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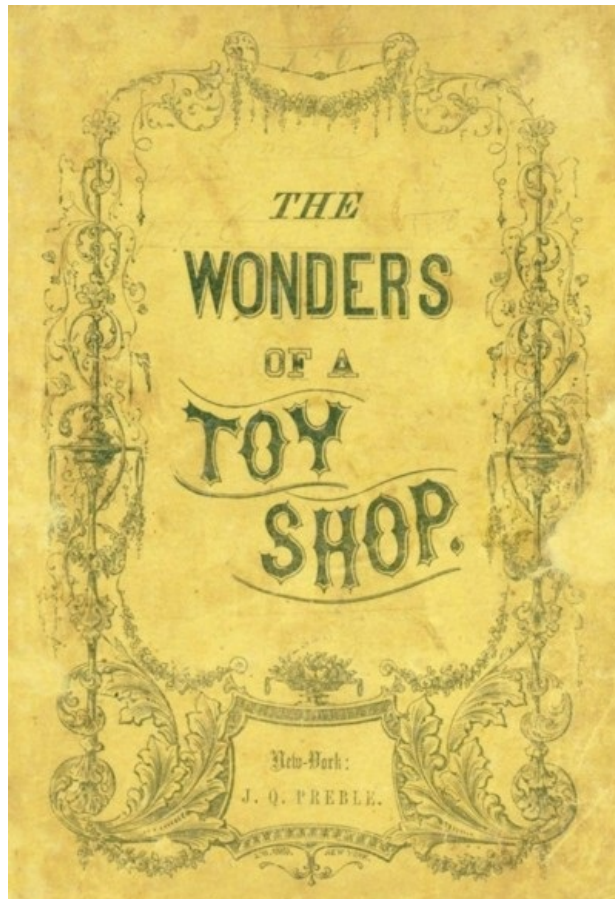
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\*\*\* START OF THE PROJECT GUTENBERG EBOOK THE WONDERS OF A TOY SHOP \*\*\*

# THE WONDERS OF A TOY SHOP.



New-York:

## WONDERS OF A TOY-SHOP.



"Pray, what would you like?" said a Toyman, one day,  
Addressing a group of young folks,  
"I have toys in abundance, and very cheap, too,  
Though not quite so cheap as my jokes.

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"Here's a famous managerie, full of wild beasts;  
See! this lion with wide open jaws,  
Enough to affright one, and yet I've no doubt,  
You might venture to play with his claws.



"Here's a tiger as tame as a lap-dog, you'll find,  
And a fox that will not steal the geese:  
So here you must own the old adage is proved,  
That wonders are never to cease."

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"Here's wagon well laden, and here is a dray,  
With horses and harness complete;  
You can drive them in parlour and drawing-room, too,

As easily as in the street.



"Here's a whole file of soldiers, quite ready for fight,  
And each of them armed with a gun;  
You may knock them all down with a feather, and then  
You may pocket them—every one.

---

"Here's a fine stud of horses, which, strange though it sounds,  
Live neither on corn nor on hay;  
A gentleman's carriage, and tilbury, too,  
For which we've no taxes to pay.



"A coachman so plump, and a footman so tall,  
Who cost not a penny for food;  
For to tell you the truth, all their insides are filled  
With a permanent dinner of wood.

---

"Examine this sword, with its handle and sheath,  
And its blade made of innocent wood;  
'Twere well if all swords were as harmless as this,  
And as equally guiltless of blood.



"Here's a mill that will go without water or wind,  
A wonder, you cannot deny;  
I really can't say whether it will grind corn,  
But it will be easy to try.

---

That iron-gray rocking-horse, close at your side,  
With saddle and bridle complete,  
Will go without whipping, and, equally strange,  
Without making use of his feet:



"Yet, stranger than that—whatsoever his pace,  
Whether canter, or gallop, or trot,  
Though moving at ten miles an hour—he ne'er  
Advances one inch from the spot.

---

"A full set of bricks is enclosed in this box,  
(With the mortar we well may dispense,)  
But with these you may build a magnificent house,  
Without e'en a farthing's expense.



"With these you may raise up a Royal Exchange,  
 In less than five minutes, and then  
 Knock it down, and build up a new Parliament House,  
 In another five minutes,—or ten.

"A doll's pretty kitchen, stands next on the shelf,  
 With grate, pans, and kettle, and pot;  
 With dish and tureen, and all crockery-ware,  
 Knives and forks, and I cannot tell what;



"They would not quite do for a great city feast,  
 But I think I may venture to say  
 A minnow or tittlebat there might be cooked,  
 As a rarity

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