



# Three children sliding

A. Wellesley Watson  
(1852-1917)

Three children sliding on the ice,  
All on a summer's day,  
As it fell out they all fell in,  
The rest they ran away.

Now had these children been at school,  
Or sliding on dry ground,  
Ten thousand pounds to one penny,  
They had not all been drowned.

You parents that have children dear,  
And eke you that have none,  
If you will have them safe abroad,  
Pray keep them safe at home.

Mother Goose rhyme  
Attributed in score to:  
Gammer Gurton

[from the comedy *Gammer Gurton's Needle*  
by John Still (c. 1543-1607/8), Bishop of Bath and Wells]

Other sources attribute the rhyme to:  
Oliver Goldsmith (1730-1774)

# Three children sliding

A. Wellesley Batson

S *f* Three chil - dren slid - ing on the ice, All on a sum - mer's

A *f* Three chil - dren slid - ing on the ice, All on a sum - mer's

T *f* Three chil - dren slid - ing on the ice, All on a sum - mer's

B *f* Three chil - dren slid - ing on the ice, All on a sum - mer's

S *p* day, As it fell out they all fell in, The rest they ran a -

A *p* day, As it fell out they all fell in, The rest they ran a -

T *p* day, As it fell out they all fell in, The rest they ran a -

B *p* day, As it fell out they all fell in, The rest they ran a -

S *mf* way, As it fell out they all fell in, The rest they ran a - way. *rall.*

A *mf* way, As it fell out they all fell in, The rest they ran a - way. *rall.*

T *mf* way, As it fell out they all fell in, The rest they ran a - way. *rall.*

B *mf* way, As it fell out they all fell in, The rest they ran a - way. *rall.*

Novello's Part-Song Book No. 640  
(1892)



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S *mf*  
Now had these chil - dren been at school, Or slid - ing on dry

A *mf*  
Now had these chil - dren been at school, Or slid - ing on dry

T *mf*  
Now had these chil - dren been at school, Or slid - ing on dry

B *mf*  
Now had these chil - dren been at school, Or slid - ing on dry

16  
S *p*  
ground, Ten thou - sand pounds to one pen - ny, They had not all been

A *p*  
ground, Ten thou - sand pounds to one pen - ny, They had not all been

T *p*  
ground, Ten thou - sand pounds to one pen - ny, They had not all been

B *p*  
ground, Ten thou - sand pounds to one pen - ny, They had not all been

20  
S *mf* *rall.*  
drown'd, Ten thou - sand pounds to one pen - ny, They had not all been drown'd.

A *mf* *rall.*  
drown'd, Ten thou - sand pounds to one pen - ny, They had not all been drown'd.

T *mf* *rall.*  
drown'd, Ten thou - sand pounds to one pen - ny, They had not all been drown'd.

B *mf* *rall.*  
drown'd, Ten thou - sand pounds to one pen - ny, They had not all been drown'd.

**Rev. Arthur Wellesley Batson** (1852-1917) studied at Oxford and Cuddesdon Theological College earning degrees in music and theology. He became deacon in 1881 and priest in 1882. He was Curate of Whitbourne, 1881-82; Precentor at St. Anne's, Soho, 1882-86; and Rector of Ringstead, 1888-1902. His compositions include a sacred cantata, "The Vineyard"; music to Fletcher's pastoral, "The Faithful shepherdess"; and a comic operetta, "The burglar and the bishop." He also published anthems, services, madrigals, songs, and part-songs. He seems to have been an artist, exhibiting a landscape at the Grosvenor Gallery in 1890, and he corresponded with American painter James Whistler. A descendent of the Duke of Buckingham, in 1906 he announced he would become "King of Lundy" (a large island off the coast of Devon) but abandoned the purchase of the island in 1907.

25 *f* *mf*

S You pa - rents that have chil - dren dear, And eke\_ you that have none, If

A You pa - rents that have chil - dren dear, And eke you that have none,

T You pa - rents that have chil - dren dear, And eke you that have none,

B You pa - rents that have chil - dren dear, And eke you that have none,

30 *mf* *mf*

S you\_ will\_ have them safe a - broad, Pray keep them safe at

A If you will have them safe a - broad, Pray keep them safe at

T If you will have them safe\_ a -

B If you\_ will\_ have them safe a -

33 *f* *molto rall.*

S home, pray keep\_ them\_ safe at home.

A home, pray\_ keep\_ them\_ safe at\_ home.

T broad, Pray keep them\_ safe at home.

B broad, Pray\_ keep\_ them\_ safe at home.

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