



To the Youngsters.

"This book's for the youngsters, the Noras, and Nells,

The Arthurs, and Willies, and Freds;

The Kittys, the Jennys, and fair Isabels,

The Charlies, and Harolds, and Teds;

For Roses, and Lilys, and Daisys, and Mays,

For Gordons, and Alecs, and Roys,

To help to amuse them on nasty wet days,

And keep them from making a noise;

From squabbling, and pinching, and pulling of curls,

From teasing and mischievous fun—

These verses and pictures for boys and for girls,

I trust they'll enjoy every one."



To Ella,

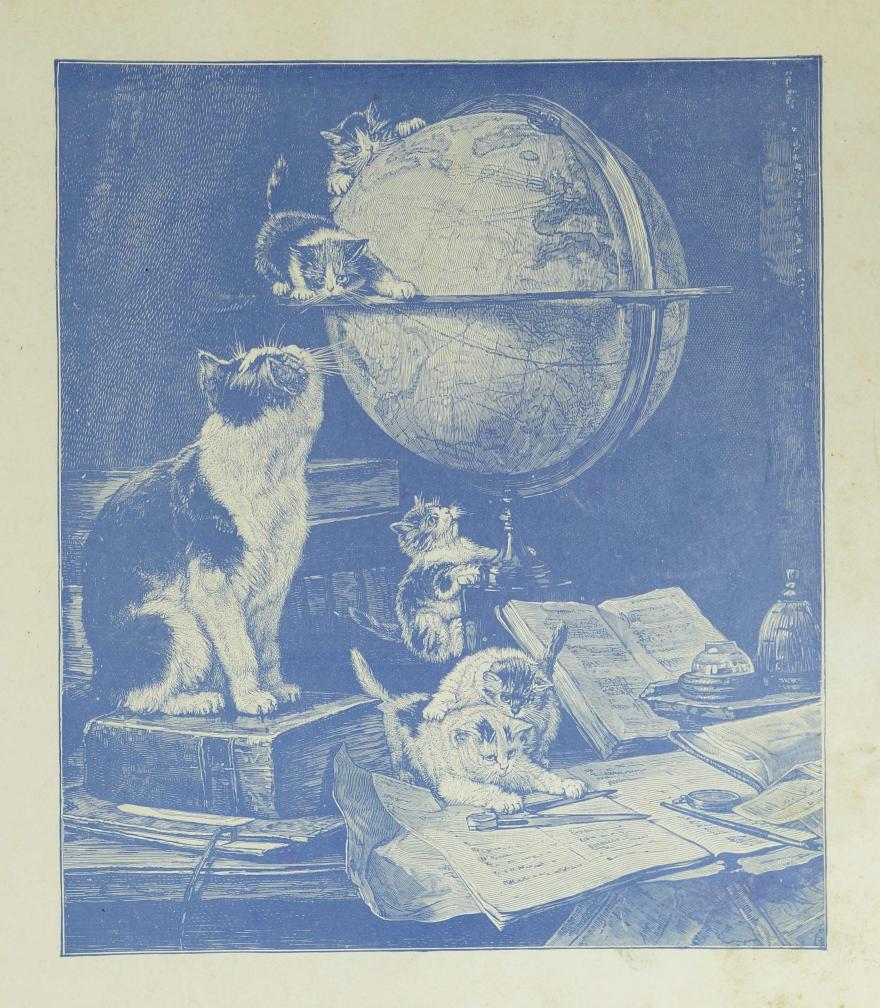
Our Pussies.

Here you see our pussies five,
Friskiest little things alive;
Finding out, with many a bound,
How it is the world goes round.

Mother Puss, to take a look,
Sits upon a great big book;
"Fluffy," with the snowy paw,
Scuds along the Equator.

"Bobs" so sleek, and oh, so droll, Perches on the Arctic pole; Then, because he likes the motion, Skips across the Indian Ocean.

Oh, he finds it splendid fun!
He can't stop now he's begun;
On he goes, the little rover,
Tumbles down, and all is over.







FEEDING THE PETS.



My Rabbits.

I've a couple of rabbits that live in a hutch;

I love them, and pet them—oh! ever so much!

When they nibble their food and waggle their ears,

I think there were never two prettier dears.

And sometimes I loose them and take them a run

About in the yard, in the warmth of the sun;

And they scamper and hide, and I call them by name,

And up they come running quite friendly and tame.

But Pussy is jealous—I cannot say why—

He watches to catch them, so naughty and sly;

I must teach him to love them, the dear little things,

And then we shall all be as happy as kings.

Dick and his Pets.

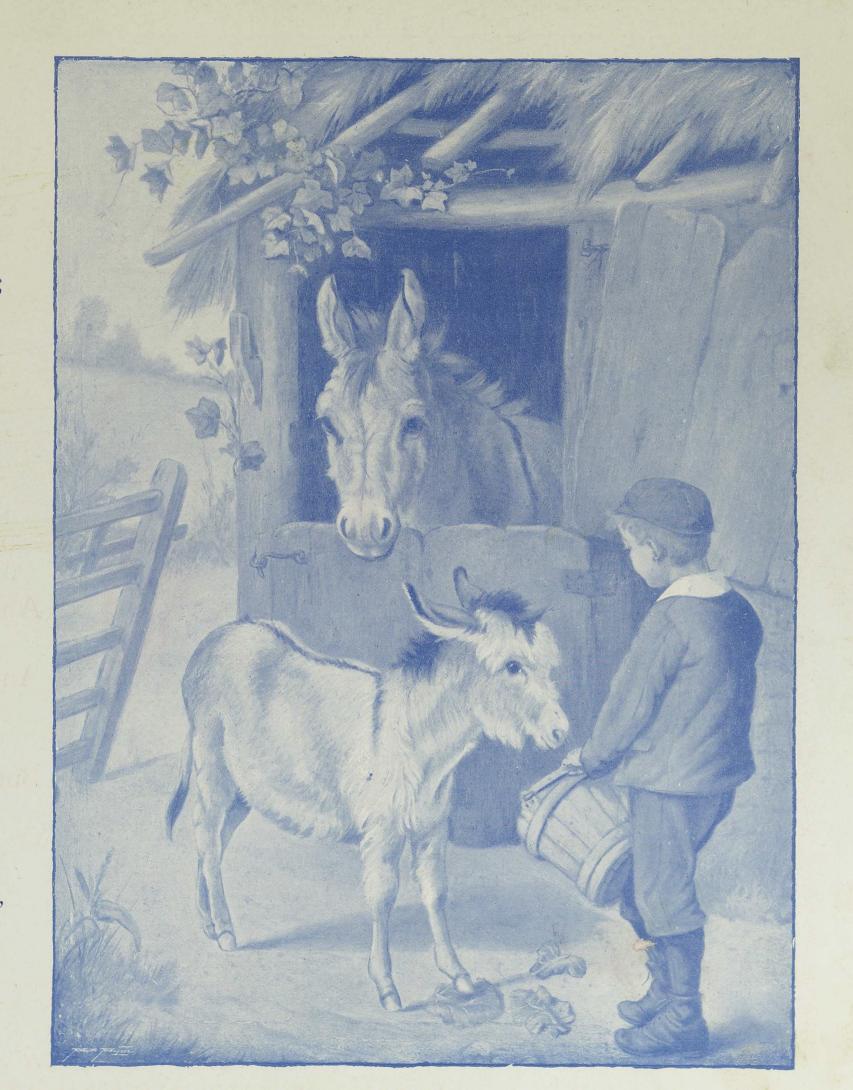
Oh, lots of pets has Dicky Hill,
Who lives down by the water-mill;
He likes to see them all each day,
And spend an hour with them in
play.

Yes, every living thing he loves—
The donkeys, rabbits, pigs, and doves;

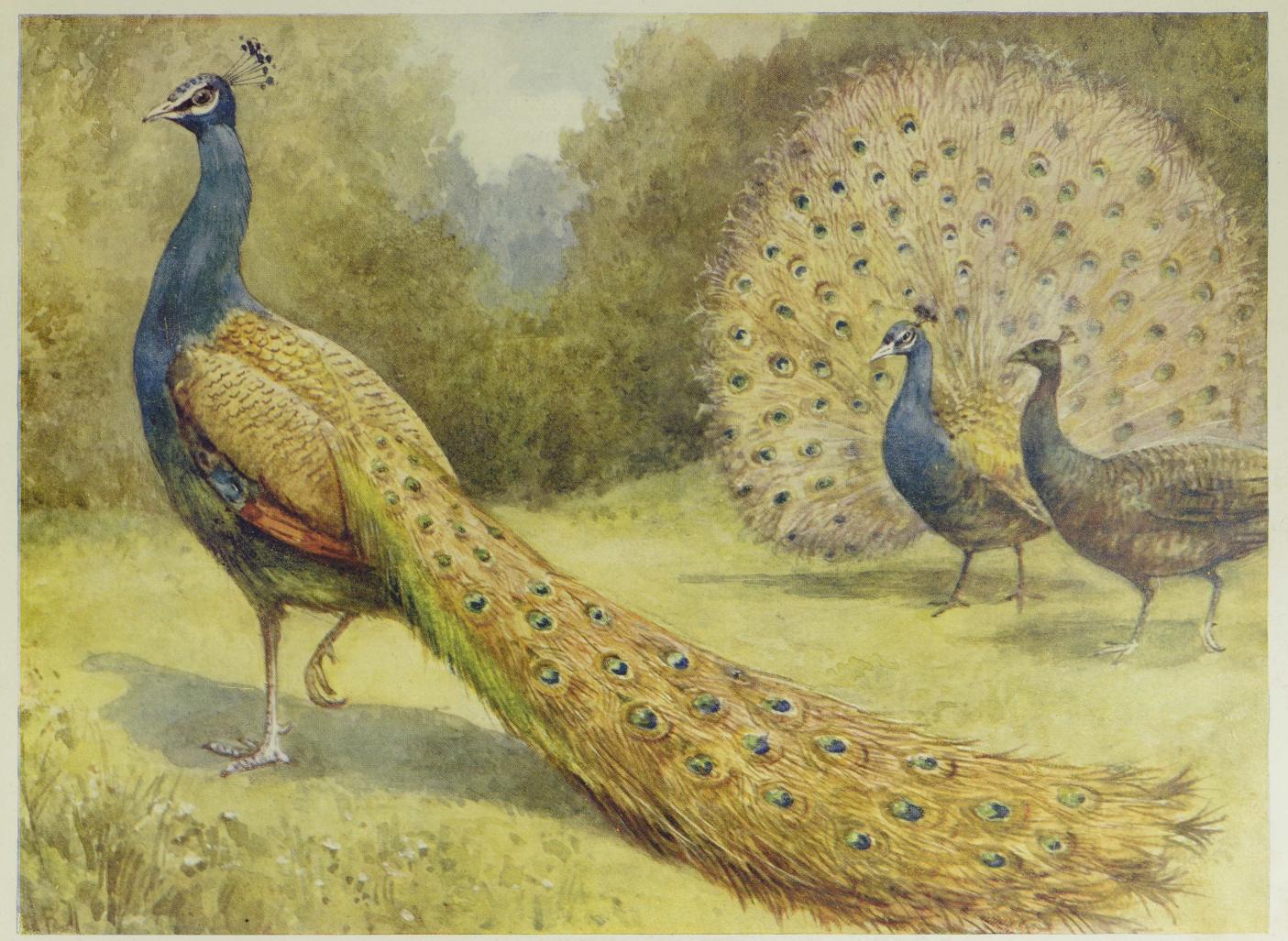
And every creature on the farm Knows that he'll never do them harm.

And all Dick's friends admire him too,

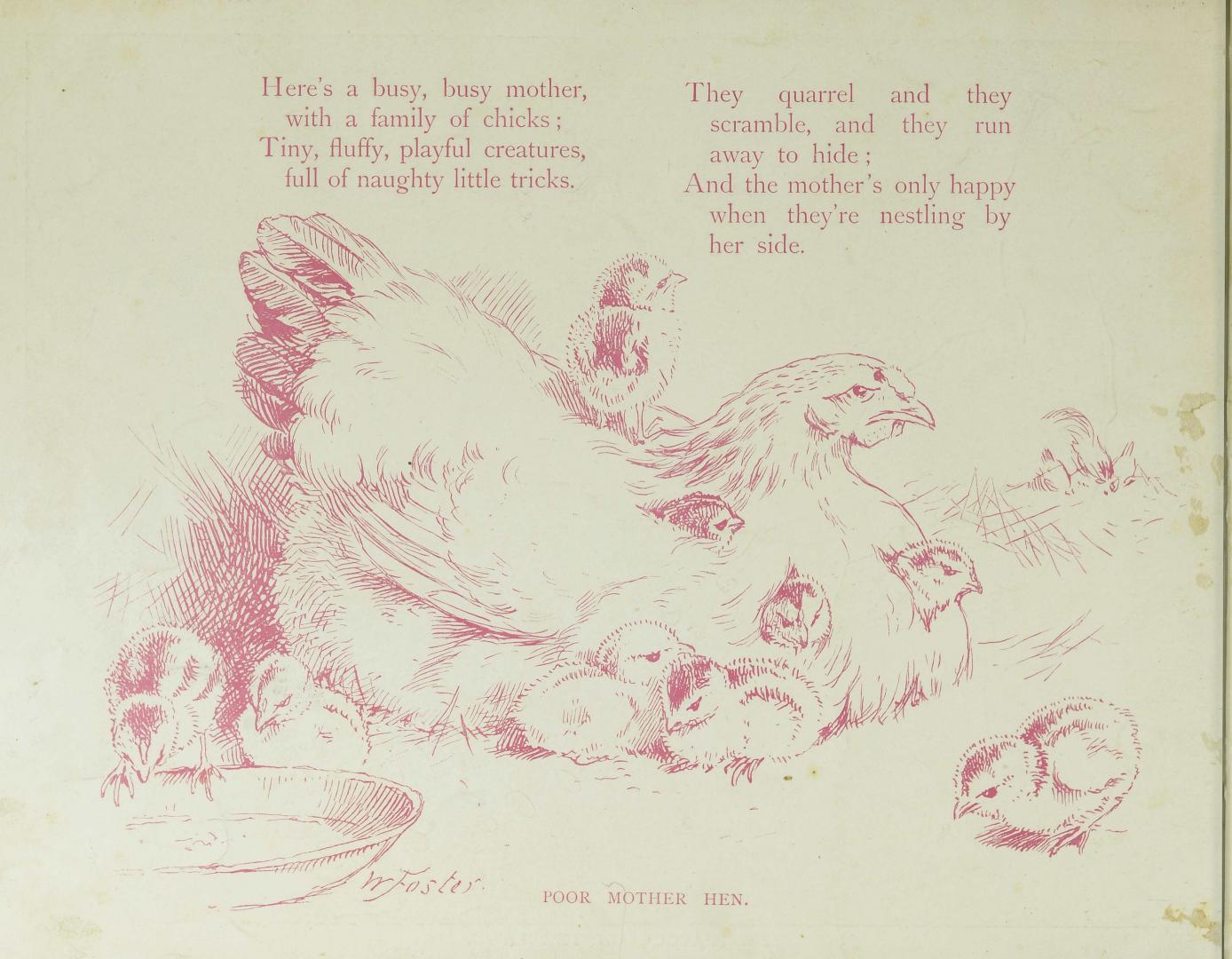
Because he is so good and true;
They come to see his pets, and say,
"I'll treat mine in the same kind
way."







THE PEACOCK ON THE LAWN.



THE DONKEY-RIDE ALPHABET.



for dear Annie, just off for a ride;

B for the Boy who will run by her side;

C for the Clatter of hoofs on the road;

D for the Donkey, who's proud of his load;

E for his Ears, very silky and long;

F for the Fodder that keeps him so strong;

G for the Gallop—a glorious treat;

H for his Harness, so shiny and neat;

I for the Isle, where he lives by the sea;

J for the Joy that he's giving to me;

K for the Kindness I always will show;

L for the Lash that he never shall know;

M for the Money we pay for our ride;

N for dear Neddy, our boast and our pride;

O for his Owner, who keeps him so "fit;"

P for the Panniers, where babies can sit;

Q for the Queen, with her fine donkey chaise;

R for a Rest, when poor Neddy can graze;

S for the Sands, where he gallops so fast;

T for the Thistle—a dainty repast;

U for the Use that he is every day;

V for his Voice—you should just hear him bray;

W, the Wish that he was my own;

X for the eXcellent temper he's shown;

Y for his Young one that goes out to grass;

Z for the Zebra—a very gay ass.





