

The Ragamuffin

This poem was written by Geoffrey for the school magazine when he was 12 years old

“Look the Evelyn’s boys are coming.
Let’s all snowball them”, says Bert:
“Good! I’ve got one on the knee-cap,
And I really think it hurt.”

When the mistress wasn’t looking,
In the village school, one day,
Jim got up, and on the blackboard
Drew the mistress, Mrs Grey.

Mrs Grey took out her mark book.
And, as she was looking round,
Saw her name upon the blackboard-
Jim and Johnnie on the ground

Mrs Grey said, “No marks Johnnie”.
“Jim, have you drawn on the board?”
“Yes,” said Jim, with sullen features;
Mrs Grey grinned very broad

Crack! Crack! Crack! The cane was breaking
“Blow!” said Mrs Grey in rage:
The she wrote down in her mark book,
“Minus ten for Johnnie Page”.

After that, those naughty urchins,
Never tried another trick:
For although they’d both had canings
Mrs Grey gave them the stick.