

For Want of a Nail

-author unknown

For want of a nail, the shoe was lost,
For want of the shoe, the horse was lost,
For want of a horse, the rider was lost,
For want of a rider, the battle was lost,
For want of the battle, the kingdom was lost,
And all for the want of a horseshoe nail.

~ Written about King Richard III's defeat in the Battle of Bosworth, where, according to Shakespeare, King Richard says, "A horse! A horse! My kingdom for a horse!"