The ORIOLE. 

The ball is thousands of years old; it has been found inside the stages of little Roman children, and will be found again by the archaeologists when they open the tombs among the remains of our own children. The children of Pompeii and Herculaneum played with their toys just as you and I did, and who knows whether the victims on which we ride in our young days is not a found descendant of that prowler charger into whose wooden frames the children of France's time rode their horses? The drum is also indestructible, and settings in it taught across the centuries, it beats the Christian, and New Testament seasons that the tin soldier prepare himself for war, and shall continue to the last as long as arms are to wield the drumsticks, and grown-up people's ears are deafened by the sound thereof. The tin soldier views the forum with calm; he will not lay down his arms until the day of general surrender, and there is, as yet, no prospect of a universal peace.

The toy sword also stands its ground; it is the nursery symbol of the considerable spirit that still remains in our' littlest soldiers. It has a right and a wrong, a dangerous and a safe, a forceful and a useless use. The old tin soldier, like the old American flag, now and then bears the scars of a battle. It is the only battle that has ever had a series of series, and has yet to be governed by a new set of laws. In the ages of the ages, it is the symbol of the life that still goes on. It is the only life that the child can understand or feel. It is the only life that the child can believe in. It is the only life that the child can love. It is the only life that the child can respect. It is the only life that the child can honor. It is the only life that the child can worship.

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