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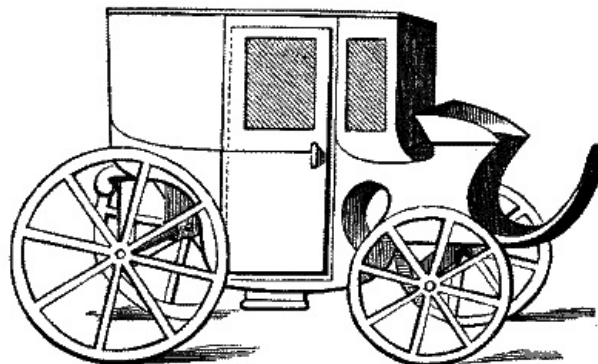
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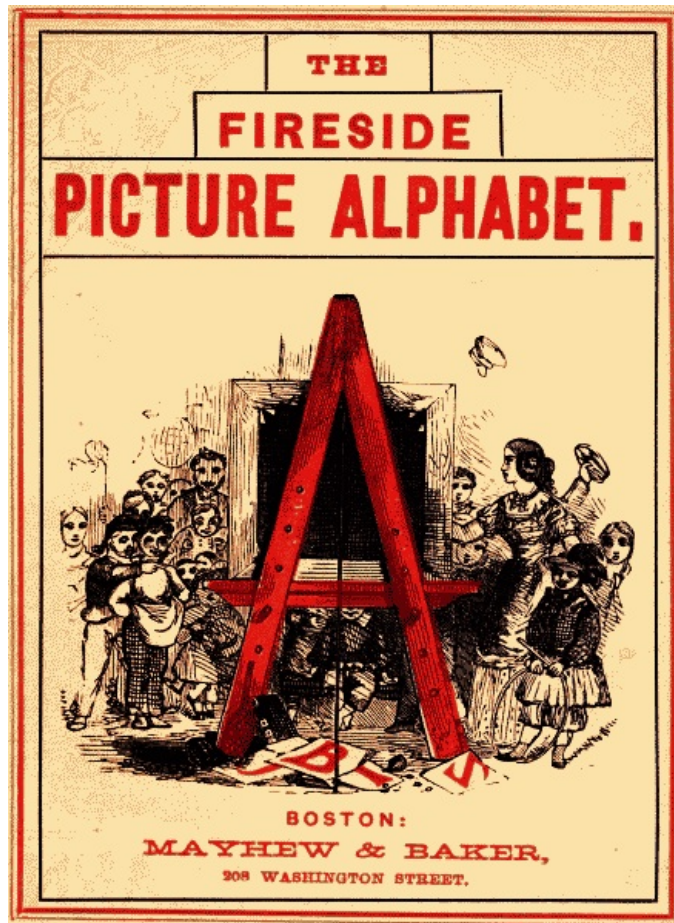
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POETICAL PREFACE

TO THE

FIRESIDE PICTURE ALPHABET.

TO PRECEPTORS.

With learning may laughter be found;
"Tis good to be merry and wise;"
To gayly get over the ground,
As higher and higher we rise.

Some children their letters may learn,
While others will surely do more,
As the subjects suggestively turn
To matters not thought of before.

Descriptions and pictures combined
Are here made attractive and clear;
So suited that children may find
From error the truth to appear.



A a.

ABLUTION,
The Act of Cleansing.

The little sweep has washed his
face,
But not as we advise;
For black as soot he's made the
soap,
And rubbed it in his eyes.



B b.

BARTER,
Exchange.

Here's Master Mack presenting
fruit,
Of which he makes display;
He knows he'll soon have Lucy's
rope,
And with it skip away.



C c.

CATASTROPHE,
*a Final Event, (generally
unhappy.)*

"O, here's a sad catastrophe!"
Was Mrs. Blossom's cry;
Then—"Water! water! bring to me
—
Or all my fish will die."



D d.

DELIGHTFUL,
Pleasant, Charming.

These boys are bathing in the
stream

When they should be at school;
The master's coming round to see
Who disregards his rule.



E e.

ECCENTRICITY,
Irregularity, Strangeness.

We often see things seeming
strange;

But scarce so strange as this:—
Here every thing is mis-applied,
Here every change amiss.



F f.

FRAUD,
Deceit, Trick, Artifice, Cheat.

Here is Pat Murphy, fast asleep,
And there is Neddy Bray;
The thief a watchful eye doth keep
Until he gets away.



G g.

GENIUS,
Mental Power, Faculty.

A little boy with little slate
May sometimes make more clear
The little thoughts that he would
state
Than can by words appear.



H h.

HORROR,
Terror, Dread.

This little, harmless speckled frog
Seems Lady Townsend's dread;
I fear she'll run away and cry,
And hide her silly head.



ICHABOD AT THE JAM.

I i. J j.

ICHABOD, *a Christian Name.*
JAM, *a Conserve of Fruits.*

Enough is good, excess is bad;
Yet Ichabod, you see,
Will with the jam his stomach cram,
Until they disagree.



K k.

KNOWING,
Conscious, Intelligent.

Tho' horses know both beans and
corn,
And snuff them in the wind,
They also all know Jemmy Small,
And what he holds behind.



L l.

LUCKY,
Fortunate, Happy by Chance.

We must admire, in Lovebook's
case,
The prompt decision made,
As he could not have gained the
wood
If time had been delayed.



M m.

MIMIC,
Imitative, Burlesque.

The Gentleman, who struts so fine,
Unconscious seems to be
Of imitation by the boy
Who has the street-door key.



N n.

NEGLIGENCE,
Heedlessness, Carelessness.

The character Tom Slowboy bears
Would much against him tell,
For any work that's wanted done,
Or even play done well.



O o.

OBSTINACY,
Stubbornness, Waywardness.

The obstinacy of the pig
Is nature—as you see;
But boys and girls who have a mind
Should never stubborn be.



P p.

PETS,
Favorites, Spoilt Fondlings.

Some people say that Aunty Gray
To animals is kind;
We think, instead, they are over
fed,
And kept too much confined.



Q q.

QUANDARY,
A Doubt, a Difficulty.

Dame Partlett's in difficulty,
And looks around with doubt;
Let's hope, as she some way got in,
She may some way get out.



R r.

RIVALRY,
Competition, Emulation.

In every competition prize
This should be kept in view—
Whoever wins should be the one
Who does deserve it too.



S s.

SLUGGARD,
An Inactive, Lazy Fellow.

To lie so many hours in bed
You surely must be ill,
And need some physic, Master Ned,
As birch, or draught, or pill!



T t.

TOPSY-TURVY,
Upside Down, Bottom Top.

Here's Topsy-Turvy, upside down,
The ceiling seems the base;
Reverse the ground and 'twill be
found
The things are out of place.



UNCOMMON VEGETATION.

U u. V v.

UNCOMMON, *Rare, not
Frequent.*
VEGETATION, *the Power of
Growth.*

Th' uncommon vegetation, here,
With art has much to do;
The trees are nature, but the fruit
Uncommon and untrue.



W w.

WONDER,
Admiration, Astonishment.

The wise may live and wonder still,
However much they know,
But simple Giles has wonder found
Within the penny show.



NO ENGLISH WORD BEGINS WITH THIS LETTER.

X x.

— —
XANTIPPE,
A Greek Matron, Wife of Socrates.

Here's Socrates and Xantippe—
Philosopher and wife—
For gentleness renowned was he;
She, better known for strife.



Y y.

YEARN,
To Grieve, to Vex.

Miss Cross has tried to reach the
grapes,
She's tried and tried again—
And now she's vexed to think that
all
Her efforts are in vain.



Z z.

ZANY,
A Buffoon, a Merry Andrew.

Here's Zany reading in a book,
With heels above his head;
And, judging by his laughing look,
Finds fun in what he's read.

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