Gossips

1

"What *do* you think has happened, girls
At Number Ninety-five?
My goodness me! such goings on!
It's true as I'm alive.

2

"You needn't ask me, cos of course,
I aint a-goin' to tell!"
"Oh do, Lauretta, there's a love!"
Cried Bess and Lou and Bell.

3

And then she poured out all her news
(Indeed, she knew a lot,)
But while she told the thrilling tale,
Her babes she quite forgot.

4

So Master Joe and Baby Jane
Were left to romp and play,
With none to see they didn't fight,
Or lark, or run away.

5

And while the cackling tongues arose
In shrill dispute—"Oho!
I see my opportunity,"
Said cunning Master Joe.

6

He looked around. Poor Baby Jane
Was sitting all alone.
He snatched her bottle from her lips
And raised it to his own.

7

Alas, alas for Baby Jane!
Her shrieks rend all the air,
But no one heeds her frenzied cry,
Or soothes her shrill despair.

8

Now shame upon you, Master Joe,
For this unmanly act!
I trust that when your sisters know
You may be soundly smacked.

UB Braunschweig http://www.digibib.tu-bs.de/?docid=00000392