



*Hand Shadows
A Sweet
Old-Fashioned
Activity
To Share With
Children*



This Quality Ebook

Prepared For Your Enjoyment From Resources
Available In The Public Domain
By

Teresa Thomas Bohannon
Author of the Regency Romance Novel

A Very Merry Chase



**HAND SHADOWS
TO BE THROWN UPON THE WALL**

FROM ORIGINAL DESIGNS BY HENRY BURSILL





MODERN PREFACE

Why in the world is a blog dedicated to history in general and the Regency Romance Era in particular giving away a complimentary book on handshadows? The answer is actually quite simple. The art of making shadow puppets, or handshadows, while lost to many children and their families today, would have been quite popular in historical times.

My old-fashioned comedy of manner's novel, *A Very Merry Chase* is set during the Regency Romance era, and during that and many other times in history--the casting of handshadows on the wall would have been a simple entertainment for children of all ages that would have crossed all social and economic boundaries. While a more formal presentation might have been seen in the nurseries of the Regency Haut Ton, even the poorest or most primitive of families could have also afforded and indulged in such playful bonding with their children.

And so, in the spirit of LadySilk's Regency Romance Revival, and the sweet, old-fashioned comedy of manners tone of my Regency Romance novel, *A Very Merry Chase*, I give to you a sweet, old-fashioned, historically accurate entertainment to share with your own children.

Smiles and Good Reading,
Teresa Thomas Bohannon
April 2011

ORIGINAL PREFACE

I need not explain how these Shadows were suggested, to any one who has seen WILKIE'S picture, "The Rabbit on the Wall." But by what pains they were invented can never be revealed; for it is known to my tortured digits alone, and they, luckily for me, are dumb. I calculate that I put my ten fingers through hundreds of various exercises before my "Bird" took wing; my left little finger thrills at the memory of "Grandpapa"; and my thumbs gave in no less than twenty times before "Boy" was accomplished. Yet *now* how easy it is to make the "Duck" to quack, the "Donkey" to bray, "Toby" to wag his tail, and the "Rabbit" to munch his unsubstantial meal.

Of course the Shadows are not to be reproduced perfectly, on "one trial only"; but I believe that in each case I have drawn the due position of the fingers with such care, that the most difficult subject may be accomplished after a few minutes; nor need ingenious youth or parental fondness confine their endeavours to the sketches contained in this book. With a little ingenuity and some patience, new shadows may be produced; and not unfrequently figures appear that one never dreamed of attempting.

Other Books of Shadows have been published; but it will be seen at a glance that mine bears affinity to none. Some of my sketches were made years ago, others when a student at the Academy. Indeed, the Shadows have often been displayed on the walls of my studio, much to the amusement of fellow-students, who would, I am sure, at any time bear witness to their originality.

HENRY BURSILL

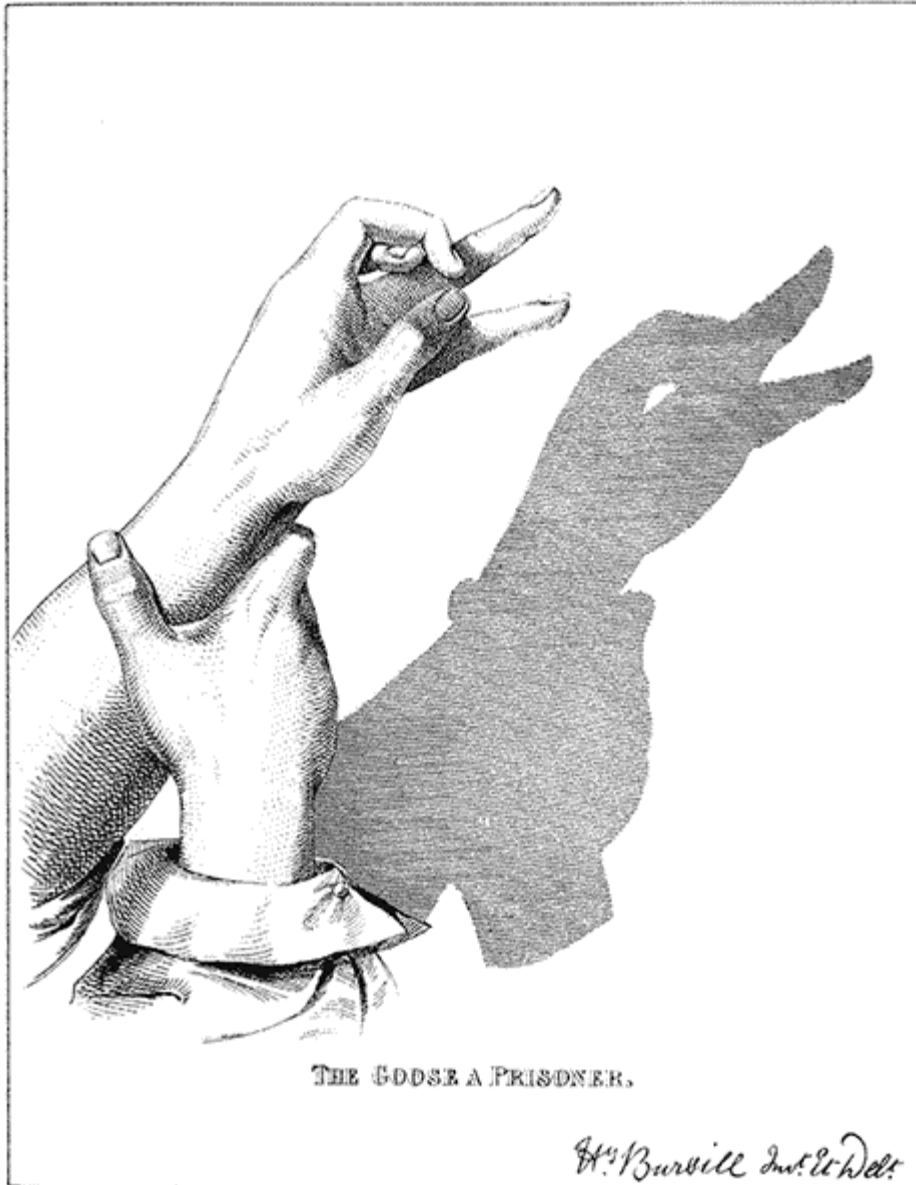
December, 1858.

The book cover features a central circular vignette of a man in profile, holding a small object. Above the vignette, the title 'HAND AND SHADOWS' is written in large, stylized letters. Below the vignette, a ribbon contains the author's name 'HENRY BURSILL'. At the bottom, the publisher's name 'GRIFFITH & FARRAN' and the location 'CORNER OF S. PAULS CHURCH YARD' are printed. The entire design is framed by ornate, decorative borders.

HAND AND SHADOWS

HENRY BURSILL

GRIFFITH & FARRAN
CORNER OF S. PAULS CHURCH YARD



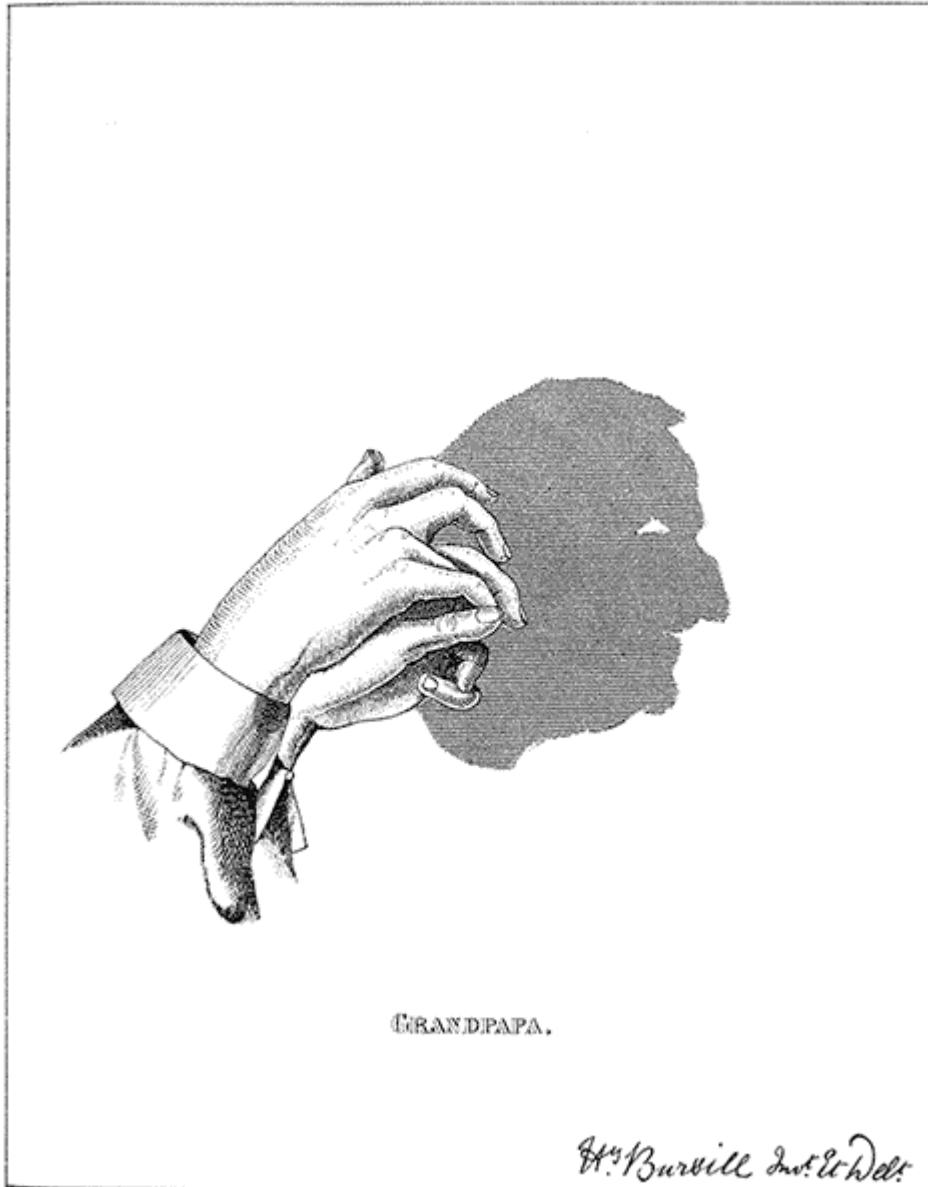
THE GODSE A PRISONER.

W. Burville Int. & Del.



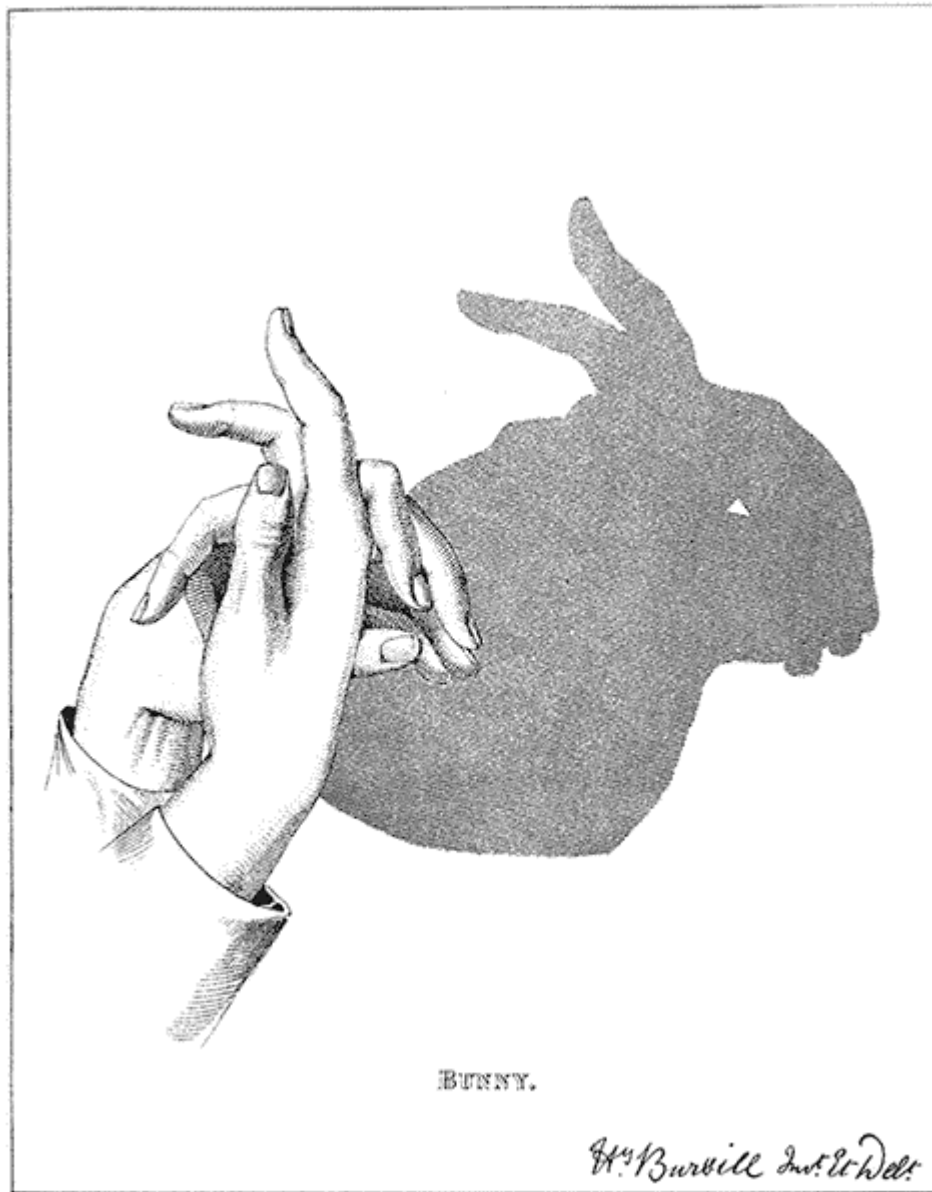
DEER.

W. Burwell, Inv. & Del.



GRANDPAPA.

H. J. Burville Inv. & Del.



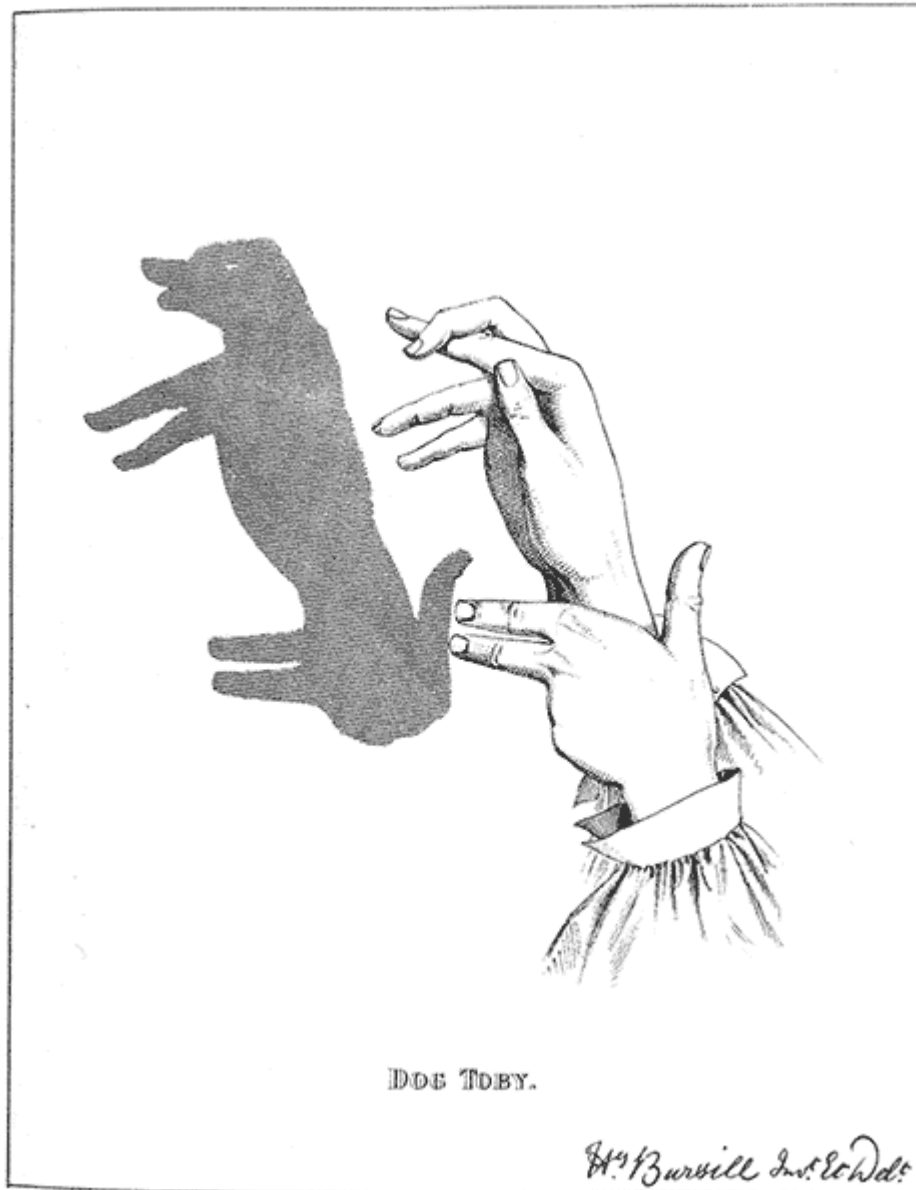
BUNNY.

H. Burwill Int. & Del.



A BIRD IN FLIGHT.

H. & B. Burdell Int. & Del.



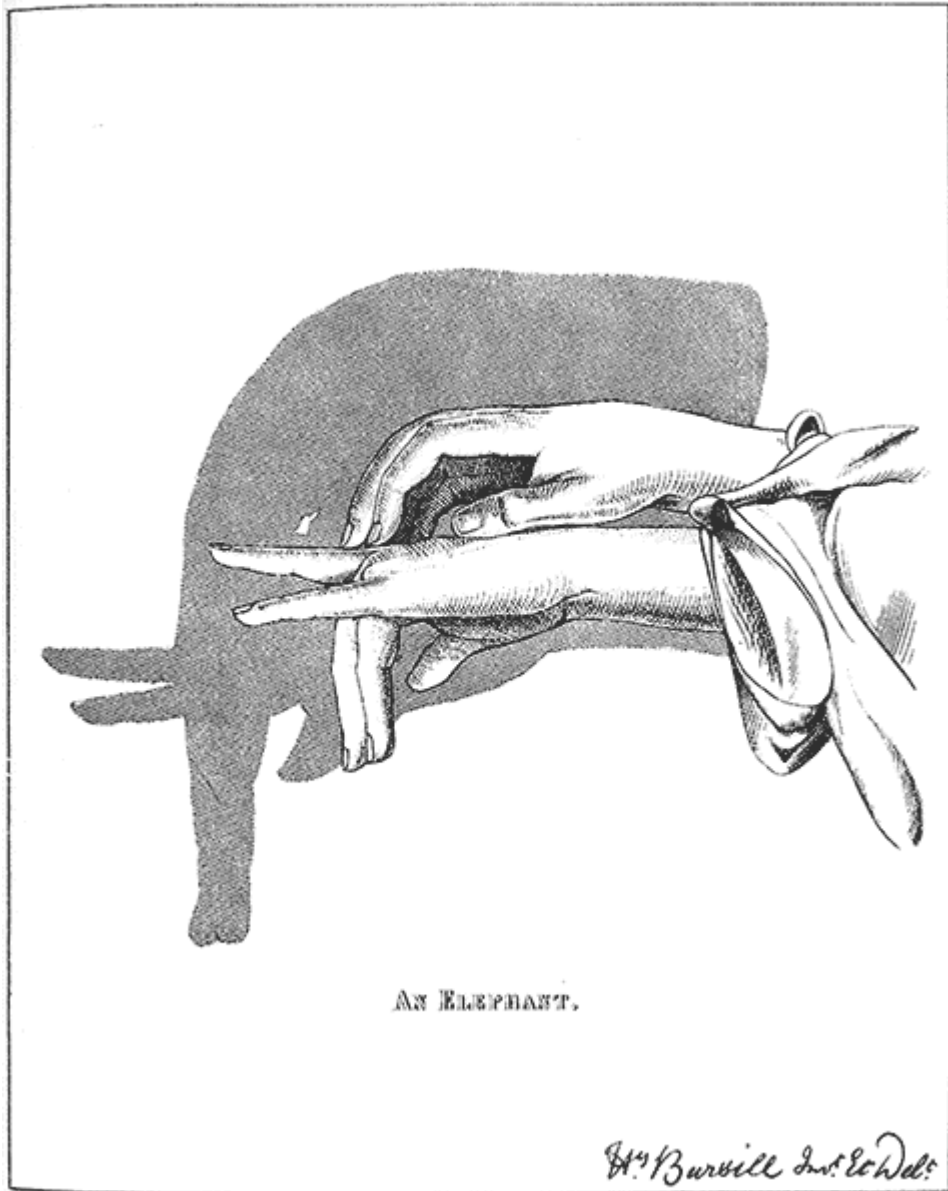
DOG TOBY.

H. Burdill Int. & Co. Del.



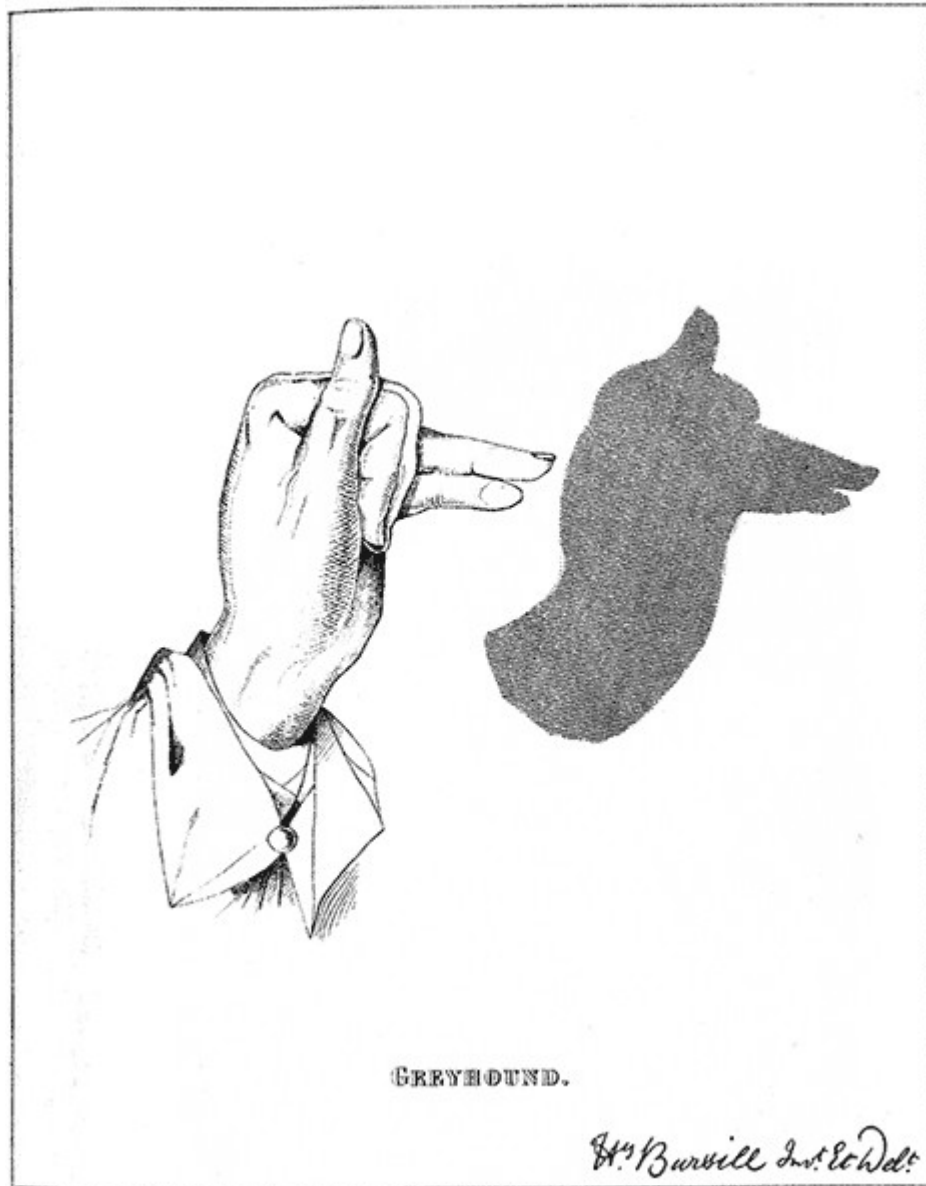
GDAT.

H. Burville and Co. Del.



AN ELEPHANT.

H. Burvill Int. & Del.



GREYHOUND.

H. J. Burville Int. & Co. Del.

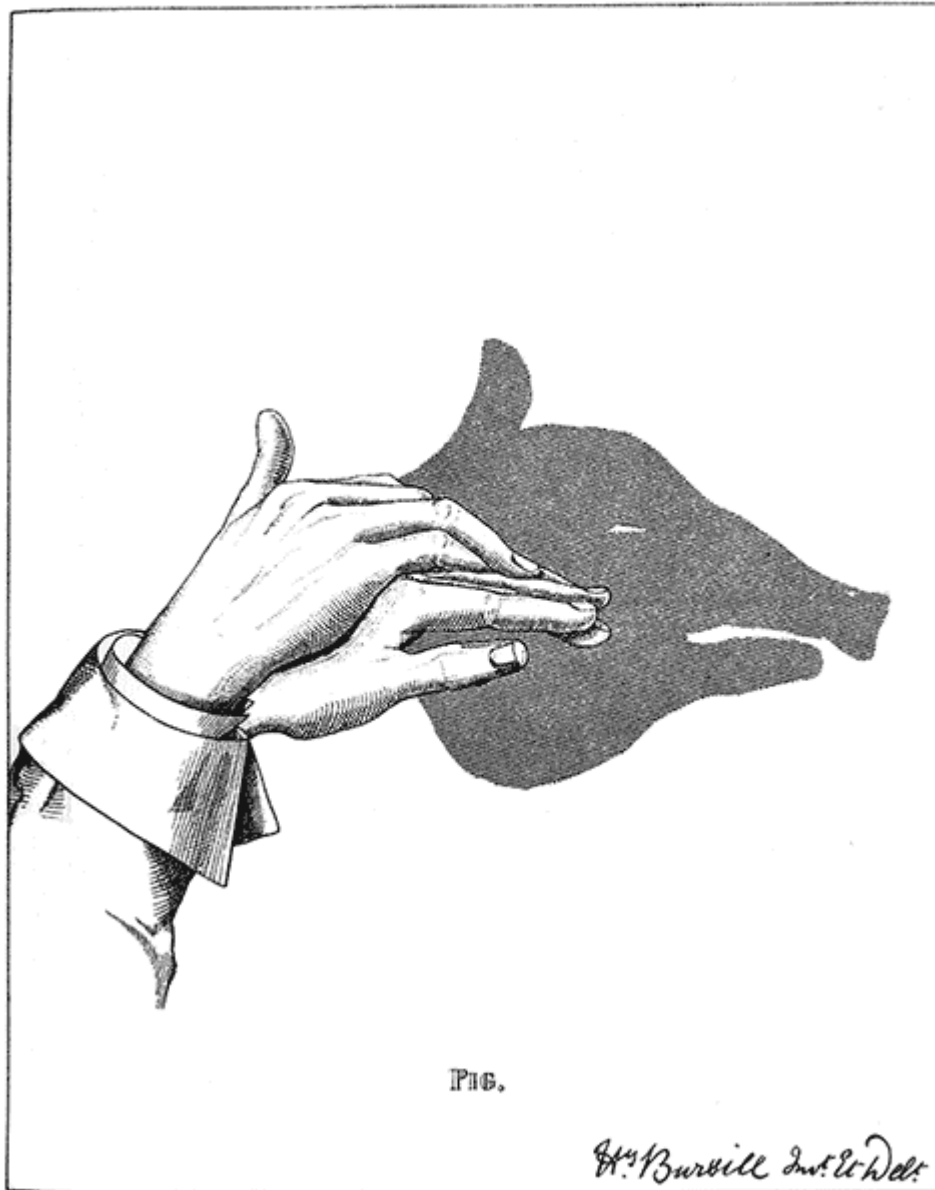
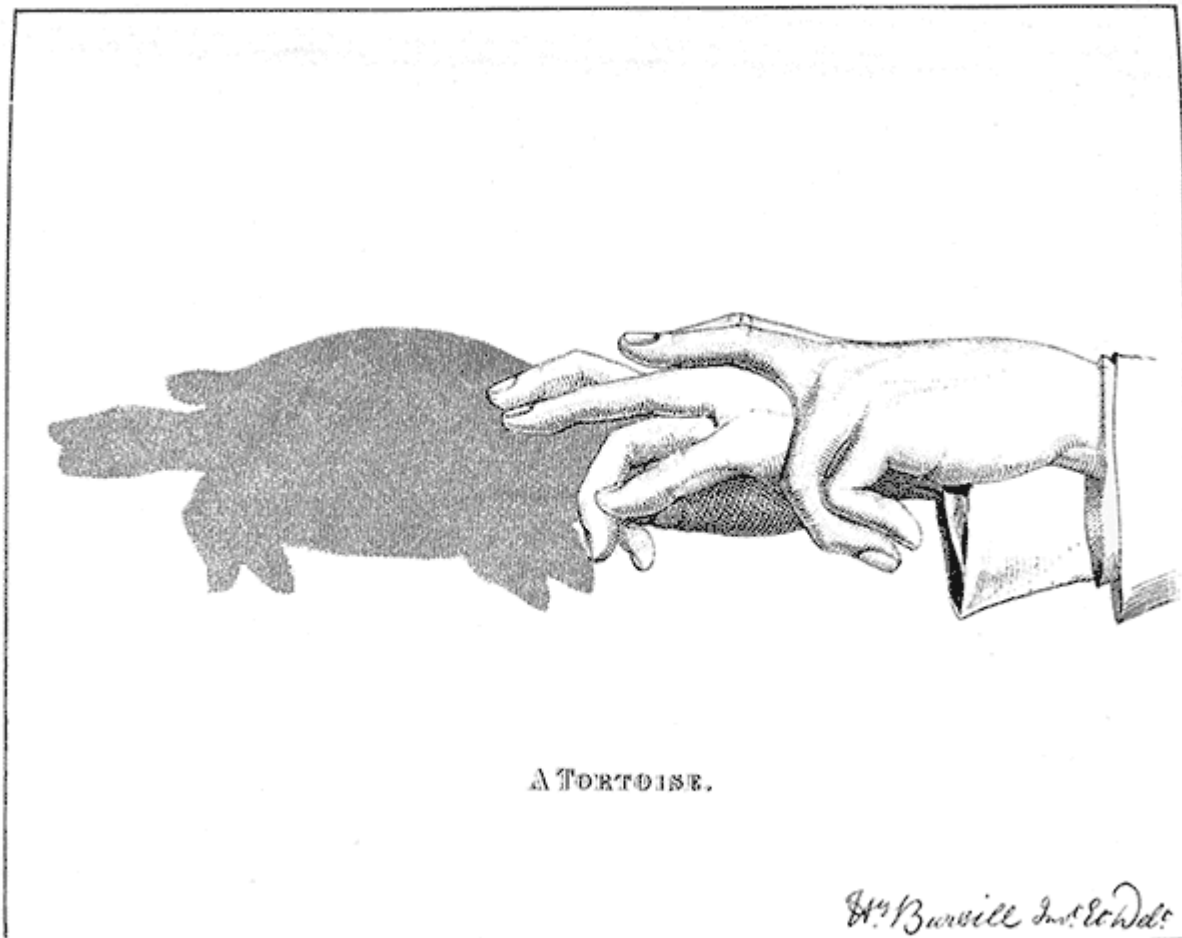


FIG.

H. J. Burville Int. & Del.



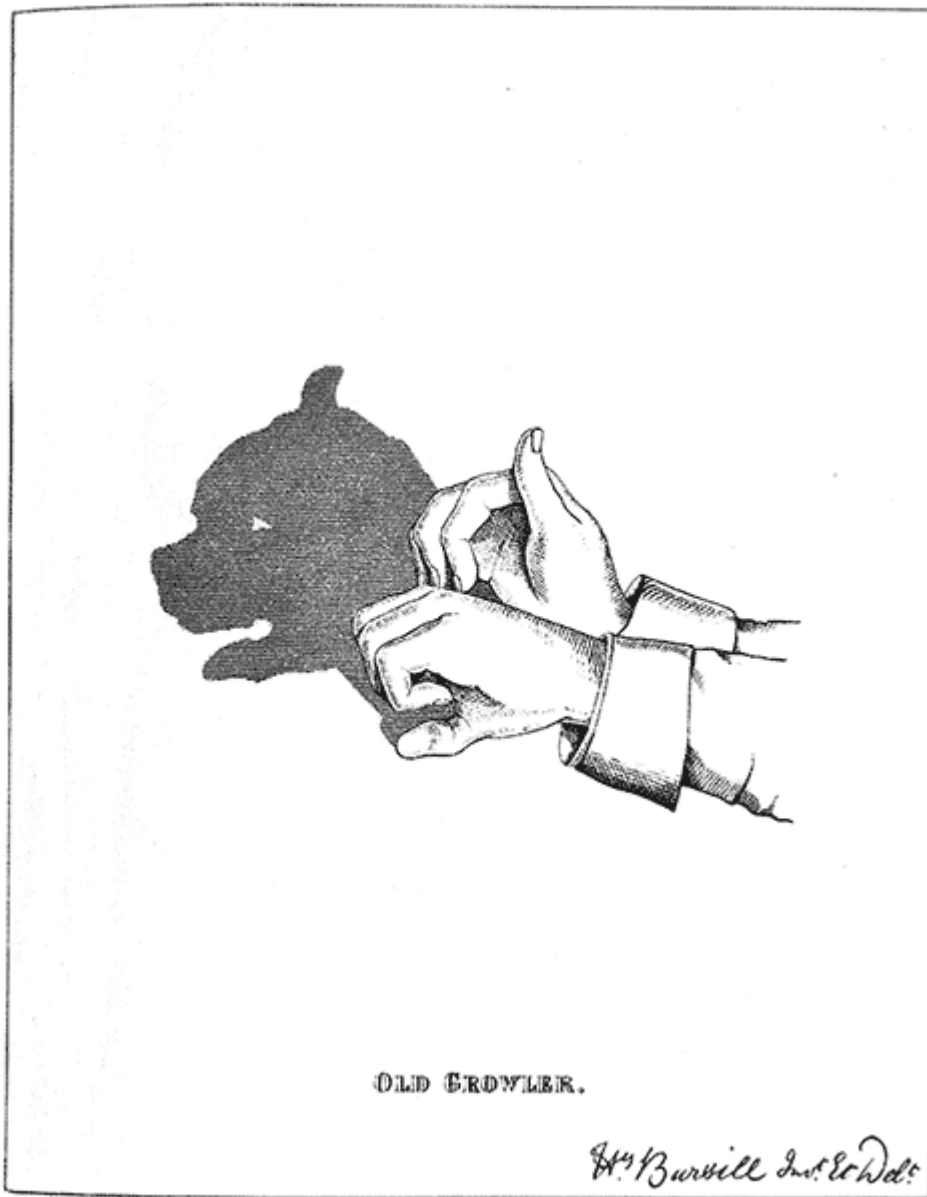
A TORTOISE.

H. B. Burville, Inc. & Co. Del.



A PORTRAIT.

H. Burwill Int. & Del.



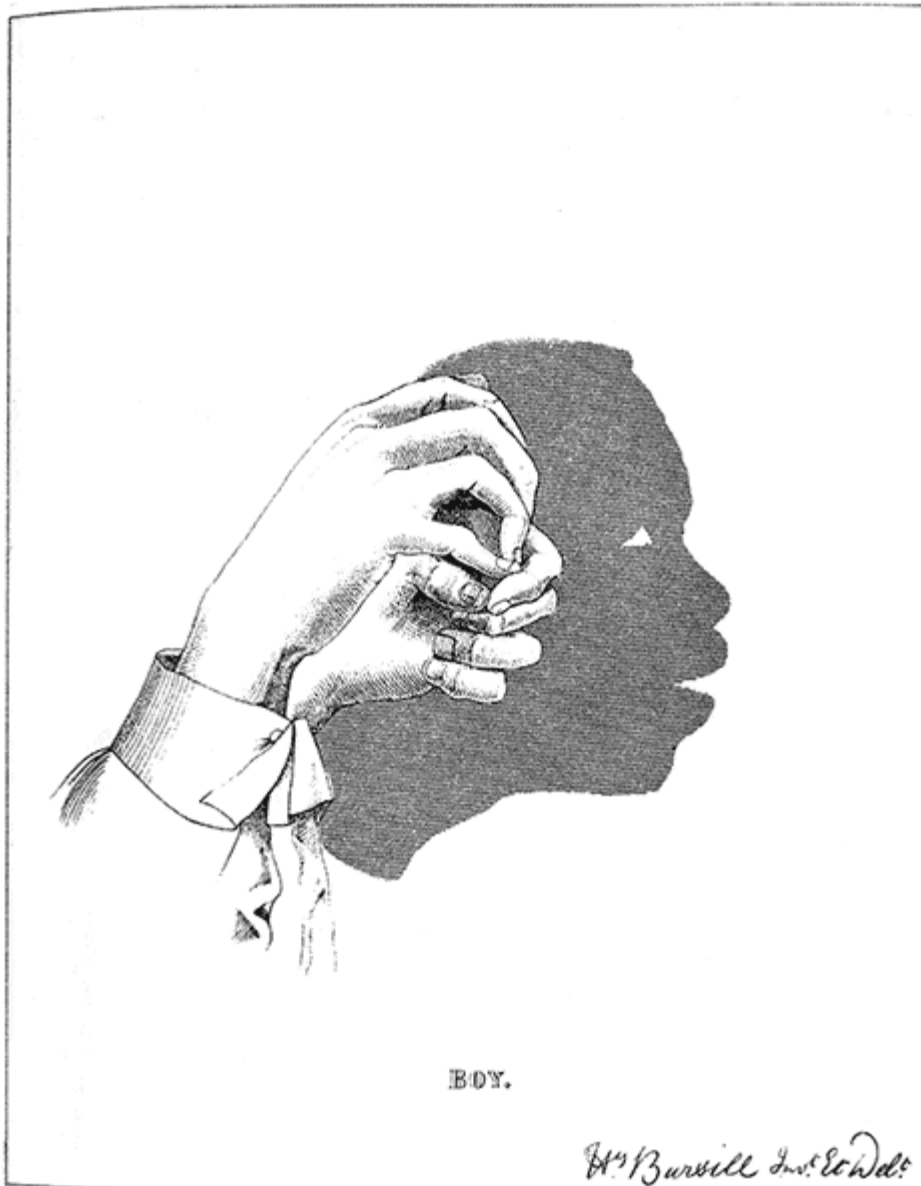
OLD CROWLER.

W. Burvill Int. & Co. Ltd.



FRIGHT.

H. Bursill In. & Del.



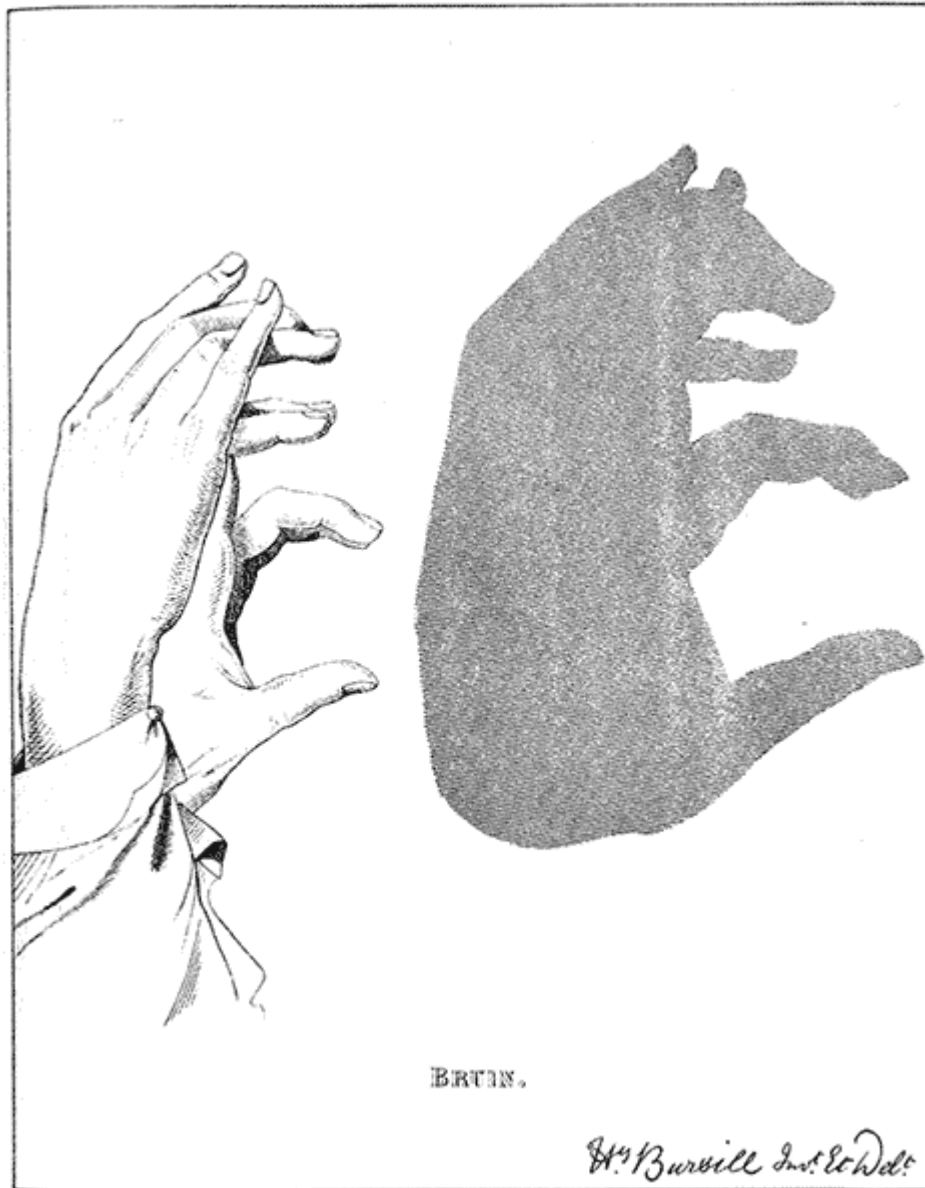
BOY.

Wm. Burwell In. & Co. Del.



HEAD OF A CANEIL.

W. Burdell In. & Co. Del.



BROWN.

H. Bursill, Inc. & Co.



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