

**REAL BOYS; BEING THE DOINGS
OF PLUPY, BEANY, PEWT,
PUZZY, WHACK, BUG, SKINNY,
CHICK, POP, PILE, AND SOME OF
THE GIRLS**

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Real boys; being the doings of Plupy, Beany, Pewt, Puzzy, Whack, Bug, Skinny, Chick, Pop, Pile, and some of the girls by Henry A. Shute

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HENRY A. SHUTE

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THE GIRLS**

REAL BOYS

*Being the doings of Pluffy, Beany, Peat, Puzzy,
Whack, Bug, Skinny, Chick, Pop, Pile,
and some of the girls*

BY

HENRY A. SHUTE

AUTHOR OF "THE REAL DIARY OF A REAL BOY," "SEQUIL," ETC.

ILLUSTRATIONS BY

F. R. GRUGER



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Real Boys

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Astor Place, New York

TO
THE YOUNG LADY WITH THE PIGTAILS
THE PUG NOSE
AND THE CHEERFUL DISPOSITION
MY DAUGHTER NATHALIE
THIS BOOK IS
AFFECTIONATELY DEDICATED

HENRY A. SHUTE

2355

TO MY READERS

"Were any of you born in New England, in the good old catechising, church-going, school-going, orderly times?"—Stowe.

IN bringing these sketches before the public in book form, I have been greatly influenced by the unexpected favor with which other books of mine, relating to the same characters, have been received, and by the many letters from those who professed a desire to know something more of Plupy, Beany, Fawt, and the others.

The books already issued were written from a boy's point of view. This book is from a man's point of view, but, I trust, a man who has not forgotten and never will forget a happy boyhood in a delightful old New England town.

Many of the characters, who appear before the public under their true names and nicknames, and, I may also state, in their true light, are still living, and all are, strange as it may seem, my friends.

With them I passed many of the happiest and most eventful days of my life, and by the recital of some of these events I hope to interest you.

HENRY A. SHUTE.

EXETER, N. H.,
JUNE 1, 1905.

REAL BOYS

CHAPTER I

"I know it's folly to complain
Of whatsoe'er the fates decree;
Yet, were not wishes all in vain,
I tell you what my wish would be;
I'd wish to be a boy again,
Back with the friends I used to know;
For I was, oh! so happy then—
But that was very long ago."

—EUGENE FIELD.

One Saturday afternoon in March, 186—, a small boy, twelve years old, was busily engaged in arranging a miscellaneous collection of small wares in a shed in the rear of a substantial frame house on Court Street, in Exeter, a little village near the coast line in southern New Hampshire.

The youth in question was absorbed in his task, and had evidently worked hard and faithfully to establish himself upon a firm business basis, and