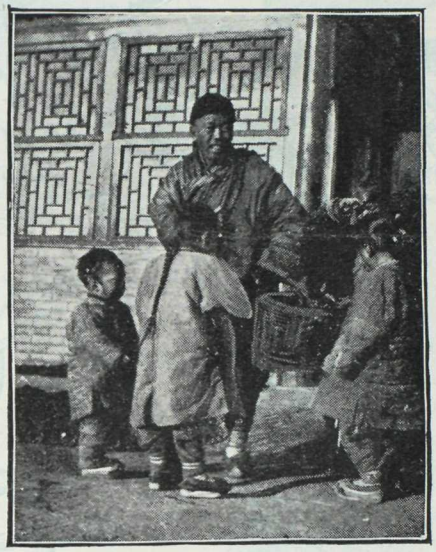
橄欖橄欖老米
開了鍋煮老米
你不吃我喂你

OUR BABY

MRS. Chang, Mrs. Lee,
Mama has a small baby;
Stands up firm,
Sits up straight,
Won't eat milk,
But lives on cake.

張奶奶李奶奶
俺家有個小嬰孩
站得穩坐不歪
好吃餑餑不吃嬭

豆芽菜水溯溯
誰家的媳婦兒打公公
公公拿着拐棍兒拐
媳婦兒拿着袖口兒甩



BEAN SPROUTS

GOOD bean sprouts,
The water dropping out;
Where's the wife that dares to drive
her husband's father out?
He'd take up a stick,
And hit her a lick,
And she could only shake her sleeve
and run off quick.

小妞兒
坐椅子兒
錐幫子兒
納底子兒

THE LITTLE GIRL

THE little girl
Sits on the stool,
And sews the shoe
And beats the sole.

狼来咯
虎来咯
老和尚背着鼓来咯

VISITORS

THE wolf has come,
The tiger has come,
The old priest follows,
Beating a drum.

SHOE-MAKER

納底子兒
揸了二升小米子兒
蒸蒸烙烙
吃他娘的一頓搞勞

HE stitches the heel,
And he stitches the sole,
Two measures of millet
he gets for the whole;
They steam it, or fry it,
When hungry they feel,
And he eats with his mother
a very good meal.

同來看同來看

黑鷄下了個白鷄蛋

同來瞧同來瞧

耗子長了一身毛

TWO WONDERS

ALL come and see!

All come and see!

A black hen laid a white egg for me!

Oh, look there!

Oh, look there!

A great, big rat all covered with hair!

正月裏、
正月正
天將黑了點上燈、
二月半、
人若餓了就吃飯
三月長、
人要盖房就壘墻、

DO AS YOU OUGHT

IN the first month,
when it is night,
If you are wise,
your lamp you'll light;
And when the second
month you meet,
If you are hungry
you should eat;
And in the third month
most of all,
To build a house
you must lay a wall.

外甥是老老
家的狗
吃飯了
他就走

MY NEPHEW

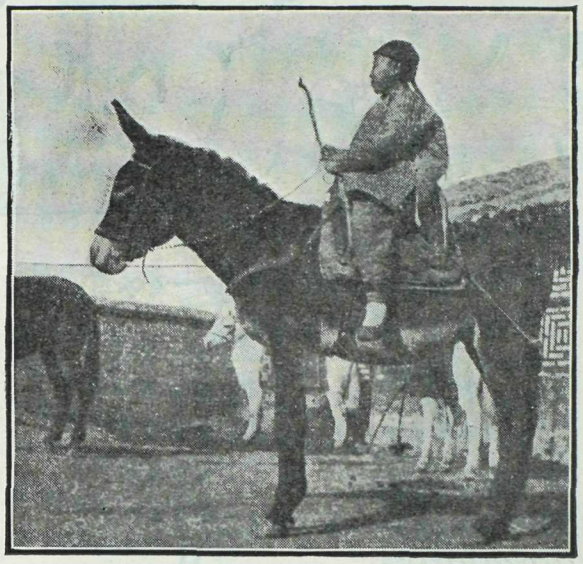
MY nephew
is a naughty boy,
He comes here
every day, He eats until he's very full,
And then he runs away.

RED PEPPER FLOWER

A red pepper flower,
Ling, ling, ling,
Mama will listen
And baby
will sing.

花椒樹嗡嗡嗡
唱個唱兒
奶奶聽

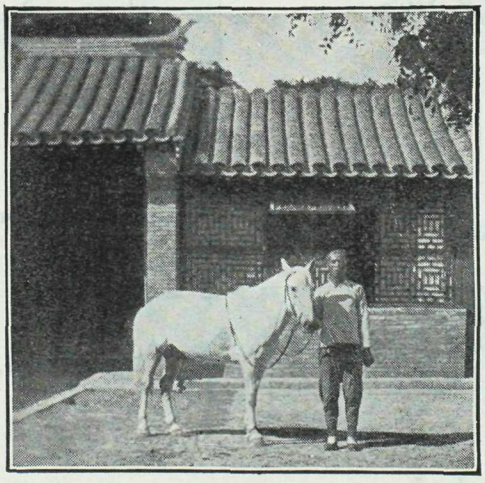
DON'T BE CRUEL



A mule going up hill,

A donkey on the street,

Or a horse coming down hill



You never ought to beat.

上山的騾子
下山的馬
平地的毛驢
不用打

小小花盆綠陰陰
裏頭栽的萬年青
娘娘房裏生貴子
爺爺在外發萬金
爹爹太太老壽星

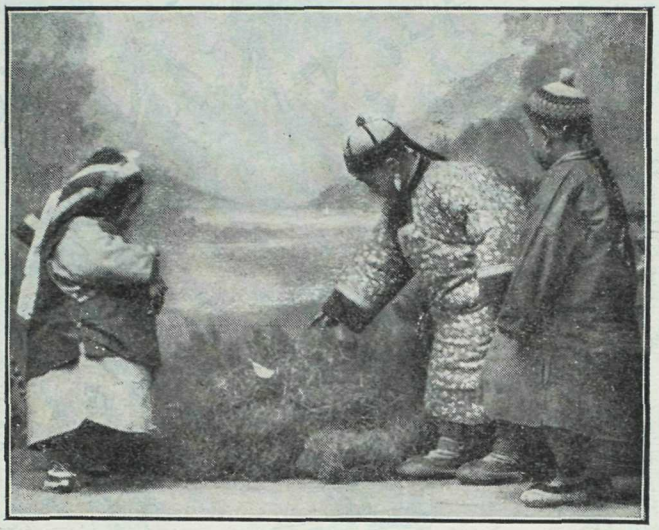
FLOWER POT

WEE little flower-pot, very deep green,
With just the sweetest flowers that ever were seen;
Mother with her babies playing very funny,
Father doing business, making lots of money,
Grandpa very old, but never going to die,
Grandma just as bright as a star in the sky.

金軲轆棒銀軲轆棒
爺爺兒打板兒
奶奶兒唱
一唱唱到大天亮
養活個孩子沒處兒放
一放放在鍋台上
嗞兒嗞兒的喝米湯

A NEW BABY

A gilt-wood mace,
And silvered things,
My grandfather plays,
And grandmother sings;
My grandmother sings till broad daylight,
And a baby comes to our home at night;
They place the child by the pot on the ground,
And it eats rice soup with a sucking sound.



THE DEAD CICADA

THE rain has come
And has overflowed,
The dew and the frost
Are on the road.

The last of the grass
Has drooped its head,
The
cicada
is on it,
Frozen dead.

一場秋風
一場涼
一場白露
一場霜
嚴霜單打
獨根草
螞蚱死在
草根上

BROTHER WANTS FRUIT

MY dear little brother,
Is fat and is round,
A bracelet he wears on his arm,
A red chest protector,
A green pair of pants,
Keep him neither too cool nor
too warm.

A small tuft of hair
On the side of his head,
In his cheeks dainty dimples that suit;
When he toddles he trembles,
To sister he says:
"Tum an' buy itty bothy some f'uit."

小小子兒胖咕圇墜兒
骼膊上戴着個金鐲子兒
身穿着紅襖肚絲褲子兒
腦袋瓜兒梳着個歪毛兒
一笑倆酒窩一走一哆嗦
拉着姐姐偺門買果子

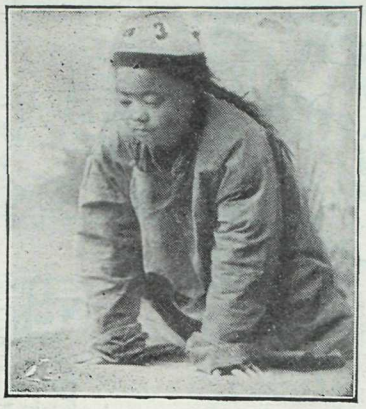
老婆婆賣饃饃
賣不了往家跑
門閑高絆倒了
小扒狗搶吃了

THE OLD WOMAN

THERE was an old woman,
As I have heard tell,
She went to sell pie,
But her pie would not sell.

She hurried back home,
But her door-step was high,
And she stumbled and fell
And a dog ate her pie.

河螭河螭跳搭搭
東洋大海有他家
閒来無事叫嘎嘎
不叫爸爸叫媽媽



FROGGIE

FROGGIE, old froggie,
Come over to me;
You'll never go back
To your home in the sea.

You're an idle old croker
As ever I saw,
And if not calling papa,
You're calling mama.

懶老婆
做飯不刷鍋
掃地土
屋裏放着
未曾睡覺扒個草窩

THE LAZY WOMAN

THE lazy woman
She sweeps the
floor,
And leaves the dirt
Inside the door.

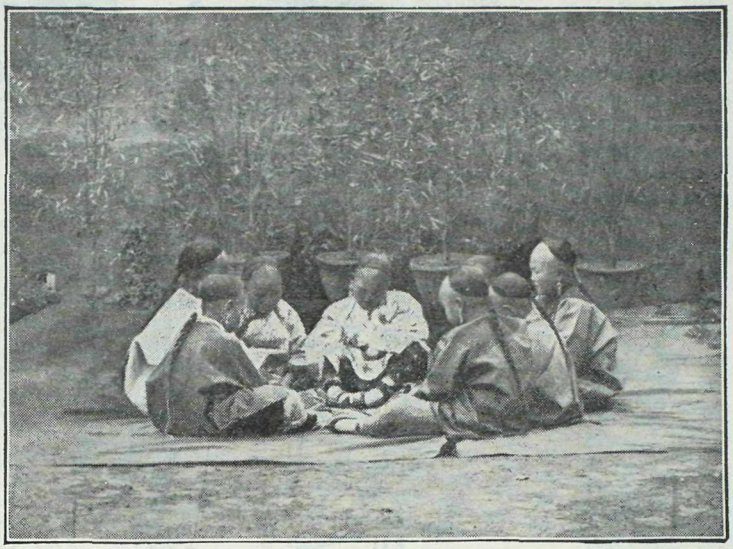
She cooks her rice
In a dirty pot,
And sleeps at night
On an old straw cot.

THE TIDY WOMAN

THE tidy woman
Is always clean,
No dirt in her home
Is ever seen.

Her food is fit
For a king to eat,
And her hair and clothes
Are
always
neat.

勤謹老婆好體面
賊在家裏老不見
飯好乾淨王可納
衣裳齊整頭髮滑



E NI ME NI MI NI MO

ONE, two, three, and an old cow's eye,
When a cow's eye's blind she'll surely die;
A piece of skin and a melon, too,
If you have money
I'll sell to you;
But if you're without,
I'll put you out.

點點點牛眼
牛眼花
一根皮條兩個瓜
有錢的買着吃
沒錢的去了他

FINGER TEST

YOU strike
three times
on the top,
you see,

And strike three times on the bottom
for me,

Then top and bottom you strike very
fast,

And open
a door in
the middle
at last.

上打三通鼓
下打鼓三通
兩邊一齊打
當間開大縫

TEN FINGERS

THREE horses are drinking,
Three horses are feeding,
The two men are fighting,
The old woman pleading,
The baby is crying,
But no one is heeding.

三馬吃草三馬吃料
兩人打架
老太太說罷罷罷
小孩兒在屋裏嘎拉嘎拉

FACE GAME

KNOCK at the door,

See a face,

Smell an odor,

Hear a voice,

Eat your dinner,

Pull your chin, or

Ke chih,

ke chih.

排門兒 見人兒 聞味兒 聽聲兒 食飯兒 下扒壳兒 胳肢胳兒

THE FLOWER SELLER

買花來
買花來
你不買花
花就壞

FLOWERS for sale,
Flowers for sale,
Come, buy my flowers,
Before they get stale.

MAKING A FLOWER POT

OU first cross over and then
cross back,
And step in the well as you cross
the track,
And then there is some-
thing else you do,
Oh, yes, you make a
flower-
pot,
too.

套来套去
套水井
又過来了
座花瓶

WATER-ING THE FLOW-ERS

I water the flowers, I water the flowers,
I water them morning and evening hours,
I never wait till the flowers are dry,
I water them e'er the sun is high;
A basin of water, a basin of tea,
I water the flowers, they're op'ning, you see;
A basin of water, another beside,
I water the flowers, they're opening wide.

澆花澆花澆花難
你不澆花花就乾
一盆水一壺茶
澆好水開好花
一盆水二盆水
開好花開大的

BALD HEAD LEE

THERE once was a bald-head,
his name it was Lee,

No one ever burned
so much incense as he;

Now, people burn incense
to get them an heir,

But baldy burned incense
to get him some hair.

When he found in three days
all his hair had returned,

He the god gave a coat
and more incense he burned;

When he found in three days
all his hair had dropped out,

He upset the god
and he kicked him about.

Then the god became angry
and took up a sword,

And made into dippers
that bald-headed gourd.

有個小禿兒本姓高
初一十五把香燒
人家燒香為兒女
禿子燒香為長毛
到了三天毛長上
又燒香又掛袍
到了三天毛掉了
搬倒了老爺架火燒
老爺一見沖沖怒
拿起大刀就開瓢

樹葉青
齊王選他作正宮
樹葉黃
齊王選他作娘娘

THE KING WILL WANT YOU

WHEN the leaves are green,
And full of life,
The king will want you
For his wife.

When the leaves are yellow
From time and tide,
The king will want you
For his bride.

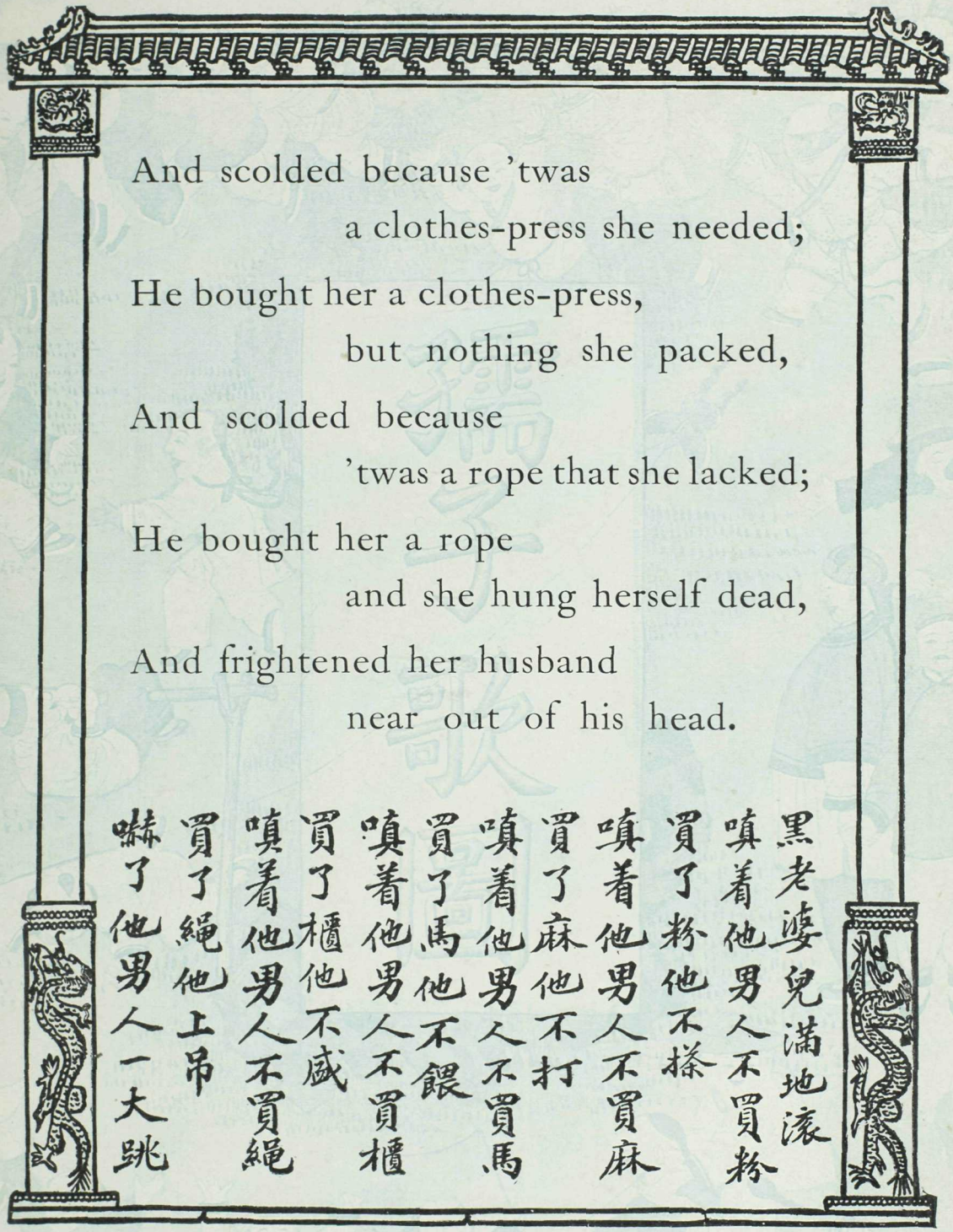
DON'T STEAL

IF you steal a needle,
Or steal a thread,
A pimple will grow
Upon your head;
If you steal a dog
Or steal a cat,
A pimple will grow
Beneath your hat.

偷人的針偷人的線
長個針眼呀人看
偷人的貓偷人的狗
長個針眼呀人瞅

THE SHREW

ALL over the ground
the old black woman rolled,
And for not buying powder
her husband did scold;
He bought her some powder,
which she would not use,
And for not buying hemp
him she'd soundly abuse;
He bought her some hemp,
but she only got worse,
And scolded because
he had not bought a horse;
He bought her a horse
but she never would feed it,



And scolded because 'twas
a clothes-press she needed;
He bought her a clothes-press,
but nothing she packed,
And scolded because
'twas a rope that she lacked;
He bought her a rope
and she hung herself dead,
And frightened her husband
near out of his head.

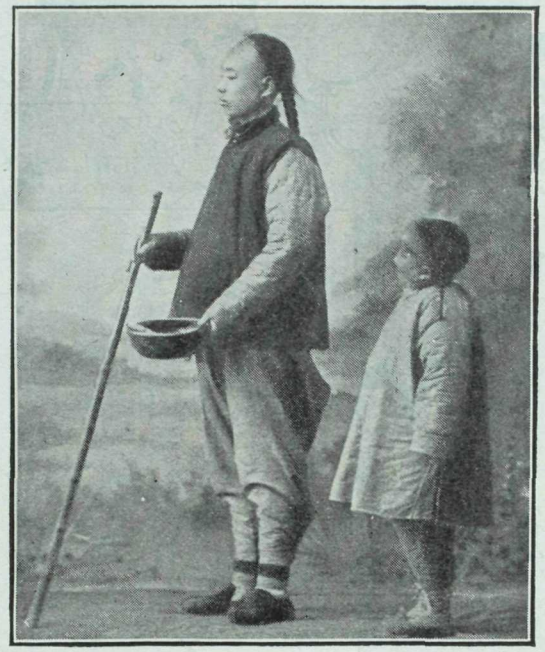
黑老婆兒滿地滾
嗔着他男人不買粉
買了粉他不搽
嗔着他男人不買麻
買了麻他不打
嗔着他男人不買馬
買了馬他不餵
嗔着他男人不買櫃
買了櫃他不盛
嗔着他男人不買繩
買了繩他上吊
嚇了他男人一大跳

A MIS-TAKE

A scarred-eyed man,
He went to the fair,
He picked up a turnip
And thought it was a pear;
He took a big bite,
But found it was bitter,
And, oh, what a pity,
He threw it in the gutter.

疤瘌眼去趕集
拾了個蘿蔔當甜梨
咬一口怪辣的
扔了他可惜了兒的

THE BLIND MAN



OLD Mr. blind man, come here quick,
I see you carry a feeling-stick;
To the river side you take your way,
And feed the froggies every day;
A frog, one day, stuck out his head,
And bit your toe, I've heard it said.

瞎子瞎拏棍夾
夾到河裏餓蝦蟆
蝦蟆一伸頭
咬你的脚指頭

A TRAGEDY IN THREE ACTS

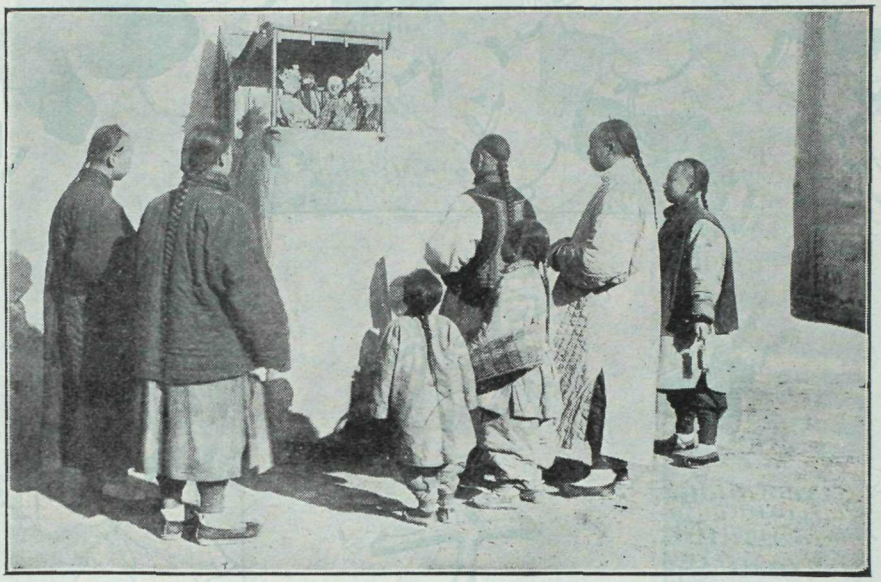
A SMALL boy
came from the
south of the farm,
With a bamboo basket upon his arm,
With mutton bones was the basket
filled,
From a sheep which his folks that
day had killed.

A monkey came from a pile of stones
To steal that boy's fresh mutton
bones,

But a big, spotted dog followed close
at his heels,
To bite a bad monkey whenever he
steals.

A half of a brick lay there on the
road,
It upset the boy and he spilt out
his load,
The dog bit the monkey, the monkey
ran away,
The boy broke his basket and cried
all day.

從南來了个禿丫頭
脫膊上跨着個破笆斗
裏頭有堆羊骨頭
伸手拏骨頭
送在口裏齦骨頭
那邊來了个大馬猴
來搶羊骨頭
身後跟着个大花狗
要咬大馬猴
地下有個破磚頭
絆到了禿丫頭
撒了羊骨頭
狗咬大馬猴
折壞了破笆斗



PULLING THE SAW

WE pull the big saw,
And we push it out straight,
There's a Punch and a Judy
At grandmother's gate,
Our sisters and brothers
Invite to the show,
And all of us, even
The baby, shall go.

拉大鋸扯大鋸
姥姥門口唱大戲
接姑娘請女壻
小孩兒跟着跑了去

THISTLE-SEED

THISTLE-SEED, thistle-seed,
Fly away, fly,
The hair on your body
Will take you up high;
Let the wind whirl you
Around and around,
You'll not hurt yourself
When you fall to the ground.

老瓜飄老瓜飄
渾身上下長白毛
趁着風兒吹上去
掉在地上摔不着

THE LITTLE STUDENT

WHILE raking the hay on the
mountain,
A student came riding along,
He was riding a dapple-gray pony,
And singing a scrap of a song.

To the home of his bride he was
going,
But her father and mother were out,

And he saw, as he pushed the door
open,
The girl he was thinking about.

Her cheeks were as pink as a rose-
bud,
Her teeth were as white as a pearl,
Her lips were as red as a cherry,
Most truly a beautiful girl.

爬草根兩頭分
路中來了小學生
騎花馬拜丈人
丈人丈母不在家
推開門來看見他
粉紅臉賽桃花
小小脚一扚挖
櫻桃小口糯米銀牙

THE FIVE FINGERS

A GREAT big brother,
And a little brother, so,
A big bell tower,
And a temple and a show,
And little baby wee wee,
Always wants to go.

大拇哥
二拇弟
鐘鼓樓
護國寺
小妞妞
愛聽戲

THE FIVE FINGERS

這個老這個小
這個沒的吃
這個去買甘草
這個去赶集

THIS one's old,
This one's young,
This one has no meat,
This one's gone
To buy some hay,
And this one's on the street.

OLD MOTHER WIND

風奶奶
送風来
俺家孩子
好涼快

OLD Mother Wind
Come this way,
And make our baby
Cool to-day.

WASH

洗洗臉
不長疙疸不長癬
洗洗頭
給你穿上紅緞紬

WASH your face, you little tease,
And you'll be free from all disease;
Wash your head, your face, and throat,
And you shall have a red silk coat.

EIGHT BALD-HEADS

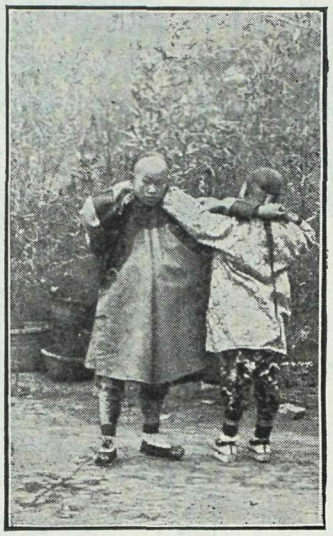
BALD-HEAD is sick,
And the second's afraid,
The third calls a doctor,
The fourth gives him aid.

By the fifth he is borne,
By the sixth he is buried,
The seventh comes crying
Because he is worried.

When asked by an eighth,
Why it was that he cried,
He said, "In my home,
A dear bald-head has died."

"Come, bury him quickly,
I fear a great hoard
Of the seeds of his spirit
Will spring from his gourd."

大秃子得病
二秃子慌
三秃子請大夫
四秃子熬薑湯
五秃子抬六秃子埋
七秃子哭着走進來
八秃子問他哭甚麼
我家死了個秃乖乖
快快兒抬快快兒埋



TURNING THE MILL

THE big dog's gone to the city,
The little dog's run away,
The egg has fallen and broken,
And the oil leaked out, they say,
But you be a roller,
And hull with power,
And I'll be a mill-stone
And grind the flour.

大狗上京了
小狗跑了
鷄蛋砸了
油撒了
你是碾子
我是磨

SWALLOW'S NEST

PAT, pat,
A swallow's nest we'll make,
And if we pat some money out
We'll buy ourselves a cake.

排排
排燕窩
排出錢来
買餅餅

THE LOCUST TREES

THE locust trees,
See how they grow!
Here in their shade
We will have a show.

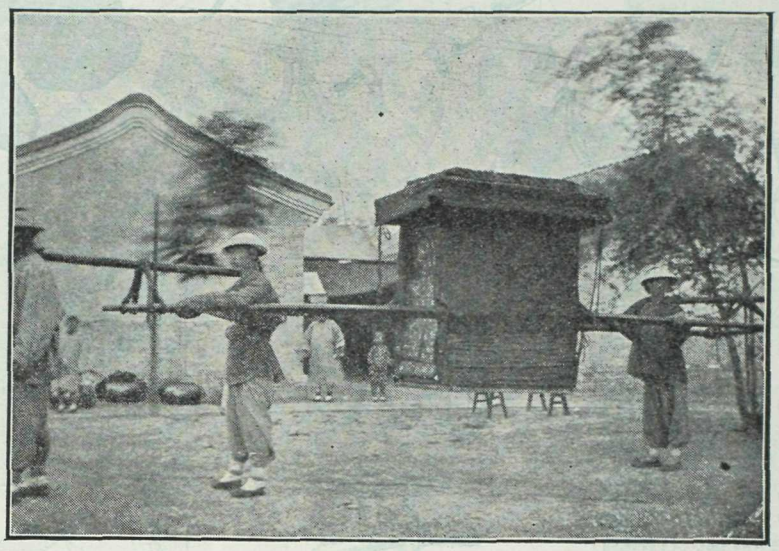
Other people's children
All have come,

But my little girl
Is still at home.

Just as I speak,
She is coming
along,
Riding a donkey
And singing a
song.

Her parasol open
She holds in
her hand,
Her hair is done
up
In a neat little band.

槐樹槐
槐樹底下搭戲台
人家的姑娘都来了
我家的姑娘還不来
說着說着就来了
騎着驢打着傘
光着脊梁挽着纂



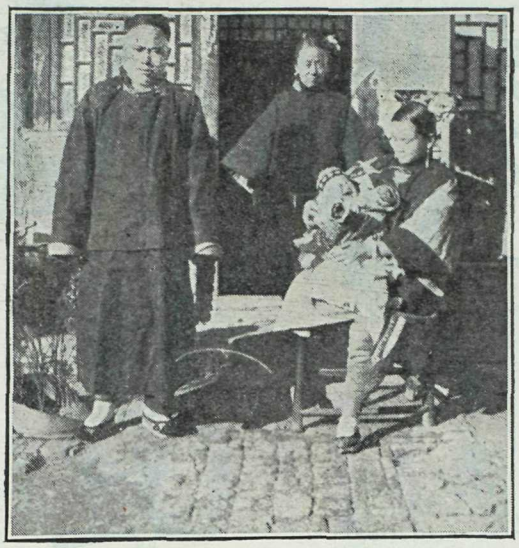
THE WEDDING

BEAT the drum, beat the drum,
We're coming in a chair,
Who will clear the way
For the girl that's coming here?

鼓鼕鼕坐大轎
誰給姑娘喝着道
鼓鼕鼕坐大轎
喝兒喝喝着道

Beat the drum, beat the drum,
See, the chair is coming,
Ho'rh ho! clear the way!
Don't you hear the drumming?

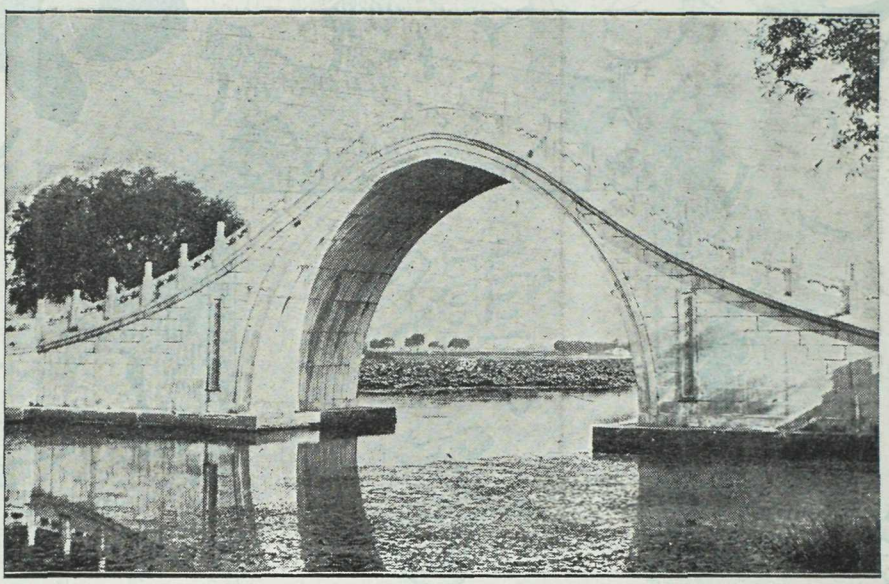
高高山上一窩猪
兩口子打架孩子哭
孩子孩子你別哭
等我打那個老丈夫



THE PIG-STYE

ON the top of a mountain
There stands a pig-stye
And the fighting of parents
Has made the child cry.

Baby, baby,
Don't you cry,
Wait, and I'll whip
The old man by-and-by.



THE CAMEL-BACK BRIDGE

IF you chance to be cross-
ing
The camel-back bridge,
Each step leads you up
Till you come to the ridge.

The lantern-grass floats
On the pond like a sail,
The silver-fish bites
At the gold-fish's tail.

The big-bellied frog
Sitting there on the rock,
Keeps constantly calling
Wa'rh wa, wa'rh wa.

羅鍋子橋羅鍋子橋
一磴兒到比一磴兒高
燈籠兒閘草水皮兒漂
銀魚兒咬着金魚兒尾
大肚子蝦蟆石上坐着
哇兒哌哇兒哌哇兒哌的叫

小眼兒看景致兒
小鼻子聞香氣兒
小耳朵聽好音兒
小嘴兒吃玫瑰兒

THE SENSES

LITTLE eyes see pretty things,

Little nose smells what is sweet,

Little ears hear pleasant sounds,

Mouth likes luscious things to eat.

翻餅烙餅
油煮餡餅
激溜軲轆一個

CAKE BAKING

WE turn the cake,
The cake we bake,
We put in oil, or pork, or steak
And when 'tis done,
We'll have some fun,
And give a piece to every one.

WEDDING FEAST

A BIG cow's horn
We will blow, blow, blow,
To our sister's wedding feast
We will go, go, go.

Who will drive the cart?
My big brother;
Who will eat the feast?
A sister of my mother.

Who will pack her trunk?
My sister, whom you saw;
Who will light the fire?
Her own mother-in-law.

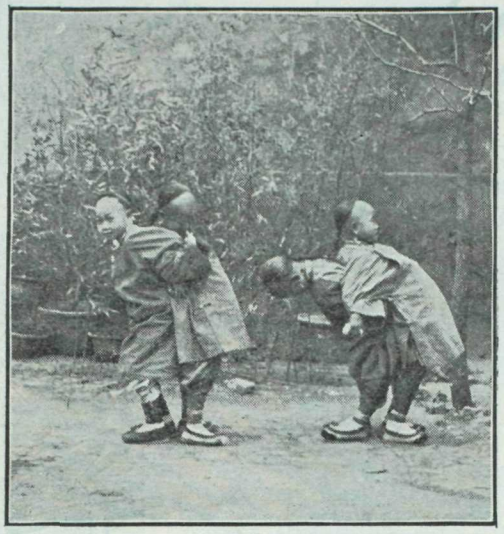
牛�’角吹唰咧
花紅轎娶姐姐
誰趕車我哥哥
誰坐席我二姨
誰添箱我姑娘
誰燒火他老婆

ROAST PORK

ROAST, roast,
Roast pig meat,
The second pot smells bad,
The big pot is sweet;
Come,
Mrs. Wang,
please,
And
eat pig
meat.

糊糊猪肉
大鍋裏香
二鍋裏臭
請王媽媽来吃猪肉

GOING TO TOWN



UP you go, down you see,
Here's a turnip for you and me,
Here's a pitcher, we'll go to town,
Oh, what a pity we've fallen down;
What do you see in the heavens bright?
I see the moon and the stars at night;
What do you see in the earth, pray tell?
I see in the earth a deep, deep well;
What do you see in the well, my dear?
I see a frog, and his voice I hear;
What is he saying there on the rock?
Get up, get up; ke rh kua, ke'rh kua.

上去下来
羅蔔要賣水壺要拿
偺們瞧咯
天上瞧什麼月亮星星
地裏瞧什麼水井
井裏瞧什麼蝦蟆
蝦蟆說什麼起来
起来格尔瓜格尔瓜

THE MISCHIEVOUS SISTER-IN-LAW

OH the pumpkin red, oh the
gourd decayed,
I am my father's mischievous maid;
I am my brother's dear little sister;
I am my sister-in-law's fly-blister.
Father, when I marry, what will you
give?
A box and a ward-robe you shall
receive.

Mother, when I marry, what will you bring?
A little work-basket full of everything.
Brother, when I marry, what will come from you?
A fancy cloth towel; think that will do?
My happiness, sister, you will not mar?
I'll give a broken bottle and a little smashed jar,
And send you, you nuisance, away very far.

紅葫蘆軋腰兒
我是爺爺的內姣兒
我是哥哥的親妹子
我是嫂子的氣包兒
爺爺爺爺賠甚麼
大箱大櫃賠姑娘
奶奶奶奶賠甚麼
針線笸籮兒賠姑娘
哥哥哥哥賠甚麼
花布手巾賠姑娘
嫂嫂嫂嫂賠甚麼
破罈子

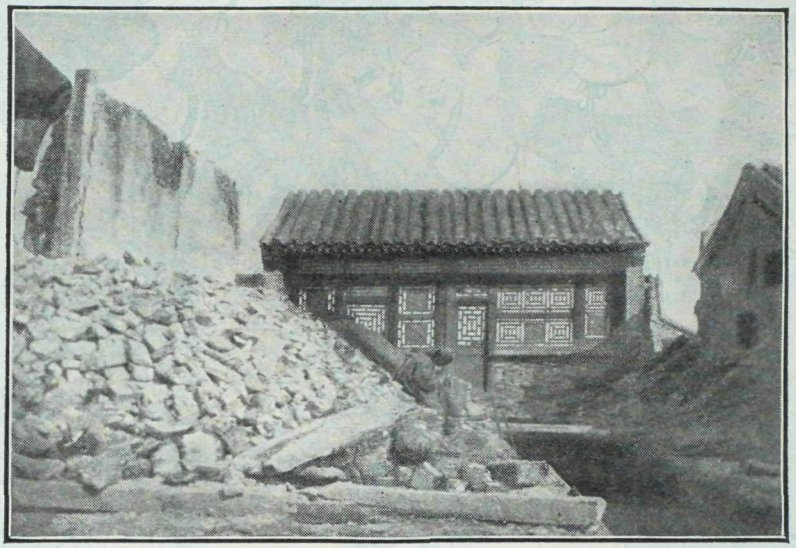
BUY-ING A LOCK

OH, here we all go to buy us a lock,
What kind of a lock shall it be?
We'll buy one of silver or buy one of gold,
But what shall we use as a key?
We'll use a broom-handle; if that will not do,
With a poker we'll try it alone;
But if neither the broom nor the poker will do,
We will open it then with a stone.

希拉花拉跳鎖来
甚麼鎖
金鋼打的黃花鎖
甚麼開
篓篦疙瘩鑰匙開
開不開鉄棍打
打不開石頭抗
抗不開
希拉花拉關城来

FORCING THE CITY GATES

HE stuck a feather in his hat,
And hurried to the town,
And children met him with a horse,
For the gates
雉雞翎 were
抱馬城 broken
馬城開 down.
丫頭小子
送馬來



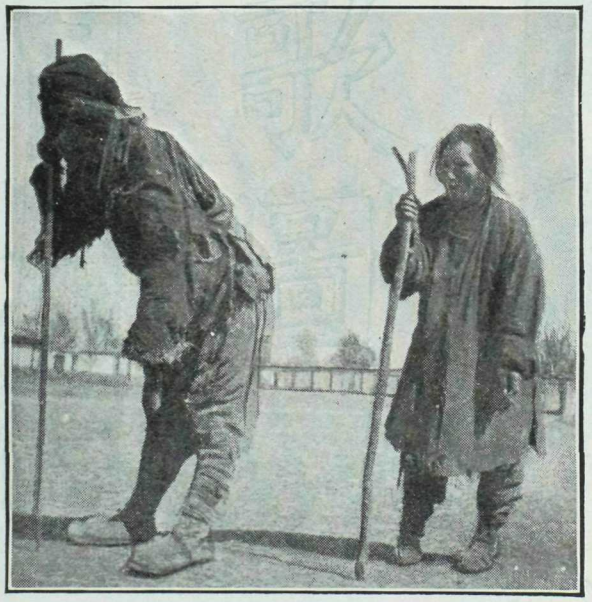
HOME ON THE MOUNTAIN

ON a very high mountain
A family dwell,
Of ten of their
rooms,
Nine of them
fell.

高高山上有一家
十間房子九間塌
老頭子出來拄拐棍兒
老婆子出來就地兒擦
看家的狗兒三條腿
避鼠的貍貓短個尾巴

The old man comes out
With a great deal of trouble;
His wife hobbles after,
Her body bent double.

Their three-legged dog
Is as thin as a rail,
And their rat-fearing cat
Is minus a tail.



FAMILY NEEDS

YOU'LL find whene'er the new year come,
The kitchen god will want a plum;
The girls will want some flowers new,
The boys will want some crackers, too;
A new felt cap will please papa,
And sugar-cake will please mama.

新年来到糖瓜祭灶
姑娘要花小子要炮
老頭子要買新毡帽
老婆子要喫大花糕

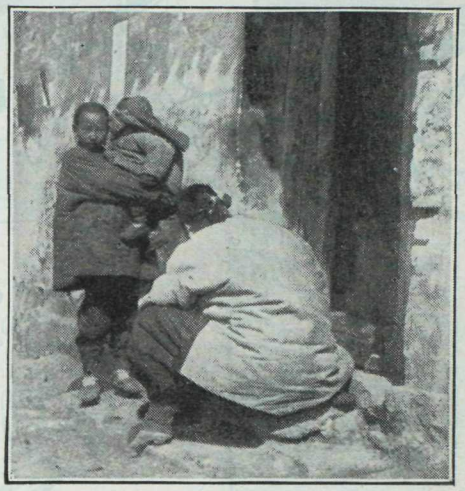
MY BOAT

MY boat is turned up at
both ends,
All storms it encounters
it weathers
On its body you'll find not
a board,
But covered all over with
feathers.

We daily re-load it with
rice,
'Tis admired by all
whom we meet,
You will find not a
crack in my boat,
But you'll find under-
neath it two feet:
A duck.

一隻船兩頭高
渾身沒板淨生毛
天天要裝紅粮米
船底無縫可漏脚

OLD GRANNY CHANG



KNOCKING, knocking, who's
at the door?
Old Granny Chang, and nothing
more.

Why don't you enter, granny, dear?
The dog will bite me, child, I fear.

What are you shaking there at
your feet?
A string of garlic, good to eat.

What are you carrying under your
arm?
An old fur cloak to keep me warm.

Why don't you put the cloak on,
granny?
Fear the insects will bite me, sonny.

Why don't your husband kill such
a pest?
My husband's gone to the land of
rest.

Where is the old man's burial spot?
There, in the fire-place, under the pot.

Why don't you cry for your husband
true?
Old pot! old pan!! old man!!!
boo-hoo !!!!

拍拍拍門來是誰阿
是張老媽阿
怎不進來怕狗咬阿
手裏兜着是什麼阿
長蒜草阿
胳肢窩夾着是什麼阿
破皮襖阿怎不穿阿
怕跳蚤咬阿
老伴怎不拏阿
老伴死咯
那兒埋咯墻爐子底下
怎不哭阿
盆兒罐兒老伴兒

BLIND MAN'S BUFF

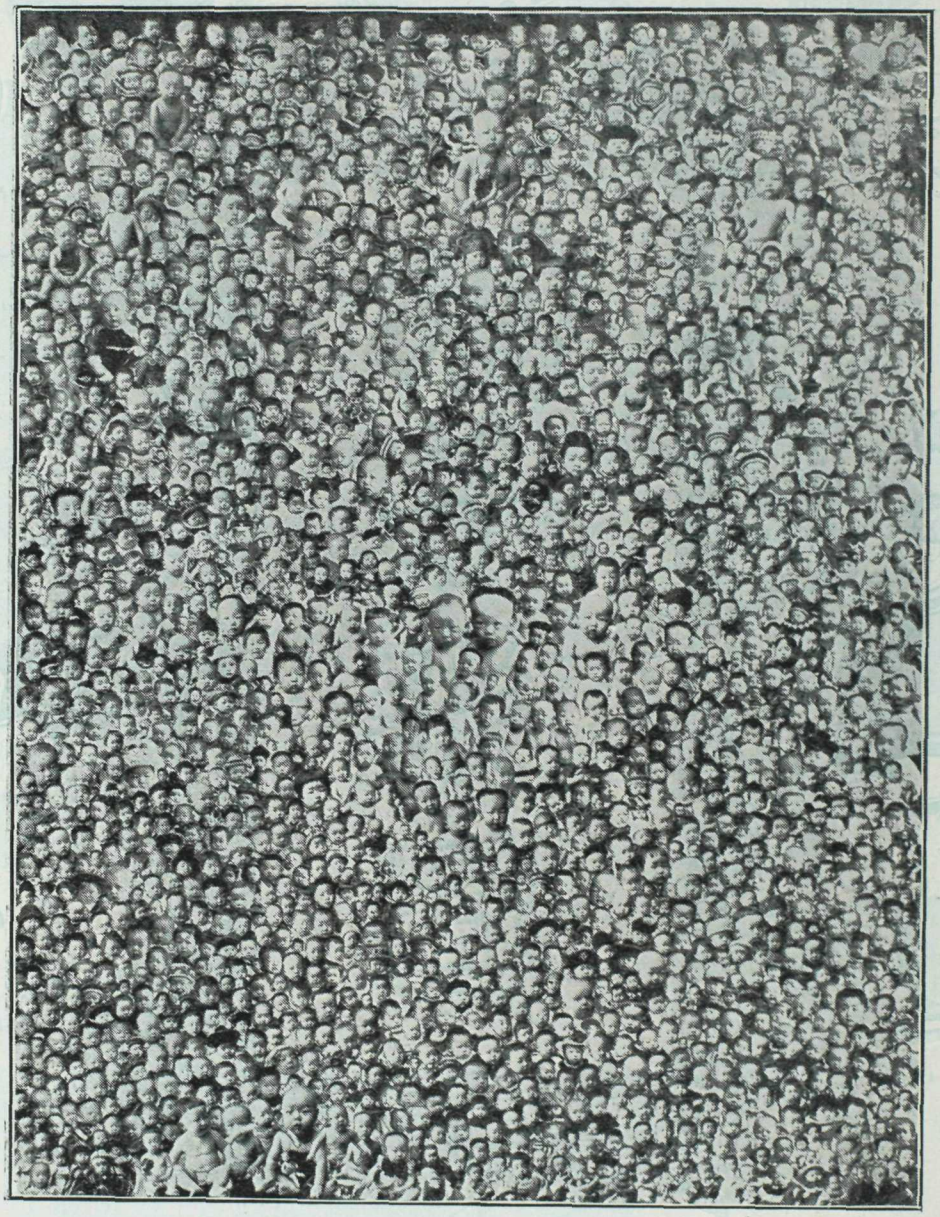
A PEACOCK feather
On a plum-tree limb,
You catch me,
And
I'll
catch
him.

喊得喊
喀得喀
你追我
我追他

THE FIVE TOES

THIS little cow eats grass,
This little cow eats hay,
This little cow drinks water,
This little cow runs away,
This little cow does nothing,
But just lie down all day;
We'll whip her.

這個小牛兒吃草
這個小牛兒吃料
這個小牛兒喝水兒
這個小牛兒打滾兒
這個小牛兒竟卧着
我們打他



SEVENTEEN HUNDRED BABIES

光緒二十有六年庚子仲秋

北京滙文書院美國何德蘭纂輯

紐約黎威勒公司印發

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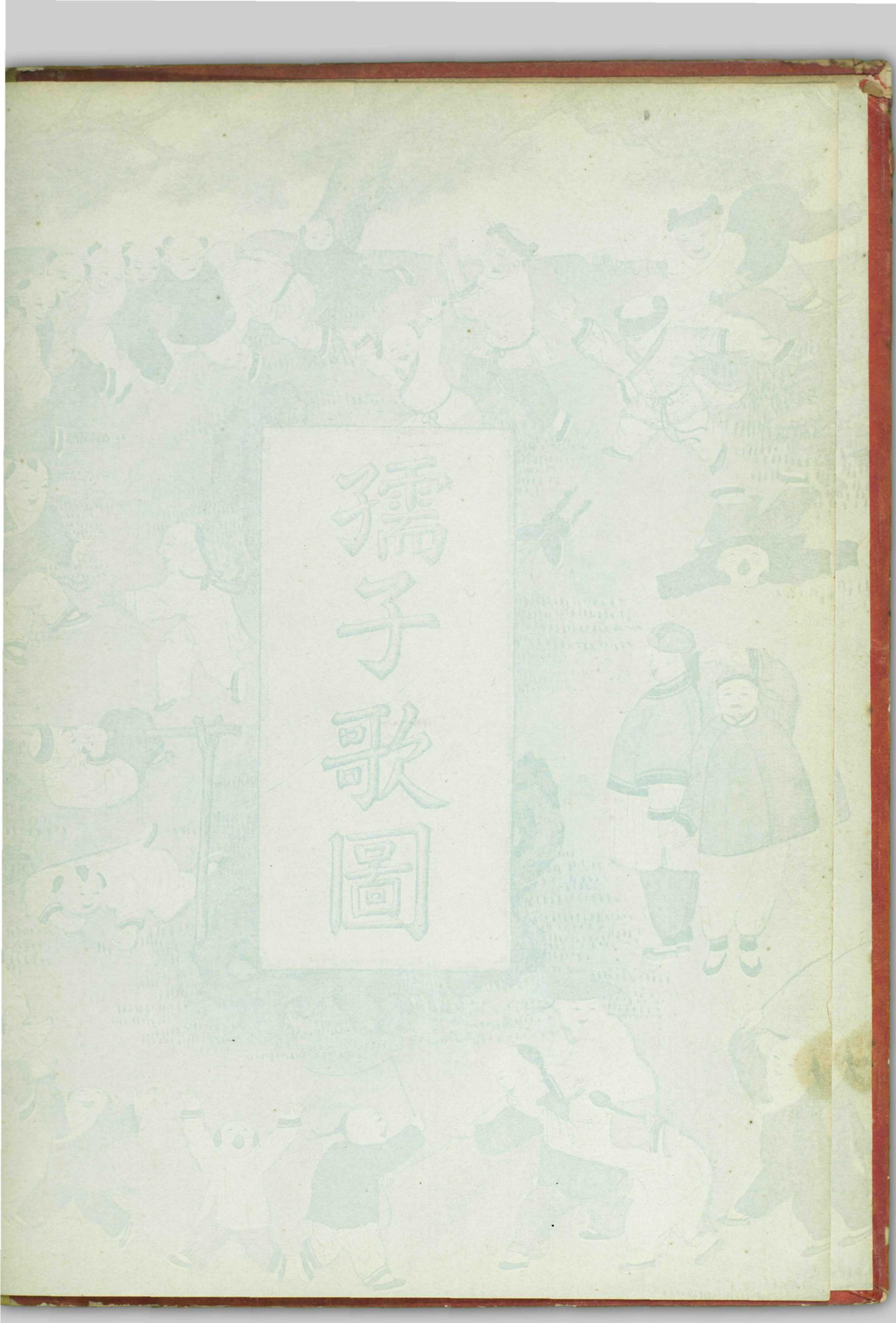
孺子歌圖


孺子歌圖

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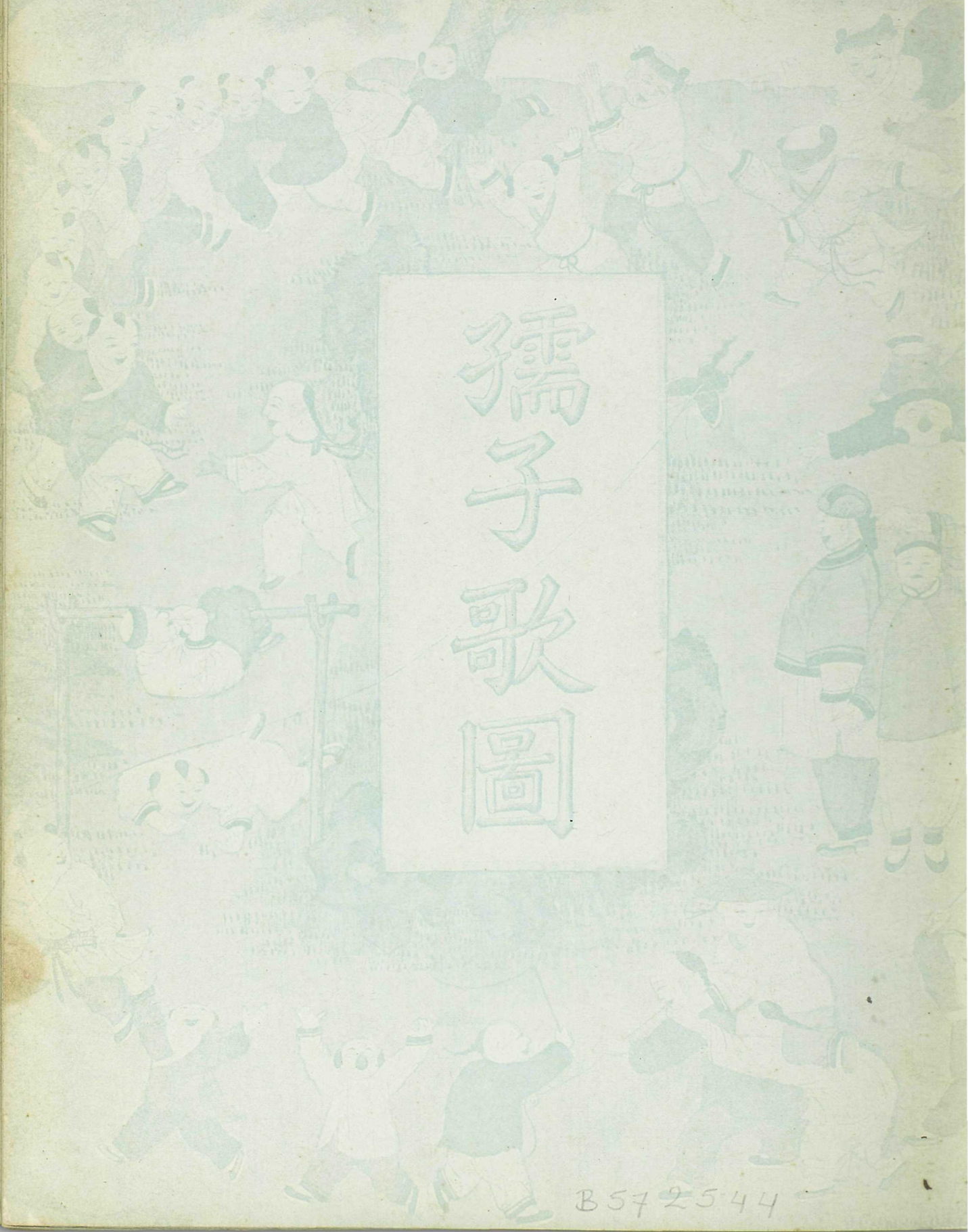

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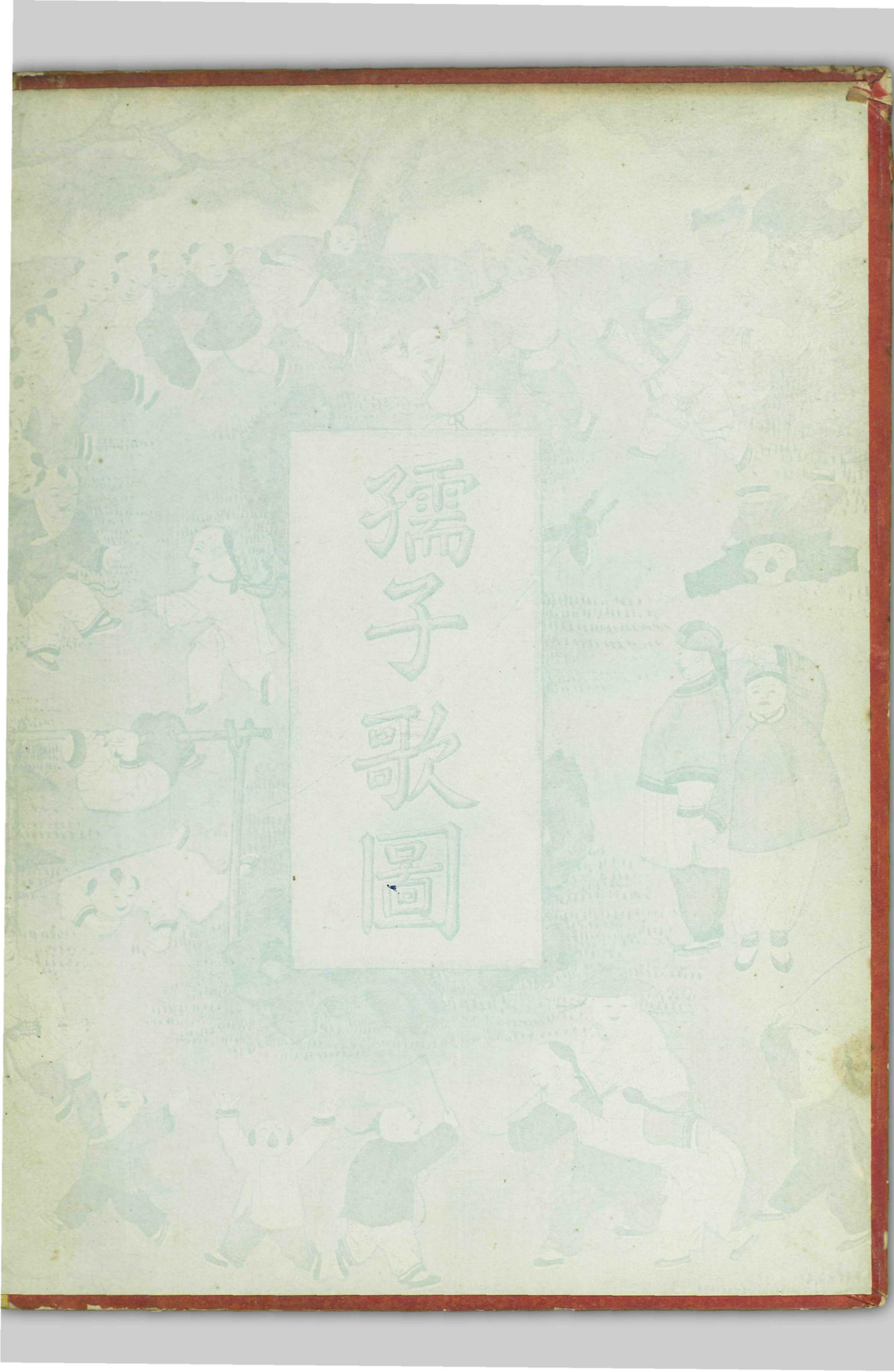
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