

CYNTHIANNA BLYTHE

Drawings by Wallace Morgan Verses by Harry Grant Dart

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1.—One morning Cynthia's rural friends
Assemble thereabout
To ask if she might go with them
And fish for speckled trout.
The nurse this outing disapproved,
But Grandpa said, "Oh, bosh!
The water isn't deep enough
To drown a cat, b'gosh!"



2.—So there was little Stephen Wade
And Susie Kinterhooks,
George Ebenezer Cloverseed
And Mary Ellen Snooks,
Bold Ezra and his brother Ben,
Determined, so 'twould seem,
To catch each speckled beauty and
Depopulate the stream.

3.—Though she was minus line and rod,
She hadn't long to wait,
For Georgie fashioned her a pole
And Ezra dug some bait.
Then little Steve produced a line
And Benjamin a hook,
And, full equipped, this angling group
Proceeded toward the brook.



4.—They climbed aboard a scow they found
And Stephen took the oars;
The supple way he handles them
With Cynthia scores.
She praised his deft accomplishment,
And Ezra Jimpsonweed
Said Stephen's work, compared with his,
Was very poor indeed.

5.—Then George spoke up and told them if
They'd truly care to know,
He'd take the oars and teach them what
It really was to row.
Then brother Ben announced that he
Proposed to take command;
That he knew how to handle boats,
He'd have them understand.

6.—Young Ezra had been drooping since
The "Lancelot" event,
And Cynthia couldn't seem to see
His bravery for a cent.
His efforts to reclaim himself
Had mostly been in vain,
And here he thought he saw a chance
Her friendship to regain.



7.—Just here he tries to seize the oars
(And so do several more);
A shocking struggle then takes place
Full twenty feet from shore.
With freight of maids and wrestling youths
The crazy craft upset,
And, while the water wasn't deep,
They all of them got wet.

8.—To state that Cynthia was mad
Would put the matter mild;
With crossing hearts and promised gifts
She won't be reconciled.
Said she, "Perhaps it serves me right;
And now I'll make a note
To never praise a farmer's lad
On how he rows a boat."

