This book
is a gift to the library of the
Memorial University of Newfoundland

From

Dr. G.W. Jeffers
Farmville, Va.

April 1976
THOMAS NELSON AND SONS LTD
Parkside Works Edinburgh 9
36 Park Street London W1
117 Latrobe Street Melbourne C1
302–304 Barclays Bank Building
Commissioner and Kruis Streets
Johannesburg

THOMAS NELSON AND SONS (CANADA) LTD
91–93 Wellington Street West Toronto 1

THOMAS NELSON AND SONS
18 East 41st Street New York 17, N.Y.

Société Française d'Éditions Nelson
97 rue Monge Paris 5
PREFACE.

This Reading-Book is intended to follow immediately after "The Royal Primer." It begins with lessons as easy as those in the later part of that book.

The Prose lessons in Part I. are wholly in words of one syllable. Though the spelling of some of these words is more difficult than that even of polysyllables, yet for reading purposes monosyllables have the great advantage of presenting to the child only single sounds.

In Part II. words of two syllables are first gradually and afterwards freely introduced. The principle of arrangement has been to place latest those lessons which are most difficult in subject-matter as well as in style.

The whole book, like the other books in the Series, has been constructed with a view to induce children to take a real interest in what they read, and to make them delight to exercise their power of reading.

Great use has therefore been made of the objects of Natural History, and of the incidents and common things of daily life, by which children are most likely to be attracted.

The Illustrations in which the book abounds will be an important aid to the teacher, in quickening the
interest of the children in their work. To bring out their full educational value, however, these pictures should be made the subject of special questioning after the lesson has been read. For example, the first picture in the book (p. 8) suggests such questions as the following:

What animal is this? This is a cat. Where is it? It is on the branch of a tree. What do you think it has been doing? I think it has been chasing birds. Why do you think so? It has a dead bird in its paw. What kind of cat do you think it is? It must be one of the wild cats that live in the woods.

By being made to frame each answer in the form of a sentence, the child thus unconsciously produces a little composition exercise.

As a special lesson in Pronunciation, the more difficult words are divided into syllables, and accentuated. Teachers will find that, when their pupils have learned to pronounce words correctly in syllables, the difficulty of spelling them has been greatly reduced.

The Spelling lessons consist of two parts,—words in columns for oral spelling, followed by a line of words for dictation. The latter are printed in a very simple and bold character, giving merely the essential body of each letter without any attempt at ornament. The use of this character is strongly recommended, both for spelling practice on the slate, and as a first step towards ordinary writing.
### CONTENTS

**PART I.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The See-Saw</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Cat on the Tree</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Bird's Song</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Old Man and the Dog</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morning and Night</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Pet Bird</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Bird in the Woods</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Pussy</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Week at the Farm</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Owl</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Pet Goat</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Storm</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who Taught the Bird to Build her Nest?</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Great Jump</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frisk and Ned</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I will not Hurt my Little Dog,</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Lark</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary's Little Lamb</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Thing at a Time</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursery Rhymes</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PART II.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Count Ten</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My Dog Dash</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good Night</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Moments</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Boy that liked Play</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forgive</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rain</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North, South, East, West</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Waste Not, Want Not,&quot;</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Visit to the Blacksmith's Shop</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facts for Little Folks</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Last Cross Word</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mice</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What the Clock says</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do Justly</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quite a Man</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evening</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morning</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Before Meat</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## PART III

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A Willing Boy</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Two White Rabbits</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fan and her Pups</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Game with Puss</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Good Little Girl</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Wheel and Big Wheel</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tidy Tom</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washing Day</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On the Shore</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Sun</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skipping</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Each One Useful</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>God is in Heaven</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Rabbit in the Wood</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Kettle and its Friends</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sailing the Boat</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morning Song—Evening Song</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Script Lessons</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FIRST READING-BOOK.

PART I.

THE SEE-SAW.

Look at me! I am up in the air. See, I let go both hands, and yet I do not fall. Now, John, do you try. You go up, and I go down.

Take care, and hold fast while you are up in the air.

See-saw! Up and down. It is great fun to ride on the see-saw.

are | fun | let | try
fall | hold | now | yet
fast | John | see | you

Hold fast. See-saw.

It is not advisable at this stage to include in the spelling-lesson the most difficult words of the reading-lesson. Reading is easier to the child than spelling. The spelling of difficult words is introduced step by step in the subsequent lessons.
Look at that cat high up on the tree.

Good cats stay in the house. They catch mice and rats.

But this cat climbs trees, to catch birds. It kills and eats them.

There are wild cats, which live in the woods. They spend most of their time on trees, where they catch birds and rob their nests. This cat is like one of them.

THE BIRD'S SONG.

Look at that bird. It sits on the branch of a tree near its nest. Hark! do you hear its song? How sweet it is!

The branch swings to and fro in the air, but still the bird sings on.

It does not fear that it will fall, for it knows it has wings.

Sing, bird, sing a song to me;
One there is who cares for thee.
Day by day His strong right arm
Keeps both thee and me from harm.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>arm</th>
<th>cares</th>
<th>near</th>
<th>song</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>bird</td>
<td>day</td>
<td>one</td>
<td>there</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>both</td>
<td>look</td>
<td>sits</td>
<td>wings</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

THE OLD MAN AND THE DOG.

Look at that poor old man. He sits at the tree by the side of the road.

He has come a long way, and now he wants rest and food.

His dog sits by his side, and waits for a share of the poor man's food.

Come, old man, take some bread and meat out of your bag, and eat. Then give a bit of meat to your poor dog.

The old man once had a son, and this dog was his. But the son is dead, and now the dog lives with the old man.

The old man is kind to the dog, and says that as long as he has bread and meat the dog shall get its share.

Let us go and ask the old man to come in. Jane will bring him some warm food.

Come in, old man, and sit by the fire and rest.

_bread_ | _once_ | _says_ | _waits_
_lives_ | _poor_ | _share_ | _way_
_meat_ | _road_ | _side_ | _your_

_Old man. Dog. Son._
See how bright it is! The sun is up. The birds are up. Hark! do you hear them sing?

The bees are at work. They have been up a long time.

Make haste, that we may go and watch them near the hive.

It is good for you and for me to rise with the sun, and the birds, and the bees.

Now, kneel down, and thank God that He has kept you all through the night.

Ask Him to bless you, and keep you safe all day long.
See, now, the sun is down. Look how red the sky is in the west. It will soon be dark.

The birds are at rest in the trees. See how each one hides its head in its wing. It is time, too, for you to say, "Good night," and to go to bed. But do not go to rest till you have knelt down to pray to God, and to thank Him for all His love and care.

Ask Him to watch you in the night. He sees you, and will keep you safe from harm.

"I will not fear, for God is near,  
Through the dark night, as in the light;  
And while I sleep, safe watch will keep.  
Why should I fear, when God is near?"

bright  |  haste  |  light  |  thank  
down   |  hear   |  make   |  watch  
fear    |  hive   |  night  |  while

"Good night."
THE PET BIRD.

Jane had a bird that she kept in a cage.

It was so tame that it would come to be fed from her hand.

Now and then she would let it out; and it would sit on the top of the cage or fly round the room.

As she liked best to feed it, no one else fed the bird but her.

One day her aunt sent her a box of new toys. She was so pleased with them, that she played all day with them. That day Jane did not feed her bird.
Next day a friend came to see Jane, and once more the poor bird got no food.

Jane and her friend played all day with the box of toys.

On the third day Jane did not care so much for the toys, and she went once more to play with her bird.

She went up to the cage with some nice seed to give to it.

But the poor bird lay dead in the cage. It had died for want of food.

Oh, what pain it must have felt!

Boys and girls, keep this sad tale in your minds, and be kind to your pets.

The pet bird.

THE BIRD IN THE WOODS.

I would not in a cage be shut,
Though it of gold should be;
I love best in the woods to sing,
And fly from tree to tree.
LITTLE PUSSY.

I LOVE little pussy, her coat is so warm;
And if I don't hurt her, she'll do me no harm.
So I'll not pull her tail, nor drive her away,
But pussy and I very gently will play.
She'll sit by my side, and I'll give her some food;
And pussy will love me, because I am good.

MY PUSSY.

OH! here is Miss Pussy; she's drinking her milk;
Her coat is as soft and as glossy as silk.
She sips the milk up with her little lap-lap;
Then, wiping her whiskers, lies down for a nap.
My kitty is gentle, she loves me right well;
How funny her play is I'm sure I can't tell.
Now under the sofa, now under the table,
She runs and plays bo-peep as well as she's able.
Oh, dearly I love her! You never did see
Two happier play-mates than kitty and me.

(417)
Jane has been for a week at the farm where her aunt lives. Now she has come back; and she has much to tell of what she saw.

Each day she went to see the maid milk the cows; and the maid gave her a drink of the nice warm milk.

She saw the ducks swim in the pond; and she used to throw in bits of bread to them.

It was a fine sight for Jane, to see how fast they would swim to get the bread.

Each day, too, Jane went with her aunt, and helped her to feed the hens.
The hens had no fear. They came close up to her, and picked up the crumbs as fast as she let them fall on the ground.

She went to the grass park, too, and there she saw the sheep and the snow-white lambs as they played on the soft, green grass.

It was the first time Jane had been at the farm. Next time she goes, Tom and Fred are to go with her.

---

**At the farm.**

---

**THE OWL.**

The owl is called the "bird of night."

The light of day is too strong and too bright for his eyes.

So he sits all day long hid in a tree, or in a hole of a wall, out of sight.

As soon as it is night he comes out, and flies round and round, in search of mice, or small birds.
When he flies, his wings do not make a noise. So the mice and birds do not hear him till he is quite near.

The birds know him well, and are in great fear of him.

When they find him out by day, they come and peck at him with all their might. He is then half blind, and he does not see how to fight with them. Look how they peck at him!

Poor owl! fly back to your hole as fast as you can.
Ann had a pet goat. It had a long beard and long horns. Ann liked to feed the goat.

Nan, Nan, she would call; and at once the goat would come to her.

It would look up in her face, as if to thank her for the good food she had brought to it.

When Ann had no work to do in the house, she would go out and play with the goat.

The goat liked to play with Ann. It
would go to her when it would go to no one else.

The goat knew who was kind to it.

Keep this in mind, boys and girls. Be kind to your pets, and you will find that they will soon learn to love you. Love wins love.

---


---

There has been a wild storm, and the good ship is a wreck.

Do you see how the men cling to the mast of the ship?

The life-boat has been sent out to save them; and some of them are in it. They try to reach the shore. Row, men; row for your lives!

See, the boat seems to sink in the waves! Down, down it goes. Oh, the poor men!

But see, there it is once more! It is on the top of a wave. Now it comes near the shore. Pull, men, pull!
Here it comes! The boat is on the shore, and the men are safe!
The boat goes out once more to the wreck. And at last all the poor men are saved.
Kneel down, men, and thank God, who has saved you in the storm.

boat | reach | ship | storm
mast | row | shore | waves
pull | safe | sink | wreck

**Ship. Boat. Storm.**
ON INSTINCT.

Who taught the bird to build her nest,
Of wool, and hay, and moss?
Who taught her how to weave it best,
And lay the twigs across?

Who taught the busy bee to fly
Amongst the sweetest flowers;
And lay her store of honey by,
To eat in winter hours?

Who taught the little ants the way
Their narrow holes to bore,
And through the pleasant summer day
To gather up their store?—

'Twas God who taught them all the way,
And gave their little skill;
And teaches children, when they pray,
To do his holy will.
THE GREAT JUMP.

Ben and May were twins; that means that they were of the same age. May was not so tall as Ben was, and she was not so strong; but May thought more, learned more, and did more than Ben.

Ben could jump down one step of the stair at a time. When he held by the top of the rail, he could jump two steps at a time. Ben was proud that he could jump more than May could.

When Ben and May were just four years old, Ben thought that he would soon be a big boy, fit for school. He loved to talk, and he loved to boast, and so Ben said things which no wise boy would have said.

"I can jump—I can jump a great way!" cried Ben. "Now that I am four years old I can jump down four steps at a time, and not hold at all by the top of the rail!"

"Oh no, dear Ben," said May; "we must not try such a great jump as that."
We must wait till we are tall and strong.” For May was too wise to boast.

“I can jump four steps at a time—I am sure that I can!” cried proud Ben. “I can do much more than you can; for you are but a girl, and I am a boy—a big, strong boy. Just look now how I can jump!”

boast | means | school | twins

could | proud | stair | wait

learned | rail | thought | years

**Twins. Age. Jump. Four.**

Ben ran up the four steps, and looked down from the high place on May with a smile. “Just look how I jump!” he cried once more.

Ben jumped down the four steps, but, as you may think, he came down on his nose, and not on his feet! Oh, how his nose was hurt! how fast it bled!

Poor Ben roared with the pain. He roared loud; he roared like a bull. May ran to help him up; and so did Aunt Jane,
who had heard his loud roar, though she was in her own room, with her door shut. She could have heard him through two or three doors.

Aunt Jane washed Ben’s poor nose, and bound up his face, when she had put some oil on it to make it well. But it did not get well for a long time. The poor nose was nearly as big as a pear, and as red as the comb of a cock, for more than a week!

Do you not hope that the pain taught Ben to boast less, and to think more? You see that he was not yet a wise boy, though he was four years old. We may hope that poor Ben got more sense in his head by the time that he came to be five.

Love not to talk,
Love not to boast;
Grief comes to him
Who brags the most.

aunt | heard | pear | though
comb | jumped | roared | through
cried | looked | sense | washed
doors | pain | taught | wise

Ned has been at play till he is quite worn out.

He sits down on the step at the door, and soon goes to sleep. His dog Frisk comes and sits by him.

The good dog is as brisk as a bee. Look at him as he sits there with his ears up.

He seems to say, "I'll sit and keep watch while Ned sleeps. No one will dare to touch him as long as I am here."

Ned sleeps for half an hour; and when he wakes, he rubs his eyes, and has a good laugh as he sees Frisk at his side.
Now he goes into the house, and brings out a bit of bread for Frisk.

Then

On his two hind legs
Frisk sits up and begs,
While Ned, on his knee,
Counts *one, two, three.*
Then Frisk from his nose
The bit of bread throws,

and Ned has a laugh as up it goes.

*bread* | *door* | *play* | *wakes*
---|---|---|---
*brisk* | *house* | *throws* | *watch*


---

*I WILL NOT HURT MY LITTLE DOG.*

*I WILL not hurt my little dog,*
But stroke and pat his head;
I like to see him wag his tail,
I like to see him fed.

Poor little thing, how very good,
And very useful too;
For don't you know that he will mind
What he is bid to do?

Then I will never hurt my dog,
Nor ever give him pain;
But treat him kindly every day,
And he'll love me again.
THREE boys, Dick, Sam, and Ned, went out to play in the fields, and fine fun they had.

As they sat down to rest for a short time, they heard a lark sing.

“How well he sings!” said Dick. “He must be quite close to us, I think,” said Sam. “I should like to see him,” said Ned.

“There he is, then,” said Sam; “so you can soon have your wish.”

“Where?” said Dick; and up he sprang, just in time to see the lark as he rose once
more high in the air. See, there he is, as he sings his sweet song to the boys.

Just then Dick saw that Ned had a small stone in his hand. Dick thought that he meant to throw it at the poor lark. So he said, "Ned, do you mean to throw that stone at him?"

"Yes; why not? What harm would there be?" said Ned; "I want you to see how well I can aim."

"For shame, Ned!" said Dick. "Throw down the stone. Why should you want to kill the poor bird, that sings so sweet a song to us? If you like, I will soon show you that I can aim quite as well as you can. But I should not like to aim to do ill." This made both Ned and Sam laugh; and Ned threw down the stone.

The lark went on with his song. Ned said, "I do like to hear the lark sing; how glad I am that I did not try to kill him."

fields | mean | should | threw
heard | meant | thought | throw
laugh | quite | three | where

Lark. Song. Boys.
MARY'S LITTLE LAMB.

MARY had a little lamb,
    His fleece was white as snow;
And everywhere that Mary went
    The lamb was sure to go.

He followed her to school one day—
    That was against the rule;
It made the children laugh and play,
    To see a lamb at school.

The teacher therefore turned him out:
    But still he lingered near,
And on the grass he played about
    Till Mary did appear.
At once he ran to her, and laid
His head upon her arm,
As if to say, I’m not afraid—
You’ll keep me from all harm.

“What makes the lamb love Mary so?”
The little children cry:
“Oh! Mary loves the lamb, you know,”
The teacher did reply.

fleece  lamb  played  sure
head    laugh  school  turned
know    makes  snow   white


ONE THING AT A TIME.

Work while you work, play while you play;
That is the way to be cheerful and gay.
All that you do, do with your might;
Things done by halves are never done right.

One thing at a time, and that done well,
Is a very good rule, as many can tell.
Moments are useless, trifled away;
So work while you work, play while you play.

M. A. STODART.
I.

THERE was an old woman
Who lived in a shoe;
She had so many children,
She didn’t know what to do:
She gave them some broth
Without any bread;
She whipped them all soundly,
And sent them to bed.

II.

ONCE I saw a little bird come hop, hop, hop;
So I cried, “Little bird, will you stop, stop, stop?”
And was going to the window to say, “How do you do?”
But he shook his little tail, and away he flew!

III.

DANCE, little baby, dance up high;
Never mind, baby, mother is nigh;
Crow and caper, caper and crow—
There, little baby, there you go!
Up to the ceiling, down to the ground,
Backwards and forwards, round and round!
Dance, little baby, and mother will sing,
Merrily, merrily, ding, dong, ding!
Fred had got a new spade from his aunt. She had sent it to him one day with a small box of seeds.

As soon as he got it, he went out to dig with it in his own bit of ground at the back of the house.

Jane went with him; and as he dug, she stood near him and talked to him. She held the box of seeds in her hand.

Fred did his work with a will, and he did it well, too.

As Jane stood and talked, she let the box of seeds fall on the ground. The lid of the box came off, and all the seeds fell out.

Poor Jane was a good, kind girl. She was much vexed, and said so to Fred. But Fred did not speak to her.

"O Fred," cried she, "why don't you speak to me?"
"I wished," said Fred, "to wait till I could count ten."

"Count ten!" said Jane. "What do you mean? Why do you wish to count ten?"

"Oh," said Fred, "aunt once told me to count ten before I spoke, if ever I felt angry. I know that I am often hasty to you, Jane, and I want to correct myself."

"O Fred, how good you are! It was very careless of me to let the box of seeds fall; but see, I have picked them all up again, and here they are, ready to put into the ground."
The seeds were planted, and day by day Fred and Jane came to watch them grow up. At last a lot of small green blades peeped above the ground, and soon grew up, with pretty flowers, greatly to the delight of the children.

Before you speak a hasty word,—Count ten;
And if still you angry be,—Count again.

aunt | green | mean | spoke
count | grew | picked | vexed
cried | ground | speak | watch

Pronounce in Syllables:

a\-ny\-gry | cor-rec\-t | h\-ast\-y | plant\-ed
care\-less | de-light | my-self | pret\-ty
chil\-dren | great\-ly | oft\-en | read\-y


MY DOG DASH.

My little dog was once stolen from me. After being away for some months, he one day came back with a long string tied round his neck.

He had broken away from the man who had stolen him. Oh, how glad I was to see my good dog back again!

The thief was taken to the court.
He swore that the dog was his; and I was asked if I could give any proof that the dog was mine.

I put my mouth to the dog's ear, and said something known only to us two.

Dash at once stood up on his hind legs, and went through some tricks I had taught him.

I guided him with my stick, and set the whole court in a roar with the fun.

The thief was asked to make the dog do the same thing; but Dash shrunk away, and would not go near him.

The judge saw that the dog was mine.

The thief was sent to prison, and Dash was set free.

Amid the cheers of the people who stood outside the court, Dash and I bounded merrily home.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>court</th>
<th>mouth</th>
<th>round</th>
<th>taught</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>known</td>
<td>neck</td>
<td>shrunk</td>
<td>thief</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>months</td>
<td>prison</td>
<td>stood</td>
<td>tied</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pronounce in Syllables:—

- be'-ing
- guid'-ed
- mer'-ri-ly
- some'-thing
- bro'-ken
- lit'-tle
- out'-side
- sto'-len

GOOD-NIGHT.

Little baby, lay your head
On your pretty cradle-bed;
Shut your eyes, for now the day
And the light are gone away;
All the clothes are tucked in tight,—
Little baby dear, good-night.

Yes, my darling, well I know
How the bitter wind doth blow;
And the winter’s snow and rain
Patter on the window pane:
But they cannot come in here,
To my little baby dear.

For the window is shut fast,
Till the stormy night is past;
And the curtains warm are spread
Round about your cradle-bed:
So, till morning shineth bright,
Little baby dear, good-night.

—

THE MOMENTS.

The moments fly,—a minute’s gone;
The minutes fly,—an hour is run;
The day is fled,—the night is here;
Thus flies a week,—a month,—a year!
THE BOY THAT LIKED PLAY.

I.

One fine day in summer, a very little boy was sent to school by his mother. But she knew that he was fond of play, and so she told his sister to go with him.

It was very warm, and the boy said to his sister that it would be much nicer to play with him by the river-side, than go to school.

"No, no," said she, "I have not time to play. After I have seen you to school, I must go over all the town, to buy wool, and worsted, and needles, and a lot of other things, for mother. She and I must work, and get money to buy food."

Then the boy saw a bee flying from flower to flower, and said, "I should like to be a bee, and have nothing to do,—no lessons or spelling to learn."

"Ah!" said his sister, "the bee is not
idle; it is getting honey and wax, to lay up store for winter, when there will be no flowers.” And the bee soon flew away to its hive with its honey and wax.

In a little they heard a bird singing; and the boy said, “I am sure the bird has nothing to do. I should like to stay here all day, under the trees, and hear its sweet song.”

But his sister said, “See, the bird has flown down and picked up some bits of straw, and it is now taking them to its nest. It has to build a nest with straw and feathers and moss, and so it has no time to be idle.”

build | heard | school | things
buy | knew | stay | work
flown | learn | straw | would

Pronounce in Syllables:—

feath'ers | les'sons | noth'ing | spell'ing
fly'ing | nee'dles | oth'er | sum'mer
hon'ey | nic'er | sis'ter | worst'ed

THE BOY THAT LIKED PLAY.

II.

They had not gone far when they saw a dog lying by the road-side; and the boy said, "May I not play with the dog? for it seems to have nothing to do."

Just then a man gave a loud whistle. The dog started up at once, and ran off to help him with the sheep he was driving to the market.

Still further on, the boy saw a horse eating, and said, "It can have nothing to do, so I shall go and play with it." But as he went forward, a man went up with a halter, which he put on the horse's head.

As he did so, he said to the boy, "My little fellow, my horse must plough and harrow my fields. I must have oats and barley and wheat to grind and sell, that I may get money."
Then, when the boy saw that every bee and bird and beast had something to do, he said to his sister, "Well, I shall go to school and learn my lessons.

"When I get home, mother will allow me a good long time for play with the other boys, before I go to bed."

Saying this, he ran off to school; and his sister was glad to get away to do her own errands.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>beast</th>
<th>grind</th>
<th>plough</th>
<th>sheep</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>fields</td>
<td>horse</td>
<td>road</td>
<td>went</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gone</td>
<td>must</td>
<td>seems</td>
<td>wheat</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pronounce in Syllables:—

al-low'  | er-rands   | fur-ther   | mar'ket   |
bar-ley  | fel-low    | hal-ter    | start-ed  |
eat-ing  | for-ward   | ly-ing     | whis-tle  |

Dog. Sheep. Horse.
"Dear Ann," said Jane, "won't you forgive Fred? He did not mean to throw your ball in the mud."

"He ought to have been more careful," said Ann, with an angry frown on her brow.

"O Ann!" said Jane, "think how you offend God by your angry temper. How can you ask Him to-night to forgive you your sins, if you do not forgive your little brother now?"

Forgive, if you would be forgiven.

O let us ever humbly pray
That grace to us be given:
May we be ready to forgive,
That we may be forgiven.

ball    dear     mean    sins
brow    frown    said    think

Pronounce in Syllables:—
añ'-gry     care'-ful     for'-given'     of'-fend'
broth'-er  for'-give'     lit'-tle     tem'-per

SPRING.

Spring is come, and every thing is waking from its winter sleep. The fields are dressed in a fresh robe of green.

There are buds on the trees, and the wild-flowers once more begin to peep forth. The white snow-drop is one of the first flowers of spring. How lovely it is!

Birds sing among the trees, and begin to get ready their nests for summer.
Men begin now to plough and to sow in the fields. The gardener digs the ground, and sows seeds in the garden.

The days are warmer, for brighter sunshine has come again. Every thing is full of life and joy.

Soon the soft spring showers will fall, to water the earth and make the seeds to grow. It is by the rain and the sunshine that God makes the corn to grow, and the trees to bear leaves and flowers and fruit.

God does it all: it is the way
He gives us corn for bread,
Sweet herbs to eat, and pleasant fruit,
That we may all be fed.

Then let us never see a plant,
Or blossom on a tree,
But let us think how good God is,
And ever thankful be.

**Pronounce in Syllables:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>bread</th>
<th>fields</th>
<th>leaves</th>
<th>sleep</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>come</td>
<td>fruit</td>
<td>plough</td>
<td>spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>earth</td>
<td>ground</td>
<td>rain</td>
<td>white</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RAIN.

Rain comes from the clouds. Look, there are black clouds now in the sky. How fast they move along! See, they have hidden the sun. They have covered up the sun, just as you cover up your face when you put something over it. But there is one little bit of blue sky still.

Now there is no blue sky at all: it is all black with the clouds. It is very dark, like night. It will rain soon.

Now the rain begins. What large drops! The ducks are very glad; but the little birds are not glad,—they go and shelter themselves under the trees.

Now the rain is over. It was only a
shower. Now the flowers smell sweet, and the bright sun shines, and the little birds sing again.

black | clouds | drops | rain
blue | dark | move | soon

**Pronounce in Syllables:**

begins' | flow'ers | shel'ter | some'thing
cov'ered | lit'tle | show'er | them-selves'


**NORTH, SOUTH, EAST, WEST.**

What o'clock is it, Henry? It is twelve o'clock. It is noon. Come to the garden then. Now, where is the sun? Turn your face towards him. Look at the sun. That is South. Always when it is twelve o'clock, and you look at the sun, your face is towards the South.

Now turn to your left hand. Look forward. That is East. In the morning, when it is going to be light, you must look just there, and you will see the sun get up. Always in the morning look there for the sun; for the sun rises in the East.
Now turn your back to the sun. Look straight forward. That is North. Now turn to your left hand. Look forward. That is West. When it is going to be night, look for the sun just there. He is always there when he goes down; for the sun sets in the West.

North, South, East, West.

east  |  night  |  north  |  twelve
light |  noon   |  south  |  west

Pronounce in Syllables:

always  |  for-ward  |  go-ing  |  o'-clock'
Henry   |  gar-den   |  morn-ing|  to-wards


"WASTE NOT, WANT NOT."

I MUST not throw upon the floor
The crust I cannot eat;
For many a hungry little one
Would think it quite a treat.

'Tis "wilful waste brings woeful want;"
And I may live to say,
"Oh, how I wish I had the bread
Which once I threw away!"
A VISIT TO THE BLACKSMITH'S SHOP.

Come, let us go to the smith's shop. What is he doing? He has a forge: he blows the fire with a great pair of bellows, to make the iron hot.

Now he takes it out with the tongs, and puts it upon the anvil. Now he beats it with a hammer. How hard he works! The sparks fly about; pretty bright sparks.

What is the blacksmith making? He is making nails, and horse-shoes, and a great many things.

What are nails and horse-shoes made of? They are made of iron. Iron is of great use to us. It is used to make ploughs, wheels, ships, steam-engines, and all kinds of things. We could not do without iron.

Steel is made of iron. Steel is very bright, and sharp, and hard. Knives and scissors are made of steel.

knives | ships | sparks | tongs
nails | smith | steel | wheels

Anvil | bellows | hammer | scissors

FACTS FOR LITTLE FOLKS.

Tea is prepared from the leaf of a tree; Honey is gathered and made by the bee.

Butter is made from the milk of the cow; Pork is the flesh of the pig or the sow.

The juice of the apple makes cider so fine; The juice of the grape makes red and white wine.

Cork is the bark of a very large tree; Sponge grows like a plant in the deep deep sea.

Oil is obtained from fish and from flax; Candles are made of tallow and wax.

Linen is made from the fibres of flax; Paper is made from straw and from rags.

Worsted is made from wool soft and warm; Silk is prepared and spun by a worm.

bark grape oil sponge
cork juice pork straw
cow leaf silk tea
flax milk sow wool

Pronounce in Syllables:—

but’ter gath’ered lin’en pre-pared’
can’dles hon’ey pa’per worst’ed

THE LAST CROSS WORD.

“Oh,” said a little girl, bursting into tears, when she heard of the death of a young friend, “I did not know, when I saw her, that it was the last time I should have to speak to Amy!”

The last time they were together she spoke crossly to her, and that last cross word now lay heavy on her heart.

This points out a good rule about kind words. Speak kindly to your father, to your mother, to your brother, to your sister, to your play-mates, to every one around you, lest it should be the last time you will have to speak to them. Cross words are very sad to think of.

Little children, love each other;
Never give another pain:
If your brother speak in anger,
Answer not in wrath again.

cross  |  friend  |  heart  |  speak
death  |  heard   |  points |  tears

Pronounce in Syllables:—
broth’er  |  fä’ther  |  moth’er  |  play’-mates
burst’ing  |  heav’y  |  sis’ter  |  to-geth’er

SUMMER.

Now it is summer. The days are long, and the sun is up in the sky hours before you are awake.

The trees are full of leaves, and the garden is gay with flowers.

The hay-makers are busy in the fields. Do you know what hay is? It is long grass cut down and dried. The men who cut it down are called the mowers. They cut it
with long sharp scythes, or with reaping machines. And women and girls toss it about in the field, that the wind and the sun may dry it. How sweetly smells the new-mown hay!

When the hay is dry, it is made into a hay-stack. It is now ready to be used to feed horses and cows in winter, when there is no grass in the fields for them to eat.

'Tis summer, I know,
By the blue of the sky;
By the trees' deeper green,
As beneath them I lie.

Now ring the sharp scythes
Of the mowers all day,
And they spread to the air
The sweet-scented hay.

O summer, sweet summer,
Glide slowly away!
For I love in your warmth
And sunshine to play.

Pronounce in Syllables:—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>blue</th>
<th>hours</th>
<th>scent</th>
<th>smell</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>field</td>
<td>mown</td>
<td>scythes</td>
<td>stack</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hay</td>
<td>new</td>
<td>sharp</td>
<td>toss</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AUTUMN has come. The green leaves are fading. Some have fallen from the trees, and are lying dead on the ground.

Now is the time for fruit. Apples, pears, plums, and all kinds of fruit are ripe.

The corn, too, is ripe. The reapers begin to cut it down.* See how the tall stalks nod and wave in the sunshine! They bend under the weight of the golden grain.

* Explain to the children that reaping is now mostly done by reaping machines
How many loaves of bread will be made from that field of wheat! How many hungry mouths will be fed from it! When we eat our food, let us not forget to thank Him who causes the corn to grow.

The autumn winds are sighing,
Sighing in the trees;
The ripened corn is waving,
Waving in the breeze.
The harvest moon is shining,
Shining in the night;
Over hill and valley
In floods of silver light.

The swallows come together,
Together from the eaves,
Waiting for the falling,
The falling of the leaves.
They know the time is coming,
The time when they must flee
Away to brighter sunshine,
Far, far across the sea.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>bread</th>
<th>fruit</th>
<th>grow</th>
<th>stalks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>dead</td>
<td>grain</td>
<td>leaves</td>
<td>thank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>field</td>
<td>ground</td>
<td>pears</td>
<td>wheat</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pronounce in Syllables:—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>apples</th>
<th>falling</th>
<th>gold'en</th>
<th>lying</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>autumn</td>
<td>fall'en</td>
<td>hun'gry</td>
<td>sun'shine</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MICE.

The merry mice stay in their holes,
And hide themselves by day;
But when the house is still at night,
The rogues come out to play.

They climb upon the pantry shelf,
And taste of all they please;
They drink the milk that's set for cream,
And nibble bread and cheese.

But if they chance to hear the cat,
Their feast will soon be done;
They scamper off to hide themselves,
As fast as they can run.

Pronounce in Syllables:—
mer'ry  |  nib'ble  |  pan'try  |  scamp'er
bread  |  climb  |  house  |  rogues
chance  |  cream  |  night  |  shelf
cheese  |  feast  |  please  |  their

DO JUSTLY.

WHAT THE CLOCK SAYS.

"Tick," the clock says, "tick, tick, tick!"
What you have to do, do quick:
Time is gliding fast away;
Let us act, and act to-day.

If your lesson you would get,
Do it now, and do not fret:
That alone is hearty fun
Which comes after work is done.

When your mother says, "Obey,"
Do not loiter, do not stay;
Wait not for another tick;
What you have to do, do quick.

DO JUSTLY.

Kindness and love to all I owe,
No other debt does God allow;
Kindness and love, then, I must pay
To every body, every day.
And when I borrow, or I buy,
Must pay again; for God will try,
By His own law, my works and ways.
Oh, may I serve Him all my days;
Be always honest, just, and true;
And what I've said, take care to do.
Winter has come at last. There are no flowers now in the garden, and every leaf is gone from the trees.

The snow lies thick upon the ground, and the poor little birds hop about seeking in vain for food.

Here comes little robin redbreast. Do you see him on the tree? He is a bold little fellow. If we put some crumbs of bread upon the window-sill, he will come
and pick them up. But we must be very quiet, or he will take fright and fly away. Pretty robin, come again to-morrow, and we will give you some more nice crumbs.

In winter we should think of the wants of the poor. Many a child has no fire to warm him, little food to eat, or clothing to shield him from the cold. But God has given all these things to you. Thank Him with all your heart, and try to help the poor.

Though we do not now see leaves and flowers, still the roots of the plants are safely locked up beneath the snow. Again the voice of Spring will be heard. Again the flowers will burst into beauty, and the trees will put on their robe of green. They are not dead. They are only in their winter sleep.

child     fright   roots   their

Pronounce in Syllables:—

beau'ty    fel'low   rob'in   win'dow
be-neath'  qui'et    seek'ing    win'ter

"I think I shall soon be quite a man," said Tom to a girl whom he knew well, as she sat by the gate of her home.

"Well," said she, "some boys think they are men, but they act as boys for all that. If you were a man, Tom, you would not throw plum stones at me. You would not tease my dog. You would not put your foot out to make me fall down. You would not laugh when you see rude boys do things which you know are wrong.

"You may be a big boy, and you may be an old boy, but I shall not think you a man till you act as a man. No true man would do a mean thing. A true man is brave and just. He will do what is right, and fear not. Think of that, Tom."

"Yes," said Tom, "I will. What you say is quite true. I must try to be a good boy, that I may grow up to be a good man."

brave | knew | mean | throw
fear | laugh | right | true

EVENING.

I.
This night, when I lie down to sleep,
I give the Lord my soul to keep;
If I should die before I wake,
I pray the Lord my soul to take.

II.
In my little bed I lie,
Heavenly Father, hear my cry:
Lord, protect me through the night,
Bring me safe to morning light.

MORNING.

I.
Now I wake and see the light;
God has kept me through the night:
Make me good, O Lord, I pray;
Keep and guard me through this day.

II.
O Lord, my God, to thee I pray,
When from my bed I rise,
That all I do and all I say
Be pleasing in thine eyes.

BEFORE MEAT.

From Thy hand cometh every good;
We thank thee for our daily food:
O with it, Lord, thy blessing give,
And to thy glory may we live. Amen.
"Robert," said his mother, "will you come and nurse the baby for me?"

Robert was spinning his top in the yard, but he at once put it in his pocket, and said, "Yes, mother."

He was fond of play, but he had been taught to make himself useful, and to do as he was bid.

How kind and gentle he was with the baby.

God says, "Honour thy father and thy mother." To honour them is to obey them. When children do not obey their parents, they sin against God.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>come</th>
<th>nurse</th>
<th>play</th>
<th>taught</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>make</td>
<td>once</td>
<td>said</td>
<td>yard</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pronounce in Syllables:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ba-by</th>
<th>him-self</th>
<th>Rob-ert</th>
<th>spin-ning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>gen-tle</td>
<td>hon-our</td>
<td>pock-et</td>
<td>use-ful</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Little Henry one day got a present of two white rabbits. One was a big rabbit, and the other was a little one.

They were put into a little house made of wood. Do you know what a rabbit-house is called? It is called a hutch.

One day the door of the hutch had been left open, and the rabbits got out.

They both ran about the garden, seeking for something to eat.

A big basket filled with fine fresh turnips and carrots stood a little way off.
The rabbits soon found their way to it, and began to eat off all the green leaves.

There they are in the picture! Do you see them? The big rabbit sits on his hind feet, and reaches to the top of the basket. See! he has pulled a turnip down. It has fallen on the ground, and the little rabbit runs to it and begins to eat too.

It is a good thing that the big rabbit pulled this turnip down, for the little one could not have reached to the top of the basket.

In this way the big one helped the little one. This is just what boys and girls should do at their meals. They should help the little ones first.

That is a good lesson to learn from Henry's white rabbits. Is it not?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>first</th>
<th>green</th>
<th>hutch</th>
<th>reached</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>found</td>
<td>kind</td>
<td>leaves</td>
<td>thing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fresh</td>
<td>house</td>
<td>meals</td>
<td>white</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Pronounce in Syllables:**

- be-gan'
- gar-den
- pres'-ent
- reach'-es
- car'-rots
- helped
- pulled
- some'-thing
- fall'-en
- les'-son
- rab'-bit
- tur'-nips
Harry ran into the house shouting, "Susy, Susy, Susy! come and see what Fan has got!"

Susy, hearing her brother call, went to him. Then they went together across the yard into the stable.

There lay Fan on the straw, with four of the prettiest little black and white pups you ever saw.

Susy wanted to take them into the house, to play with them. But Harry would not let her touch one of them.
"Wait a few days," he said; "then they will be able to see."

"Are they blind now?" asked Susy.

"All dogs are blind till they are nine days old," said her brother.

As soon as the pups could see, Harry and Susy went to look at them.

When the children went into the stable, they saw one of them running back to its mother. It had been wandering about among the straw.

Placing them in a basket, Susy took them into the house, to show them to her mother.

The children went every day to see the little pups; and soon they were able to run about and take care of themselves.

| black | four | said | wait |
| blind | house | straw | white |
| care | nine | touch | yard |

Pronounce in Syllables:—

| bas'ket | pret'ti-est | sta'ble |
| broth'er | run'ning | them-selves' |
| chil'dren | shout'ing | to-geth'er |
| hear'ing | sis'ter | wan'der-ing |
"Come and have a game with puss," said Willie to his sister Mary. As he spoke he tied a piece of string to a tassel which he held in his hand.

Then they went together to look for puss. They found her lying half asleep on a foot-stool in the parlour.

Willie quietly placed the tassel just beyond the spot where puss lay. Then he began to draw it slowly past her.

As soon as it began to move, puss opened her eyes, and fixed them upon it. Then
she half arose to watch it, as you see in the picture.

At last Willie gave the string a sudden jerk. Then puss, to Mary's delight, sprang at the tassel as she would at a mouse.

Willie was too quick for her, and giving it another jerk, he kept it out of her paws.

Then the chase began, and the children ran round and round the room, with pussy after them.

At last puss made a sudden dash forward, and, pouncing upon the tassel, she snatched it out of Willie's hand, and made off with it.

Oh, what a race they had after her! She ran under the sofa, then under the table, but at last she jumped up on a chair with it, and Willie caught it again.

Pronounce in Syllables:—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>chair</th>
<th>game</th>
<th>race</th>
<th>string</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>chase</td>
<td>piece</td>
<td>mouse</td>
<td>caught</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fixed</td>
<td>quick</td>
<td>spoke</td>
<td>watch</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| be-yond′ | for'-ward | qui'-et-ly | sud'-den |
| de-light′ | par'-lour | slow'-ly | tas'-sel |
| foot'-stool | pounc'-ing | snatched | Wil'-lie |
A GOOD LITTLE GIRL.

The wind was blowing very hard as two boys were on their way to school. In the street they met an old man, who could hardly walk.

Just as they passed him, the wind blew the old man's hat off. It was carried quickly up the street; but the old man was not able to run after it.

"Stop, my boys, please, and pick up my hat," cried the old man, "else I am afraid I shall lose it."

But the boys stood still, and only laughed; they thought it was fine fun to see the hat blown about.

Just then a little girl who was going to the same school came in sight. Without waiting to be asked, she ran at once and caught the hat.

Then she brought it back to the old man. But before giving it to him, she carefully wiped it.

"Thank you, my dear," he said, "for your kindness to a poor old man."
The boys and the girl went onward to school. But the teacher had seen them from one of the windows.

When lessons were over, he told the children in the school all about the old man's hat.

Then he went to his desk and took out a pretty picture-book, which he gave to the little girl for her kindness.

Inside the cover her name was written, and beneath it this verse:

"Little deeds of kindness,
Little words of love,
Make this earth an Eden
Like the heaven above."

The boys felt ashamed and sorry for their conduct to the poor old man.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>asked</th>
<th>caught</th>
<th>passed</th>
<th>street</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>blown</td>
<td>laughed</td>
<td>please</td>
<td>thought</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>brought</td>
<td>once</td>
<td>school</td>
<td>wiped</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pronounce in Syllables:—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>able</th>
<th>car'ried</th>
<th>kind'ness</th>
<th>teach'er</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a-fraid'</td>
<td>chil'dren</td>
<td>pic'ture</td>
<td>wait'ing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>care'ful-ly</td>
<td>con'duct</td>
<td>pret'ty</td>
<td>writ'ten</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LITTLE WHEEL AND BIG WHEEL.

Says the big waggon wheel
To the little waggon wheel,
"What a difference between us I see!
As our course we pursue,
Can a small thing like you
Keep up with a great thing like me?"

Says the little waggon wheel
To the big waggon wheel,
"You are larger, I own, my good friend;
But my quickness supplies
What I want in my size,
So I keep in the front to the end."

course | great | small | thing
front | own | size | wheel

Pronounce in Syllables:—

be-tween' | larg' er | pur-sue' | sup-plies
dif'fer-ence | lit'tle | quick'ness | wag' gon
TIDY TOM.

Once in a pretty little country school there were two boys, who were called Tidy Tom and Dirty Dan. Let me tell you how Tom got his name.

Every morning he rose up very early. Before breakfast he brushed his boots to make them shine, and then carefully brushed all the dust from his cap and coat.

After that he washed his hands and face, combed his hair, and took his breakfast. Then, taking his books under his arm, he started off to school.

He had a long way to go, but he was always there in time. He always knew his lessons, and he was clean and tidy. So the boys called him Tidy Tom.

Learn this little lesson as well as you can—

Be tidy like Tom, not dirty like Dan.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>brushed</th>
<th>clean</th>
<th>name</th>
<th>shine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>called</td>
<td>combed</td>
<td>once</td>
<td>washed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pronounce in Syllables:

coun'try | ear'ly | morn'ing | start'ed

dirt'ye | lit'tle | pret'ty | ti'dy
Two little girls, called Lucy and Jane, lived in a cottage in the country.

One day they were playing with their dolls.

They were busy talking about something, when one of them said, “Let us go and ask mother.”

Together they went into the house, where their mother was sewing, and Lucy said, “Please, mother, may we have a washing day?”

“A washing day!” said their mother.
"What do little girls want with a washing day?"

"Oh, do please let us have one, for our dolls' clothes are so dirty," said Jane.

"Dirty! are they?" said their mother.

"Then you may wash them; but be careful to keep yourselves clean."

In the kitchen they got a small tub, some warm water, and a piece of soap. Then they went out to the green behind the house and began to wash.

All the clothes were taken off both the dolls, and then put into the tub.

Lucy washed them quite clean, and Jane hung them on a cord to dry.

When the dolls were dressed again in their clean clothes, they looked like two little queens.
ON THE SHORE.

Edith took her little sister to play on the sands by the sea-shore.

They saw a great many pretty shells and stones lying about, and they began to pick them up.

Further and further they went, looking for more shells and stones, but not thinking about the sea.

At last their pockets were full, and they turned to go home; but they could not move from the place, for the water had come right round where they stood.
"Oh! what shall we do?" said Edith; and her little sister began to cry.

A boy who was a little way off on the sands saw the danger of the girls.

He was a brave, kind boy, for he at once ran to the place and rushed into the sea to help them.

He did not mind the water, for he had bare feet; but poor Edith's boots and stockings were very wet. The boy carefully carried Edith's little sister up the beach and placed her on a dry place.

At once the little girls ran home and told their mother how good the boy had been to them.

She was very glad, and she sent him a pretty present for the kind deed he had done.

bare | deed | kind | shells
beach | great | move | shore
brave | home | place | stones

Pronounce in Syllables:-

be-gan' | E-dith | moth-er | pret-ty
carried | fur-ther | pock-ets | stock-ings
dan-ger | ly-ing | pres-ent | think-ing
Get up, little boy. Get up at once, I say. How long do you mean to lie there?

I have been trying for a long time to look in at your bed-room window; but I could only peep in at the edge of the blind.

I want to say "Good morning!" and to show you some of the pretty things you may see about you.

At the bottom of the garden, in the bed of flowers, there are some nice buds just opening.

In the tree at the end of the house there is a nest in which there are four pretty young birds.

On the grass under the trees in the park there are six little snow-white lambs at play.

All were glad to see me when I bade them good morning, for they could not do without me.

If I did not come, the buds would not
open, and the little birds and lambs would die of cold.

But the little boy did not move until the sun had found a hole in the blind, through which it sent its rays right down on his face.

Then he sprang out of bed, rubbed his eyes, and dressed himself, thinking he was very late.

But he was still quite early. So he ran out to look at the bright, warm sun, and to bid it good morning.

Then he looked into the nest and saw the little birds. He looked into the park, too, where the lambs were yet at play.

But the flowers pleased him best of all, and he gathered a pretty bunch to give to his mother.
"Look how I can skip!" said Mary, as she took up her skipping-rop and ran out into the field.

Her mother stood at the door, and watched her little girl as she began to skip.

"One, two, three, four, five, six," counted Mary, as she took step after step. At length she had counted up to twenty.

She then ran to her mother, her cheeks all in a glow, and cried, "Mother! mother! I have made twenty!"

"You must try again, and make twice twenty. When I was a little girl like you I could do that and more," said her mother.
"Could you?" said Mary. "Then I will;" and away she ran to try, until she also could make twice twenty.

Do you know how many twice twenty make? Mary did not. She only knew her tables as far as six times twelve.

When she got seven times to learn, she said that the lesson was too hard, and that she could not do it.

"Try again," said her mother. "I learned all the tables when I was a little girl; and I am sure you can, if you try."

Mary did try. Soon that lesson was learned, and then another, and another, till at last she could say from twice one to twelve times twelve without a mistake!

She tried to do everything her mother had done when she was a little girl.

cheeks    knew    length    twelve
field     learn    three    twice
four      learned  tried    watched

Pronounce in Syllables:—

an-oth-er  les-son  moth-er  ta-bles
count-ed  lit-tle  sev-en  twen-ty
ev-er-y-thing  mis-take'  skip-ping  with-out'
EACH ONE USEFUL.

"Cock-a-doodle-doo!" cried the cock. He stood in the farm-yard and crowed aloud, that all might hear him.

"Cock-a-doodle-doo! How useful I am; for I always get up first. And I crow as soon as the sun rises, to bid all in the house awake."

"Cluck! cluck! cluck!" cried the hen from the yard. She was walking about with three pretty little chickens, and trying to find some food for them.

"Cluck! cluck! cluck! I am more useful than you. Almost every day I lay a nice fresh egg for my master’s breakfast.

"Then think how useful I am to my mistress. How many nice things she makes with my eggs for the children. She could not get on well without eggs."
"Mew! mew! mew!" cried the cat, as she ran out of the house to tell what she could do.

"Mew! mew! mew! I keep the mice from the bread and the cheese and the corn."

"Bow! wow! wow!" cried the dog, as he put his head out of his kennel. "Hear what I have to say, and then you will know what work is.

"I watch the house by day and by night. I keep thieves from stealing my master's property. Where would you all be but for me?"

Just then the farmer came into the yard.

He threw a handful of corn to the fowls, and placed a cup of milk for puss. Then he gave the dog a bone.
He thus showed that he thought each of them was useful in its own way.

bread | cried | fowls | thieves
cheese | crowed | fresh | thought
cluck | first | know | yard

Pronounce in Syllables:

a-loud' | farm' er | mas' ter | steal' ing
al' ways | hand' ful | prop' er-ty | use' ful
chick' ens | ken' nel | showed | walk' ing

GOD IS IN HEAVEN.

God is in heaven; and can he see
When I am doing wrong?—
Yes, child, he can; he looks at thee
All day and all night long.

God is in heaven; and would he know
If I should tell a lie?—
Yes, child; if only spoken low,
He'd hear it in the sky.

God is in heaven; and can I go
To thank him for his care?—
Not yet; but love him here below,
And thou shalt praise him there.
THE RABBIT IN THE WOOD.

In a wood where beasts can talk
I went out to take a walk.
A rabbit sitting in a bush
Peeped at me, and then cried, "Hush!"
Presently to me it ran,
And its story thus began:—

"You have got a gun, I see:
Perhaps you'll point it soon at me;
And when I am shot, alack!
Pop me in your little sack.
When upon my fate I think,
I grow faint—my spirits sink."

"Pretty rabbit, do not eat,"
I replied, "the farmer's wheat:
If such thieving you begin,
You must pay it with your skin.
Honestly your living get,
And you may be happy yet!"
THE KETTLE AND ITS FRIENDS.

I am a kettle. You have often seen me at work boiling water for your breakfast, dinner, or tea. Do you know what I am made of? I will tell you. I am made of iron; because iron will bear a great heat.

Here is my friend the coffee-pot. Do you know what he is made of? "No." Then I will tell you. My friend the coffee-pot is made of tin. He sometimes sits beside me on the hob. I often pour water into him hot enough to scald him, if he could only feel it.

Now you shall see a family of my friends. Without them I should not be so useful as I am.
Here they are. In the middle you see the tea-pot, and all around her the cups and saucers, just like a hen and her chickens. The coffee-pot and the tea-pot are my two greatest friends.

I have not so much to do with the cups and saucers as my two friends have. But I often see them, and I know of what they are made.

Cups and saucers are made of clay, and are baked in an oven to make them hard.

I must bid you good afternoon, as I am wanted to boil water for tea.

**Pronounce in Syllables:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>bear</th>
<th>friend</th>
<th>know</th>
<th>should</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>boil</td>
<td>great</td>
<td>pour</td>
<td>tea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>clay</td>
<td>heat</td>
<td>scald</td>
<td>work</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>beside'</th>
<th>chick'ens</th>
<th>e-nough'</th>
<th>mid'dle</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>boiling</td>
<td>coff'fee</td>
<td>fam'ily</td>
<td>sau'cers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>break'fast</td>
<td>din'ner</td>
<td>ket'tle</td>
<td>use'ful</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
John has come down to the pond to sail his new boat. He calls it the “Blue Bell,” because it is painted blue, and has a little blue flag.

Look! the wind is filling its sails. It will soon cross to the other side of the pond. Then John will run round and start it again, so that it will keep sailing from side to side.

This is nice fun for a boy when he is careful not to slip into the water and get wet.
Once John came to grief in this pond. Let me tell you how it was, that you may learn a lesson from his mistake.

One holiday afternoon his cousin Fred came to pay him a visit. They went to play near this pond.

John saw a pretty white lily so close to the edge of the pond that he felt sure he could get it.

"You must not try," said his cousin Fred. "The pond is very deep, and you may fall into it."

But John would have his own way. Taking hold of a branch, he stretched out his hand to get the flower.

The branch broke, and John got a ducking. But it did him good, for it taught him to be more careful.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>blue</th>
<th>edge</th>
<th>near</th>
<th>stretched</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>branch</td>
<td>grief</td>
<td>once</td>
<td>sure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>close</td>
<td>learn</td>
<td>sail</td>
<td>white</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pronounce in Syllables:—

af-ter-noon | hol'-i-day | oth'-er | tak'-ing
be-cause'    | les'-son | paint'-ed | vis'-it
cous-in      | lil'-y | pret'-ty | wâ'-ter
MORNING SONG.

BRIGHTLY glowsthe day, Sweet is morn to me;
Night has fled away;    Thanks, O God, to thee;
Every joyful sound     Thou a guard hast kept
Echoes all around.     O' er me while I slept.

Hear me while I raise
This my song of praise;
May my heart each day
To thee ever pray.

EVENING SONG.

The sun has set;
And now anew
With fallen dew
The grass is wet.

Each flower too
Has covered up
Its scented cup,
All filled with dew.

Each little bird
Has sunk to rest;
Within its nest
No song is heard.

All through the night
I too will sleep
In slumbers deep,
Till morning light.

I will not fear;
For through the night,
As in the light,
Our God is near.
The See-Saw

Look at me! I am up in the air. See, I let go both hands, yet I do not fall. Now, John do you try. You go up, and I go down.
The Bird's Song

Look at the bird.
It sits on the branch of a tree near its nest.
Do you hear its song, how sweet it is! The branch swings but the bird sings on.
The Moments
The moments fly.
A minute's gone;
The minutes fly.
An hour is run.

The day is fled.
The night is here.
Thus flies a week.
A month, a year.
Little Facts

Tea is the leaf of a tree. Butter is made from the milk of the cow. Paper is made from straw and from rags. Silk is prepared and spun by a worm.