

CYNTHIANNA BLYTHE

Drawings by Wallace Morgan Verses by Harry Grant Dart.

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1.—The single beast on Grandpa's farm
Most prone to ridicule
Was poor old stupid Lancelot,
An antiquated mule.
To calculate how old he was
No person would attempt;
And he was on a pension roll,
From further toil exempt.



2.—'Twixt Cynthia and this quadruped
A deep affection grew;
That she loved him he was aware,
That he loved her she knew.
Like "Mary's lamb" he followed her
Wherever she would go,
And would have joined her in the house
But Nurse objected so.

3.—A basket party in the woods!
And happy as could be
Was seated Cynthia, with her friends,
Beneath a spreading tree,
With no big folks to spoil the fun
Or nurse to interfere—
A rare occurring incident
In Cynthia's career.



4.—Maliciously young Jimsonweed
Then most completely scares
The timid maidens of the group
With tales concerning bears.
Said he, "My Grandpap shot one once
Right on this very hill.
I wouldn't be so much surprised
If one was up there still."

5.—Cynthia thought they'd better go,
But Ezra swelled his chest
And said no bears would bother her
While he was there, he guessed;
Said he, "Of all the beasts alive
There ain't a single one
Could frighten me the slightest bit,
Or even make me run."

6.—Assuming a courageous pose
He did look mighty brave,
When in the woods some horrid thing
An awful bellow gave.
With picnic sundries left behind,
In volatile stampede,
The shrieking children rushed away,
With Ezra in the lead.



7.—When Cynthianna fell she thought
She'd die upon the spot;
In mortal terror she looked up
And saw old Lancelot.
He wagged his ears and seemed to say,
"I thought you'd all rejoice
And have no fear when I was near,
And recognize my voice."

8.—Again he raised his fearsome voice
With shrill, derisive note
While nibbling from a barbed wire fence
A scrap of Ezra's coat.
Said Cynthia, "No living beast
Could frighten him a jot!
I guess our poor old 'Lancy' here
Is one that he forgot."

