



***EDWARD
LEAR***

***THE JUMBLIES,
AND OTHER
NONSENSE
VERSES***

Edward Lear

The Jumblies, and Other Nonsense Verses

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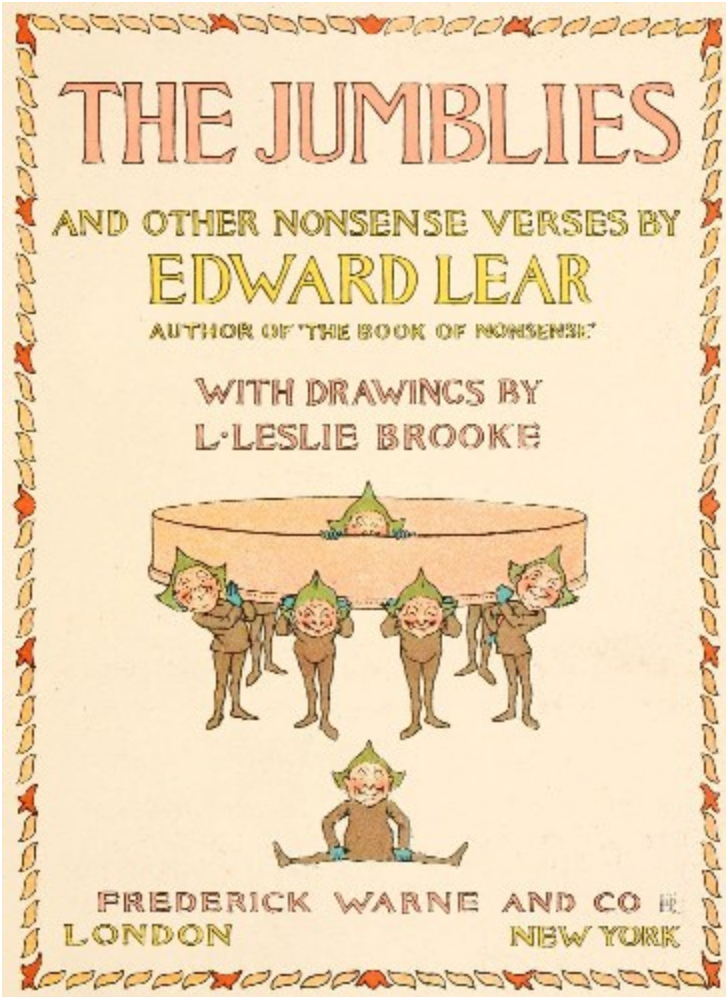
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INTRODUCTORY.

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Encouraged by the cordial reception extended by Press and Public to their issue of the "Pelican Chorus and Other Nonsense Verses by Edward Lear," newly illustrated, the Publishers have requested the Artist, Mr. L. Leslie Brooke, to do a similar service for a further selection from Lear's Nonsense Songs, thus practically completing them. In

addition to "The Jumblies," which has been adopted as the titular piece, this volume includes such prime favourites as "The Owl and the Pussy Cat," "The Duck and the Kangaroo," and "The Dong with a Luminous Nose." For the benefit of those whose memories of the Nonsense Songs are not as fresh as they should be, it may be repeated that Mr. Lear did not illustrate them as fully as was his custom; some, indeed, had no drawings at all, and others merely a headpiece. The Publishers feel, therefore, that in re-issuing the songs adequately illustrated, they are but bringing them into line with Mr. Lear's other works.

Oliver Wendell Holmes has said in a well-known poem, that—

"There is nothing that keeps its youth—
So far as I know—but a tree and truth."

He might have added certain writings; and among those that are as fresh to-day as when they were written are the Nonsense Books of Edward Lear. Several generations of children—old as well as young—have already "drunk delight" from them, and it is tolerably safe to prophesy that many editions will yet be demanded. But whatever new form the changing public taste may cause them to take, they will remain as fresh to the end as they are to-day. It was one of these books that John Ruskin declared to be "the most beneficent and innocent of all books yet produced." And of the author he said: "I really don't know any author to whom I am half so grateful for my idle self as Edward Lear." This is very high praise from such a source; and in the hope