CYNTHIANNA BLYTHE

Drawings by Wallace Morgan ~ Verses by Harry Grant Dart.

1— Cynthianna's Cousin James
   Had come to spend the day;
The children both were at a loss
   To know what they should play,
For soon they tired of picture books,
   And jig saw puzzles, too,
And, much like other children, sighed
   For something new to do.

2— "Let's give a play," said Cousin James;
   "Now that's the best scheme yet,
"I tell you, I'll be Romeo
   And you be Juliet;
This rug will make a splendid stage;
   And scenery won't be lacked;
I know what words we have to say
   And how we ought to act."

3—"I know about her," Cynthia said;
   "You must a lover be,
While I am seen reclining on
   A 'lettuced' balcony.".
A folding ladder soon procured,
   The stage was then complete;
Although in structure insecure,
   'Twas picturesque and neat.

4—Next there came a costume hunt
   And mamma's latest gown,
Found hanging up on several hooks,
   Was promptly taken down.
A plumed hat found for Romeo
   Was also mamma's best,
And a beauteous coat was improvised
   From papa's satin vest.

5—"We're ready now," said Romeo,
   "If I had but a sword;
This parasol, perhaps, will do
   When fastened with a cord;
Now you climb up and take your place.
   Gadzooks! but you look fine;
I guess you'd better just sit down;
   There's no place to recline."

6—So Cynthia on the ladder sat,
   In mamma's gown arrayed,
While Jimmie, smothered in his hat,
   Much gravity displayed.
He'd only got as far as "Love,
   I fain would thee adore"
When Cynthia and her balcony
   Came tumbling to the floor.

7—A shocking tangle then ensued,
   Occasioned by this drop,
With Romeo beneath the wreck
   And Juliet on top.
Said Cynthia, as she raised herself,
   "An actor you may be,
But I don't think you are much account
   When building scenery."

8—Of course the nurse came rushing in;
   She'd heard the ladder fall.
Not what she did, but what she said
   Was much the worst of all.
While "Pilgrim's Progress" failed to cheer
   Poor Jimmie in his gloom
Cynthia shared her grief with dolls
   (But in another room).