



Levi S. Bartlett

THE  
ENTERTAINING HISTORY  
OF  
*Giles Gingerbread,*  
A  
LITTLE BOY  
WHO  
LIVED UPON LEARNING.

  
Adorned with Copperplate Engravings  


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THE HISTORY  
OF  
GILES GINGERBREAD.

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CHAP. I.

ONE day as old Gingerbread was coming from work, he saw little Giles, who was very ragged, getting up behind Sir Toby Wilson's coach, upon which he called to him: Here, Giles, come hither to me! I see, says the father, you want to get up at the coach, but are climbing at the wrong place; Giles, you should endeavour to get in at the door. Ay, father, says the boy, but that place is not for poor folks. Not for poor folks, replied the father, yes it is. A poor man may get a coach, if he endeavours to deserve it. Merit and industry intitles a man to any thing; why, Sir Toby was poor once, don't be disheartened boy, only when you climb, climb in a proper manner, and at the

right place. I will tell you how Sir Toby managed it: but see, the Pig has got out of the sty. Put him in first, and I shall tell you.

Giles ran as fast as he could to put in the Pig, for he had learned to do as he was bid, or he would never have made either a good boy or a great man. There is no doing any good for boys or girls who are obstinate, and will not take advice, and do as they are bid. No, no, such children never make great men or women; but are always neglected and despised.

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## CHAP. II.

*An Episode: shewing, how Sir Toby Wilson became a great man, and obtained so much money, and such a fine coach.*

GILES came back puffing and blowing. Now father, tell me says he, how I may get such a fine coach as Sir Toby's? Ay, says the father, that I will, Giles. I will tell you how Sir Toby got his, and if you behave

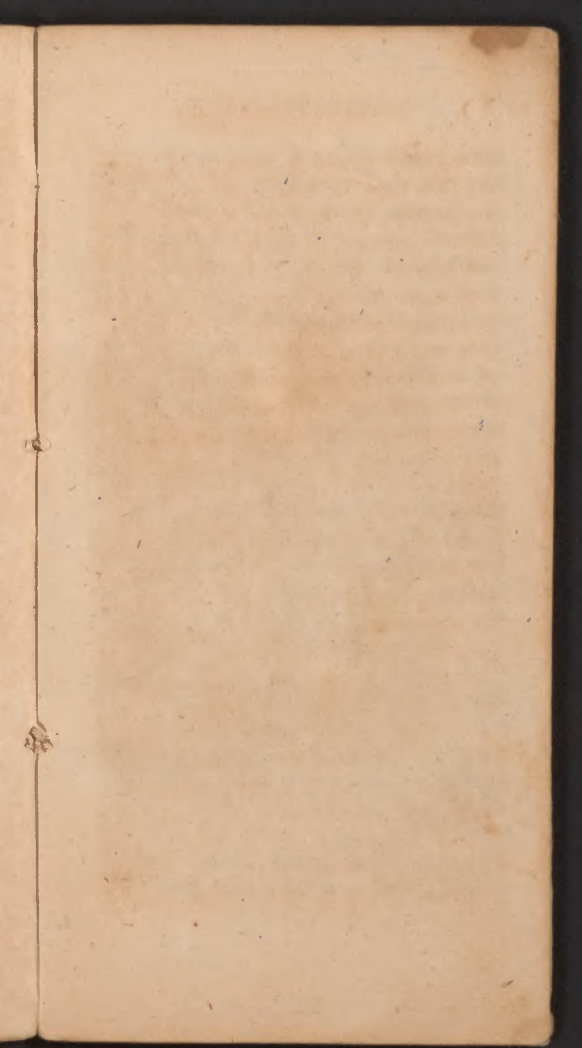
answered the child, and I want some bread, cried the other: and what do you cry for? said Mrs. Goodwill to Toby: Because I have no bread to give my brother and sister, says the boy. This is a hard case, says Mr. Goodwill; I pity both the children, let us take them home with us and feed them. Ah, with all my heart, says Mr. Goodwill; I pity the poor children, and the mother, and like the biggest boy much; for he who forgets his own wants, and cries for those of his brother and sister, must have a good heart. So, for all they were fine folks, Mr. Goodwill took up one child, and Mrs. Goodwill the other, and carried them on, leaving little Toby to trot by himself.

Having been fed, they went to play till evening, when their mother came crying to Mr. and Mrs. Goodwill.

Mr. Goodwill gave her money, and allowed her so much a-week towards the maintenance of her and the

and gaming which were scandalous. At this time he was so taken up with his horses, he had the misfortune to have a servant in his house who was not honest, which Toby discovered, and wrote to his master about it, but in a disguised hand, and without putting any name to the letter. Enquiry was made, and money and goods were missing. Upon which all the servants were examined except Toby, and as he was a boy, and thought incapable of defending himself, the thief laid the robbery on him. Mr. Goodwill, without that consideration which is necessary on these occasions, ordered him immediately to pack up his things and go about his business. Yes, Sir, says Toby, crying, but first hear me, I know that you have been defrauded, Sir, and I thought it my duty, as you was my master, to inform you of it. I wrote you a letter, Sir, in a feigned hand and without a name, when you was at Newmarket; but at the corner of the letter, you will find a private mark, by which you may know it to be mine, and I





should not have done this had I been guilty of the robbery: No, Sir, you have been a father to me, and I have been just and honest to you: but this man has not, (pointing to the thief) for I saw him take goods privately out of the warehouse, and carry them to the pawn-broker's. The master found the mark, saw the boy innocent, and then searched the pawn-broker's, where the goods were found.

Toby knew that it was his duty not only to be honest himself, but if possible to make others so; and you will presently see how God Almighty blessed him for it, and how he was rewarded for his fidelity.

After this, Mr. Goodwill placed great confidence in Toby, and his affairs so prospered, that he became very rich. He then took Toby as a partner with him, and at his death left him the whole trade and a large sum of money, which is still increasing; and from being a little ragged

boy, and living in that hut, he now rides in this fine coach.

Think of this my dear Giles, and learn your book and go to church, and be honest, good, and industrious, that you may get a coach also.

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### CHAP. III.

*How little Giles first acquired his Learning.*

AS soon as Gaffer Gingerbread had finished this story of Sir Toby and his coach, little Giles ran up to his father, and begged that he would give him a book and teach him to read, that he might become as great a man as Sir Toby Wilson.

Gaffer Gingerbread, who was a pretty good scholar, pulled a book out of his pocket, and sitting down under a tree, with Giles in his lap, now says he, if you will be a good boy and mind what I say, you may



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soon learn to read. You must know, Giles, that all the words in the world are spelt or made up of these twenty-seven marks or letters, pulling out of his pocket an alphabet cut in pieces, which he had made of Gingerbread, for he was by trade a gingerbread baker, these he placed in this manner,

a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r  
s t u v w x y z &

All the words in the world? says Giles, laughing: yes, sirrah, says the father, what do you laugh at? I say all the words in the world; all the words that you, and all the people in the world can think on, may be spelt with these letters differently placed. Then let me see you spell top, said Giles. So you shall, says the father. See here is a T, and an O, and a P, and these placed together thus, TOP, make top. Ay, that is a little word, says Giles, but you cannot spell Plumb-pudding. Why, yes I can, said the father, see here is a P, and

an L, and an U, and an M, and a B, which placed thus, PLUMB, make plumab, and here is another P, and an U, and a D, and another D, and an I, and an N, and a G, which when placed thus, PUDDING, makes pudding, and these two words put together, make Plumb-pudding.

Let me spell, father, says Giles; and taking the gingerbread letters in his hand, what shall I spell? said he. Why, the name of any thing you see, quoth the father. Then I'll spell Goose, says the boy; so saying, he took up a G, and an U, an F, and an E, and placed them thus, GUFFE; you blockhead, is that your manner of spelling? says the father, who would certainly have been angry, but at this instant, Farmer Wright's hog made at the geese and goslings that were before him. Run, Giles, run, said the father, and away he flew to save the goslings, which he did by the assistance of a gander that laid hold of the hog's ear to keep him off.

look at it, you see he is very different from all the rest. Upon this, Giles took up the letters and then read.

A, A, A, says he, A, Mr. A, I shall know you again, Apple for that.

B, B, B, you are not like A Mr. B; I shall be a Blockhead if I did not know you.

C, C, C, I shall know you Mr. C, indeed, and so will every boy that loves Custard.

D, D, D, Drum and Dumpling will make me know you Mr. D.

E, E, E, Eggs and Eel-pye for ever.

F, F, F, Fine folks and Furmity, for you Mr. F.

G, G, G, Gingerbread and Gooseberry fool, will always make me love you Mr. G.



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H, H, H, Hog's pudding and Hot  
Cockles for ever.

I, I, I, Jack Day the Inkle Wea-  
ver, will put me in mind of you  
Mr. I.

K, K, K, come Mr. K, you shall  
help me to make a Kite.

L, L, L, my little Lamb and my  
little Lark, will help me to remem-  
ber you Mr. L.

M, M, M, Money for you Mr.  
M, when I can get it, and if I fool it  
away, you may call me Monkey.

N, N, N, Nuts and Nonpariels  
for ever.

O, O, O, Oranges one a penny,  
two a penny, Oranges.

P, P, P, Punch and Puppet-show,  
huzza.

Q, Q, Q, you stand for a Quill  
Mr. Q, and I shall always think on  
you when I see a Queer fellow.

R, R, R, you are a Raven Mr. R,  
and a Rat-catcher, and a Rum Duke.

S, S, S, Stands for Swan, and for  
Swede, and for a Silly boy that can't  
read.

T, T, T, oh Mr. T, I shall know  
you by my Top, and my Trumpet,  
and Trap Ball.

U; U, U, Unicorn for that.

The Lion and the Unicorn  
Fighting for the Crown,  
The Lion beat the Unicorn  
All about the Town.

W, W, W, a Wise man can ne-  
ver forget you Mr. W, when he has  
a Wild Duck for dinner.

X, X, X, you look so cross Mr.  
X, that I can compare you to no-

1782

Received of the Honble the East India Company  
the sum of one hundred and fifty pounds  
for the purchase of the following  
goods to wit  
Ten chests of Opium  
Ten chests of Pepper  
Ten chests of Cloves  
Ten chests of Nutmegs  
Ten chests of Mace  
Ten chests of Cardamom  
Ten chests of Pepper  
Ten chests of Cloves  
Ten chests of Nutmegs  
Ten chests of Mace  
Ten chests of Cardamom

Witness my hand and seal this 15th day of  
October 1782  
James Oglethorpe  
Governor of the Colony of Georgia

thing, but I shall know you again by your double face.

Y, Y, Y, you are like my Yellow hammer, Mr. Y, Young and silly, but you may have more wit when you grow in years.

Z, Z, Z, Z is a Zany,  
 And Zany's a fool,  
 Who don't love his book,  
 Or his Master, or School.

The Father finding that little Giles was inclined to be good and to learn, made him a book of gingerbread which he was very fond of, and learned it as fast as he could. In the evening when Gaffer Gingerbread came home, he found that Giles had eat up one corner of his Book, at which he was not well pleased. Hey dey! Giles, says he, what, do you love learning so well as to eat up your book! Why, father, says Giles, I am not the only boy who has eat up his words. No boy loves his book better than I do,

2. Lesson. Every man is always as happy or as miserable as he thinks himself; therefore think yourself happy, my dear Giles, that you may be so.

3. Lesson. Love the Lord with all your Heart, with all your Soul, with all your Strength, and with all your Mind, for you cannot love God half so well as he loves you.

4. Lesson. Love your neighbour as well as you love yourself; that is, love him most heartily, Giles, and be kind to him, and promote his welfare that he may promote yours.

5. Lesson. Love and pray for your enemies, that your enemies may become your friends, and love and pray for you.

6. Lesson. And, my dear Giles, say your prayers night and morning, and go to church constantly; and be honest and just in your dealings;

Prone upon the verdure sinking,  
Sleep reliev'd the task of thinking,  
    When before my sight  
Blushing Laura, sweetly smiling,  
Deck'd with ev'ry grace beguiling,  
    Stood array'd in white.

Maiden fairest, said I, sighing,  
All these smiles bespeak complying,  
    On my bosom rest ;  
Time on pinion'd down is fleeting ;  
Is thy heart responsive beating,  
    Genial to my breast ?

Speak, I cried, her shadow pressing,  
Mutual love is mutual blessing !  
    When I smarting wake ;  
Round my anguish'd arm was twining,  
Rich in burnish'd armour shining,  
    Flashing fire, a snake.

Pleasure thus for ever cheating,  
Now advancing, now retreating,  
    Mocks the eager hold :  
Virtue, modesty adorning,  
Like this vision of the morning,  
    Checks the rude and bold.

