

**THE POEMS AND  
PROSE: RHYMES OF  
CHILDHOOD**

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The poems and prose: Rhymes of childhood by James Whitcomb Riley

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**JAMES WHITCOMB RILEY**

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"In orchard lands of Long-Ago."

*from a Journal by Alice Barber Stephens*

THE POEMS AND PROSE  
❁ ❁ SKETCHES OF ❁ ❁  
JAMES WHITCOMB RILEY

RHYMES OF ❁  
CHILDHOOD

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S  
SONS, NEW YORK, 1915

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**TO**  
**THE LITTLE NEPHEW**  
**HENRY EDMUND EITEL**

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## PREFATORY NOTE

IN presenting herein the child dialect upon an equal footing with the proper or more serious English, the conscientious author feels it neither his desire nor province to offer excuse.

Wholly simple and artless, Nature's children oftentimes seem the more engaging for their very defects of speech and general deportment. We need worry very little for their futures since the All-Kind Mother has them in her keep.

It is just and good to give the elegantly trained and educated child a welcome hearing. It is no less just and pleasant to admit his homely but wholesome-hearted little brother to our interest and love.

J. W. R.

