

The Project Gutenberg EBook of McGuffey's Eclectic Primer,
Revised Edition
by William Holmes McGuffey

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Title: McGuffey's Eclectic Primer, Revised Edition

Author: William Holmes McGuffey

Release Date: June 29, 2005 [EBook #14642]
[This file last updated December 26, 2010]

Language: English

Character set encoding: ASCII

*** START OF THIS PROJECT GUTENBERG EBOOK
MCGUFFEY'S ECLECTIC PRIMER ***

Produced by Don Kostuch

MC GUFFEY'S®

ECLECTIC

PRIMER



REVISED
EDITION

JOHN WILEY & SONS

Transcriber's Notes:

Welcome to the schoolroom of 1900. The moral tone is plain. "She is kind to the old blind man."

The exercises are still suitable, and perhaps more helpful than some contemporary alternatives. Much is left to the teacher. Explanations given in the text are enough to get started teaching a child to read and write. Counting in Roman numerals is included as a bonus in the form of lesson numbers.

The "non-ASCII" text remains as images. The "non-ASCII" text is approximated in text boxes to right of the image, as are script images.

Don Kostuch

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McGUFFEY'S®

ECLECTIC PRIMER.

REVISED EDITION.



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EP 179



PREFACE.

The flattering success of McGuffey's Revised Readers, and the inquiry for more primary reading matter to be used in the first year of school work, have induced the Publishers to prepare a REVISED PRIMER, which may be used to precede the First Reader of any well arranged series.

The method pursued is the same as that in McGuffey's Revised Readers, and the greatest possible care has been taken to insure a gradation suited to the youngest children. Only about six new words are to be mastered in each lesson. These new words and the new elementary sounds are always to be found in the vocabulary of the lesson in which they are first used.

The plan of the book enables the teacher to pursue the Phonic Method, the Word Method, the Alphabet Method, or any combination of these methods.

Illustrations of the best character have been freely supplied, and the skilled teacher will be able to use them to great advantage.

The script exercises throughout the book and the slate exercises at the close, have been specially written and carefully engraved for this Primer; they may be used to teach the reading of script, and as exercises in learning to write.

In the full confidence that the public will appreciate a cheap and attractive Primer of this character, the Publishers have spared no expense to make this book equal, in type, paper, and illustrations, to any that have been issued from their Press.

THE ALPHABET.

A B C D

E F G H

I J K L

M N O P

Q R S T

U V W X

Y Z

THE ALPHABET.

a b c d

e f g h

I j k l

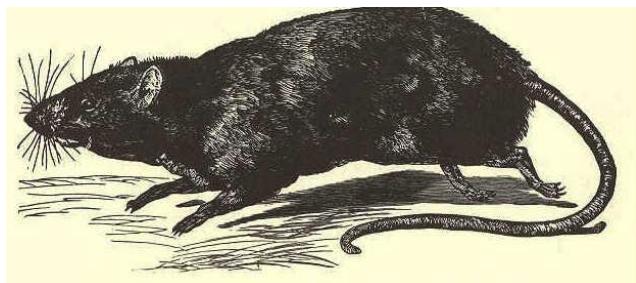
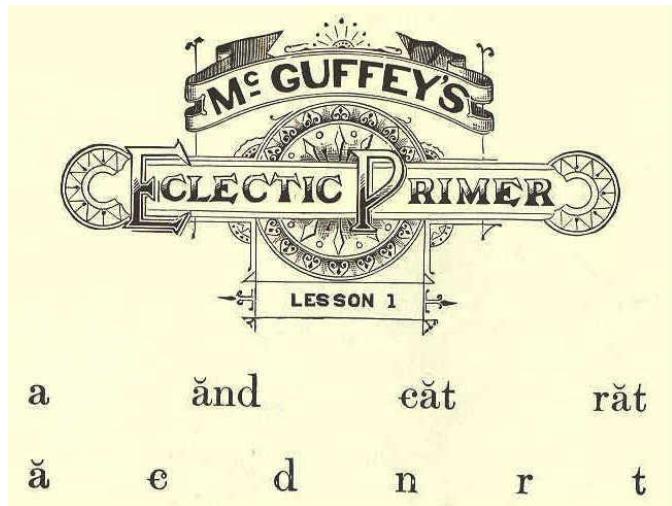
m n o p

q r s t

u v w x

y z





a rat a cat

A cat A rat

A cat and a rat.

A rat and a cat.

McGuffey's

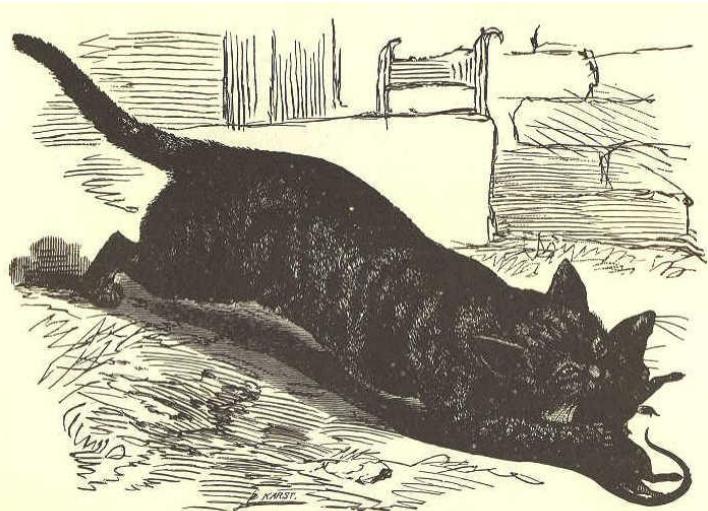
Eclectic Primer

Lesson 1

a and cat rat

a e d n r t

LESSON II.



ăt the răñ hăš
 Ānn

 h th s

The cat the rat

The cat has a rat.

The rat ran at Ann.

Ann has a cat.

The cat ran at the rat.

at the ran has
Ann
h th s

LESSON III.

Năt hăt făñ căñ
f

Nat hat fan can
f



a fan a hat

Ann and Nat.

Ann has a fan.

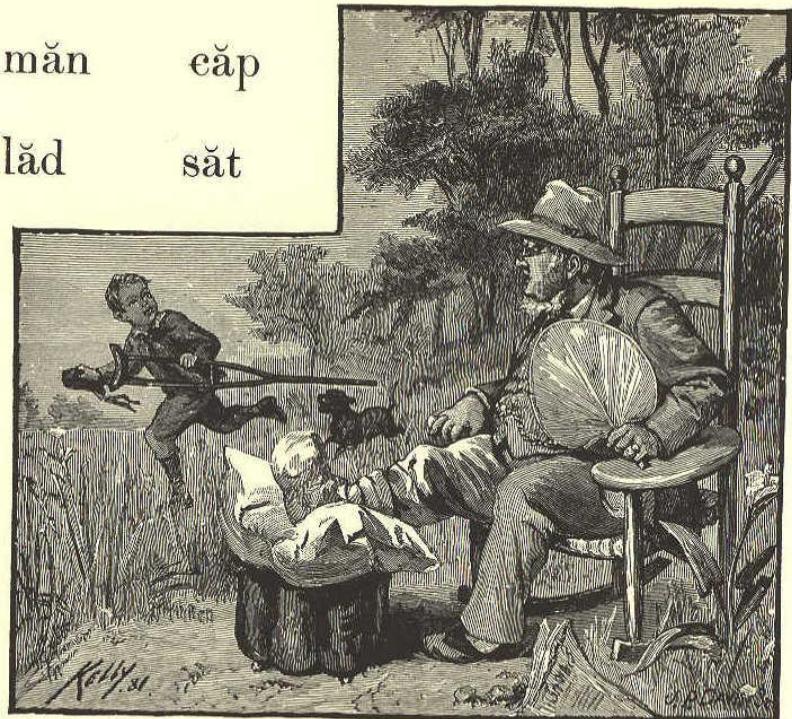
Nat has a hat.

Ann can fan Nat.

LESSON IV.

măń eăp

lăd săt



1 m p s

a cap the lad

A man and a lad.

The man sat; the lad ran.

The man has a hat.

The lad has a cap.

man cap

lad sat

1 m p s

LESSON V.-REVIEW.

The cat and the rat ran.

Ann sat, and Nat ran.

A rat ran at Nat.

Can Ann fan the lad?

The man and the lad.

The man has a cap.

The lad has a fan.

Has Ann a hat?

Ann has a hat and a fan.

a at rat sat
can cap lad and
The cat ran. Ann ran
The man has a hat.

a at rat sat
can cap lad and
The cat ran. Ann ran.
The man has a hat.

LESSON VI.



dōg

Răb

făt

Năt's

o

b

ḡ

Nat's cap

a fat dog

Has the lad a dog?

The lad has a fat dog.

The dog has Nat's cap.

Nat and Rab ran.

Rab ran at a cat.

dog

Rab

fat

Nat's

o b g

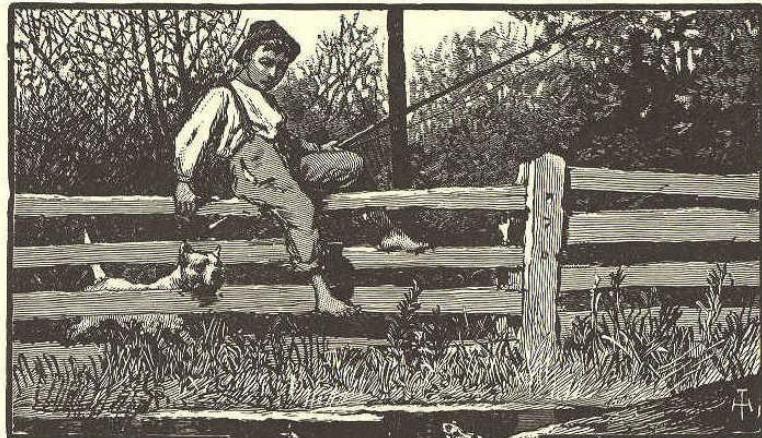
LESSON VII.

sēe

sēes

frōḡ

see sees frog



ōn

ē

lōḡ

on log
e

a log the frog

See the frog on a log.

Rab sees the frog.

Can the frog see Rab?

The frog can see the dog.

Rab ran at the frog.

LESSON VIII.



it	stănd	Ann's
is	lämp	măt
	í	

a mat the stand

See the lamp! It is on a mat.

The mat is on the stand.

The lamp is Nat's, and the mat is Ann's.

it	stand	Ann's
is	lamp	mat
	i	

LESSON IX.

Tōm	năg	nōt
hĭm	eătch	hē
hĭs	ch	

Tom	nag	not
him	catch	he
his	ch	



See the nag! It is Tom's nag.

Can Tom catch his nag?

He can not catch him.

The dog ran at the nag, and the nag ran.

LESSON X.-REVIEW.

Tom's nag is fat; his dog is not fat.

Nat is on Tom's nag.

Nat's dog, Rab, can not catch the rat.

See the frog on the log.

A lad sees the frog.

The lad can not catch it.

A cat is on the mat; the cat sees a rat.

Ann's fan is on the stand.

The man has a lamp.

A dog ran at the man.

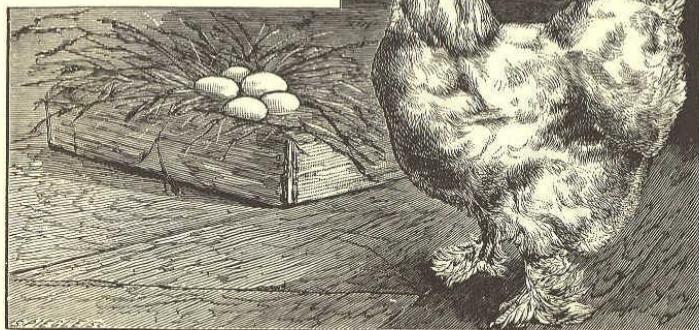
Ann sat on a log.

Tom sees Nat's dog.
A fat frog is on the log.
Can not Rab catch it?

Tom sees Nat's dog.
A fat frog is on the log.
Can not Rab catch it?

LESSON XI

něst this ěggs shē
 ĩn ĝet
 bōx hěn



ě x sh

the box a nest

This is a fat hen.

The hen has a nest in the box.

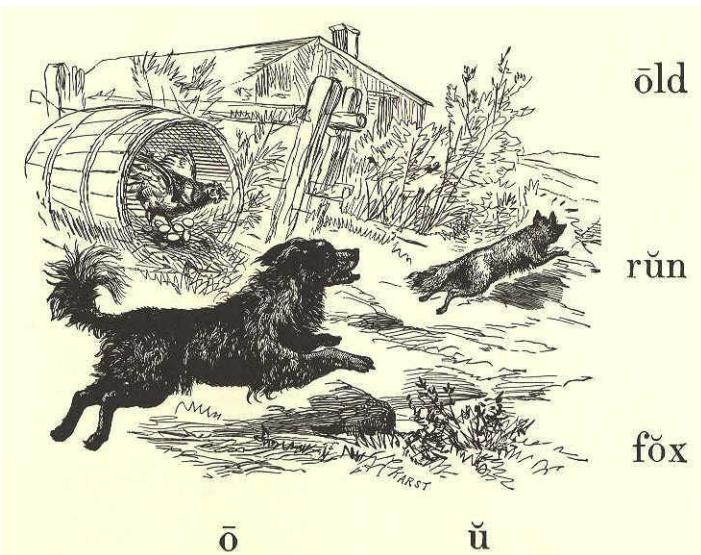
She has eggs in the nest.

A cat sees the nest, and can get the eggs.

nest this eggs she
 in get
 box hen

e x sh

LESSON XII.



old
run
fox
o u

Can this old fox catch the hen?

The fox can catch the hen, and get the eggs in
the nest.

Run, Rab, and catch the fox.

This nest has eggs in it.

This nest has eggs in it.

LESSON XIII.

pōnd dūcks thēm fēed

Něll

I

bȳ

will

i

y

ck

w



pond ducks them feed

Nell

I

by

will

i

y

ch

w

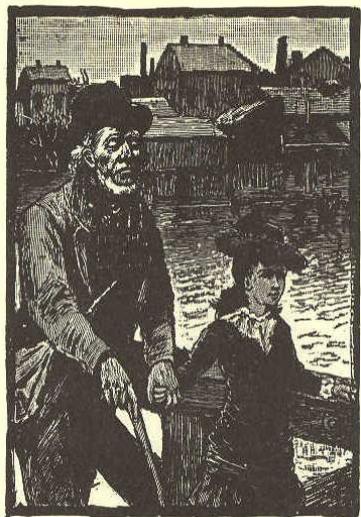
Nell is by the pond.

I see ducks on the pond.

Nell sees the ducks, and will feed them.

She can not get the ducks.

LESSON XIV.



hōld\$ to

blind Mā'rÿ

hănd kīnd

ā o k y

holds to

blind Mary

hand kind

a o k y

This old man can not see.

He is blind.

Mary holds him by the hand.

She is kind to the old blind man.

LESSON XV.-REVIEW.

I see ducks on the pond; Tom will feed them.

Tom is blind; he holds a box in his hand.

Nell is kind to him.

This old hen has a nest.

Mary will run and get the eggs.

LESSON XVI.

Sūe dōll drěss new hēr

lět

ẽ

ū

ew



Sue doll dress new her

let

e

u

ew

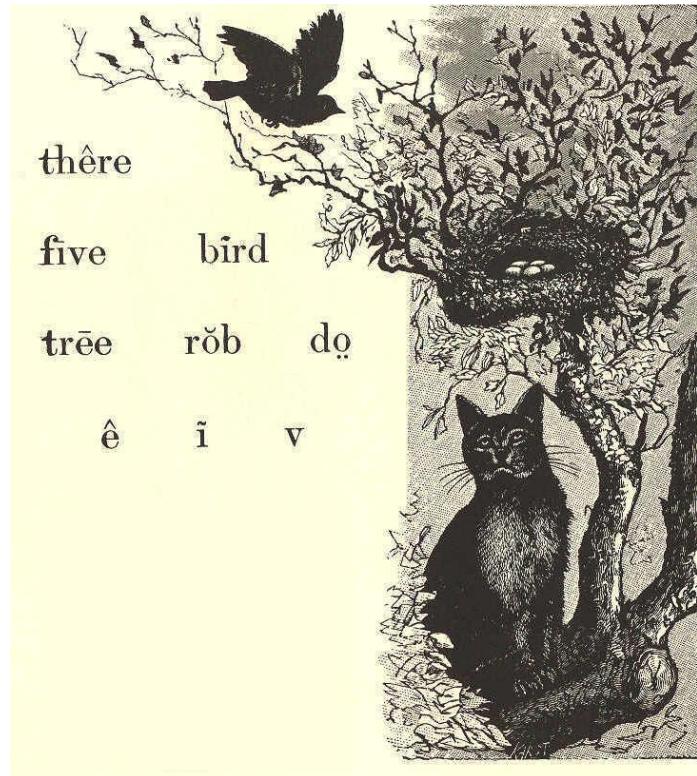
Sue has a doll.

It has a new dress.

She will let Ann hold the doll in her hands,
and Ann will fan it.

Sue is kind to Ann.

LESSON XVII.



there

five bird

tree rob do

e i v

A bird is in the tree. It has a nest there.
The nest has five eggs in it.

Do not rob the nest.

Will the bird let the cat get her five eggs?

LESSON XVIII.

eāge

pět

sīng

līves

sō

lōves



ō

g

ng

cage

o

pet

sing

g

lives

so

loves

ng

This is a pet bird.

It lives in a new cage.

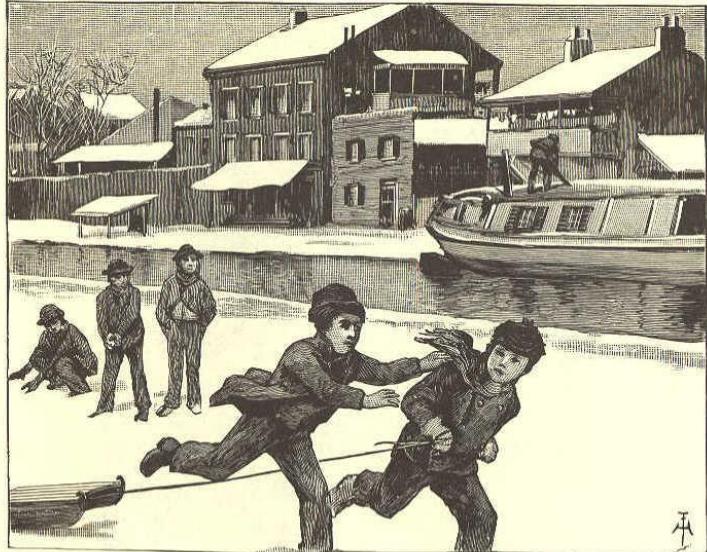
It will stand on Sue's hand, and sing.

Sue loves her pet bird.

So do I love it.

LESSON XIX.

äre you yĕs făst tōo
 like boys öf (ōv) plāy



å ä y oy

are you yes fast too
 like boys of (ov) play

a a y oy

Do you see the boys at play?

Yes, I see them; there are five of them.

Tom is too fat to run fast.

Nat can catch him.

I like to see boys play.

LESSON XX.-REVIEW.

Sue has a doll and a pet bird.

Her doll has a new dress and a cap.

Sue loves Mary, and will let her hold
the doll.

The pet bird lives in a cage. Sue and
Mary will stand by the cage, and the bird
will sing.

There are birds in the tree by the pond.
Can you see them?

Yes; there are five of them in a nest.

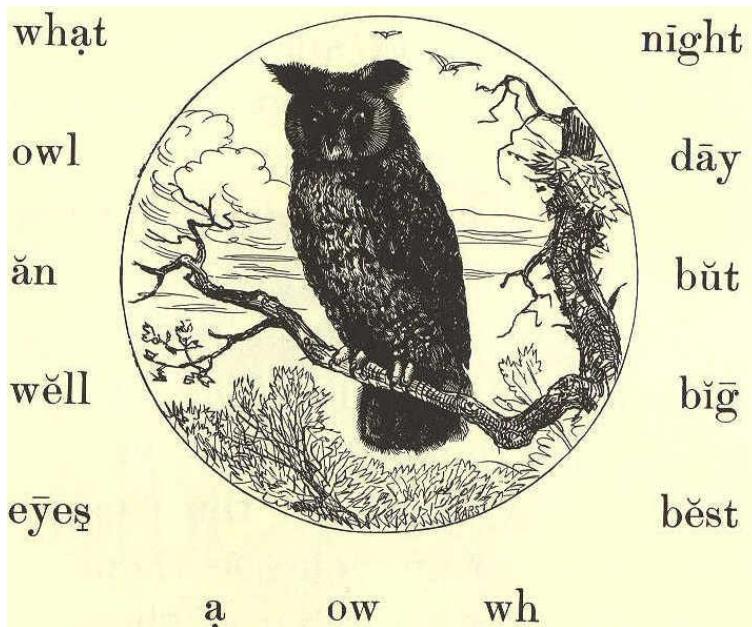
Tom will not rob a bird's nest. He is too
kind to do so.

*Nell will feed the ducks.
Sue has a new dress.*

Nell will feed the ducks.

Sue has a new dress.

LESSON XXI.



what	night
owl	dāy
an	bút
well	bīg
eyes	běst
a ow wh	

What bird is this? It is an owl.

What big eyes it has!

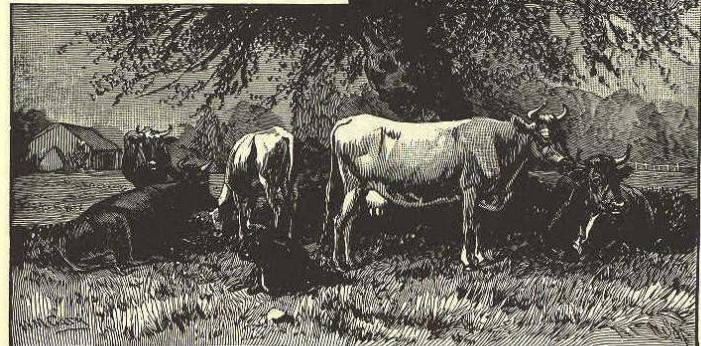
Yes, but it can not see well by day.

The owl can see best at night.

Nat Pond has a pet owl.

LESSON XXII.

gråss they cōme öff bärn
 shāde hōt
 cōws our



e ou

grass they come off barn
 shade hot
 cows out

e ou

The day is hot.

The cows are in the shade of the big tree.

They feed on the new grass.

Our cows do not run off.

At night they come to the barn.

LESSON XXIII.

sōon

sūn

něck

sět



way běll one (wǔn) thēir
 oo

soon sun

neck set

way bell one (wun) their
 oo

The sun will soon set.

The cows are on their way to the barn.

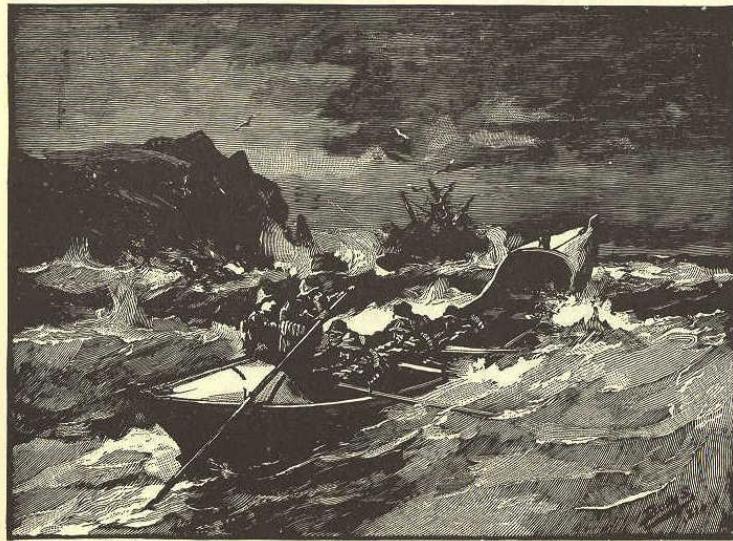
One old cow has a bell on her neck. She sees
our dog, but she will not run.

Our dog is kind to the cows.

LESSON XXIV.

brāve	if	ship	bōat
drown	měn	rōck	sāve

brave	if	ship	boat
drown	men	rock	save



The ship has run on a rock.

Five men are on the ship.

If the boat can not get to them, they will
drown.

The boat has brave men in it. They will save
the five men.

LESSON XXV.--REVIEW.

Come, boys, and feed the cows. The sun has set,
and they are at the barn.

Sue has a bell on the neck of her pet cat.

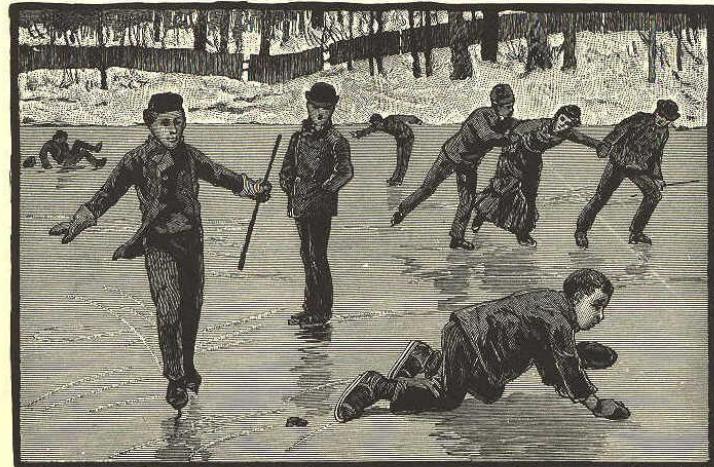
One hot day Ann and Nell sat on the grass in
the shade of a big tree. They like to rock their
dolls, and sing to them.

The brave men in our boat are on their way to
the ship. They will save the men in the ship, if
they can. They will not let them drown.

What bird has big eyes? The owl. Can an owl
see at night? Yes, an owl can see best at night.

LESSON XXVI.

fall īce skātes erȳ
with had stōne did



a c sk

fall ice skates cry
with had stone did

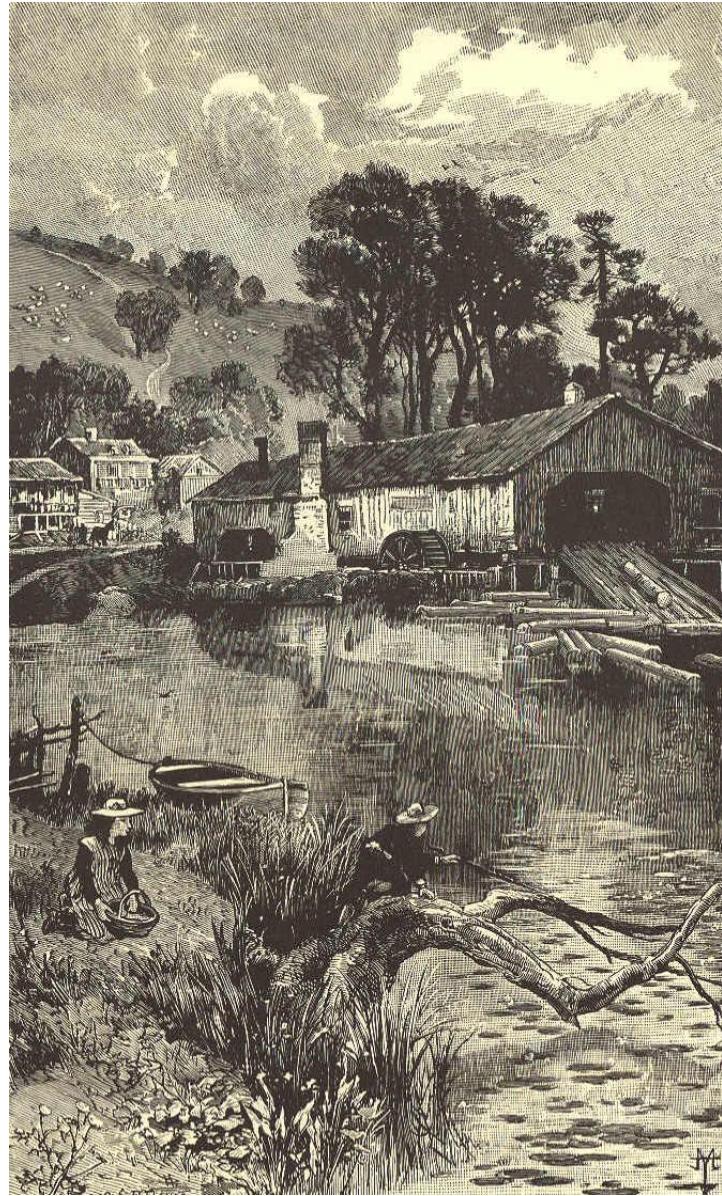
a c sk

The boys are on the ice with their skates.

There is a stone on the ice.

One boy did not see it, and has had a fall.

But he is a brave boy, and will not cry.



LESSON XXVII.

lōok	gō	Jōhn
hēre	all	whēel
mill	hăve	round
oo	j	

look	go	John
here	all	wheel
mill	have	round
oo	j	

Look! there are John and Sue by the mill
pond.

They like to see the big wheel go round.

They have come to play on the logs and in
the boat.

John and Sue will play here all day.

The cows like grass.
They stand in the shade.

The cows like grass.

They stand in the shade.

LESSON XXVIII.

ôr Jāne gîrls flōor
 rōll sōme whîch blâck
 ^
 o

or	Jane	girls	floor
roll	some	which	black
			o

Here are some girls with skates; but they are
not on the ice.

Their skates roll on the floor. Which way do
you like to skate,—on the ice, or on the floor?

The girl with the new black dress is Jane Bell.



LESSON XXIX.

fôr out äş how trÿ
 hôrse should hûrt eärs bë



ö nō û

Look out for the cars!

How fast they come!

No horse can go as fast as the cars.

I will not try to catch them, for I should
 fall and be hurt.

See the horse look at the cars.

Will he not run?

for out as how try
 horse should hurt ears be

o no u

LESSON XXX.-REVIEW.

There is ice on the pond, and the mill
wheel can not go round.

The boys are all out on the ice with their
skates.

I will let you and Tom try to skate; but
do not fall, for you will be hurt.

Look! here come the cars.

John and Nat try to skate as fast as the
cars go, but they call not. John has had a
fall.

The girls are not on the pond; but some
of them have skates which roll on the floor.

How fast the cars go!
Can you see them?

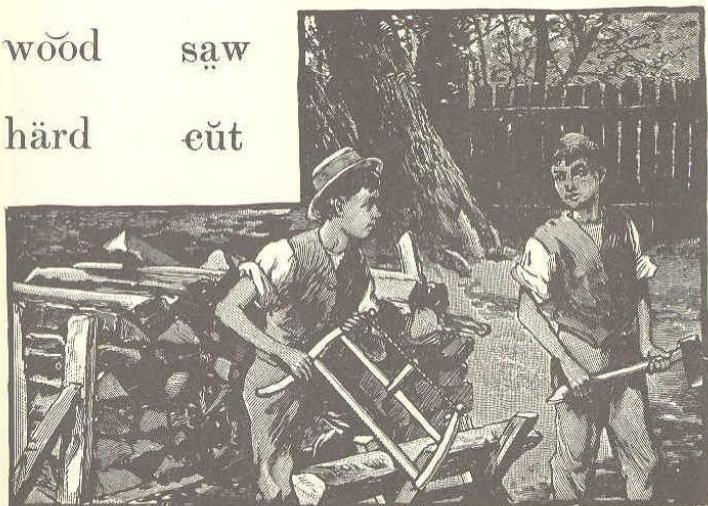
How fast the cars go!
Can you see them?

LESSON XXXI.

wōrk āx pīle Nēd thīnk

wōod sāw

härd eūt



ō th n

work	ax	pile	Ned	think
wood	saw			
hard	cut			

o th n

Ned and John are hard at work. John has a saw, and Ned has an ax.

They will try to cut all of the wood which you see in the pile.

Do you think they can do this in one day?

LESSON XXXII.

noise air hear

gone May walk

cool two

â oi



noise air hear

gone May walk

cool two

a oi

Two girls have gone out for a walk.

It is May, and the air is cool. They hear
the birds sing in the trees, and they hear the
noise of the frogs in the pond.

They see men at work and boys at play.

LESSON XXXIII.

pull eärt gōats Bëss
üp ride hill
 u



pull	cart	goats	Bess
up	ride	hill	
u			

Bess has a cart and two goats.

She likes to ride in her cart.

See how the goats pull!

Bess is so big, I think she should walk up the
hill.

The goats love Bess, for she feeds them, and
is kind to them.

LESSON XXXIV,

blāze püt yět house

fire

roof

call

ring

we

z



blaze put yet house

fire

roof

call

ring

we

z

This house is on fire.

Look! the roof is in a blaze.

Run, boys, and ring the bell. Call some men to
put out the fire.

We may yet save the house, if we work hard.

LESSON XXXV.-REVIEW.

Bess, do you hear a noise?

Yes, Tom; what is it?

It is the mill by our house; logs are cut there.

How do they cut the logs, Tom,-with an ax?

Not with an ax, Bess; it is too hard work; they
cut them with a saw.

May we not go and see the mill at work, Tom?

Yes, I think so. The air is cool, and we can
walk in the shade. We should go soon, Bess, or
the pile of wood will be gone.

Our two goats and the cart are here, Tom; we
can ride to the mill. It is not up hill, and the goats
can pull us fast.

LESSON XXXVI.

Miss wants w^ould

tells



rule

kēep

gōod

thāt

ēach

u

Miss wants would tells

rule

keep

good

that

each

u

The girls and boys all love Miss May; she is so kind to them.

Miss May tells them there is a rule that she wants them to keep. It is, "Do to each one as you would like each one to do to you."

This is a good rule, and all boys and girls
should keep it.

LESSON XXXVII.

sehōol

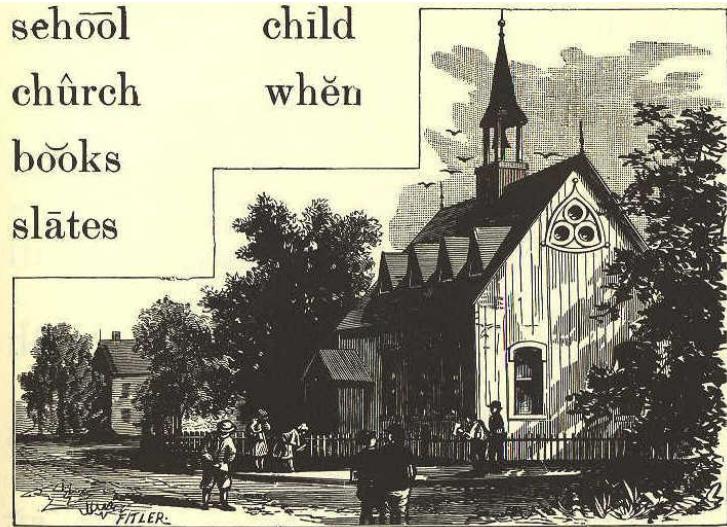
child

chûrch

whĕn

books

slātes



school

church

books

skates

child

when

What kind of house is this?

Do you think it is a schoolhouse, or a church?

It looks like a church, but I think it is a
schoolhouse.

I see the boys and girls with their books and
slates.

When the bell rings, they will go in.

A good child likes to go to school.

LESSON XXXVIII.

quāil



sēen

mē

ēat

knōw

qu

qučk

kīll

ōh

fīrst

Hěn'rȳ

quail

seen

me

eat

know

quick

kill

oh

first

Henry

qu

"John! come here. Be quick, and tell me what kind of bird this is."

"Do you not know, Henry?"

"Oh, no! what is it?" "It is a quail."

"It is the first quail I have seen. Is it good to eat?"

"Yes; but I should not like to kill it."

LESSON XXXIX.

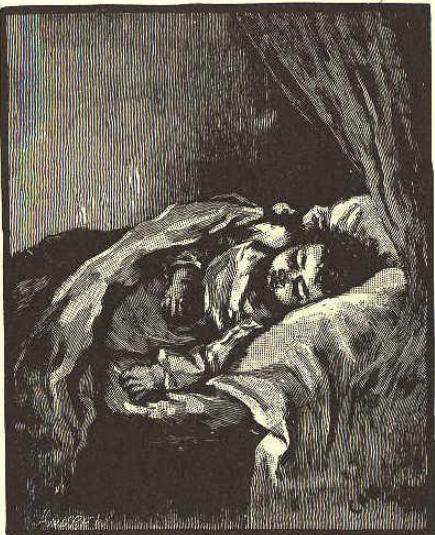
Kāte dēar

nāme blūe

bā'bȳ nēar

shūt erib

sit



Kate dear

name blue

baby near

shut crib

sit

Is not this a dear baby in the crib?

Her name is Kate, and she has big, blue eyes.
You can not see her eyes, for they are shut.

Kate is a good baby; but she will cry if she is
hurt, or if she is not well.

Bess likes to sit near the baby, and to rock her
in the crib.

LESSON XL.-REVIEW.

Henry Black and Ned Bell live near our
house. They go to school, and I see them go by
each day with their books and slates.

Miss May tells the girls and boys that they
should be at the schoolhouse when the bell rings.
So Henry walks fast, and is first at school. He is
a good boy,

and wants to keep the rule of the school.

Ned is not a good boy. I do not think he likes to go to school or to church.

I saw him try to kill a quail with a stone. The quail is too quick a bird for that, and Ned did not hurt it; but I know that a good child would not try to kill a bird.

There is a baby at Ned's house. Her name is Kate. Ned is not a good boy, but he loves Kate, and I do not think he would hurt her.

There is a baby at Ned's house. Her name is Kate. Ned is not a good boy, but he loves Kate, and I do not think he would hurt her.

LESSON XLI.

light	fär	íts	hīgh
whêre	seā	tall	wẽre

light	far	its	high
where	sea	tall	were

The tall house which you see on that high rock is a lighthouse. At night its light is seen far out at sea, and the men on ships can tell where to go.

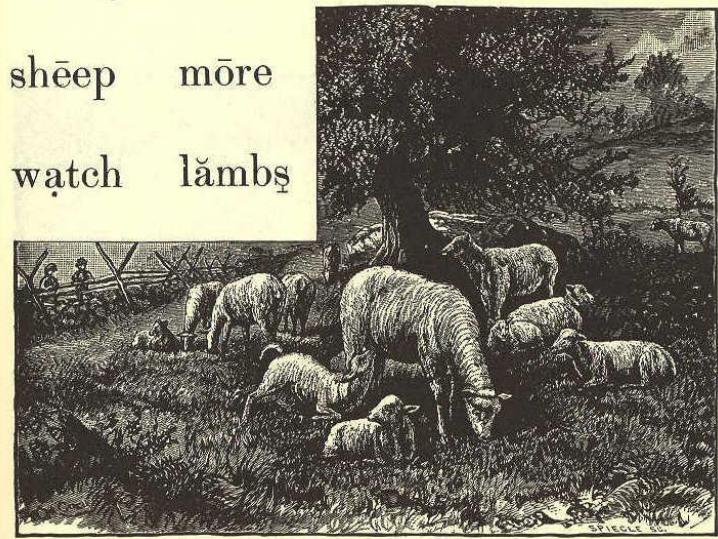
If it were not for this, they would run on the rocks.

How would you like to live in a lighthouse?



LESSON XLII.

wrōng wōlf ūs mȳ tōok
 shēep mōre
 wātch lāmbs



wrong	wolf	us	my	took
sheep	more			
watch	lambs			

Let us watch the sheep as they feed on the hills. They like to eat the new grass.

Do you see my two lambs? I had two more; but an old wolf took them one night.

I love my pet lambs. It would be wrong to hurt them.

LESSON XLIII.

läugh snōw hēad fūn
 mouth māde pipe



gh (as f)

laugh snow head fun
 mouth made pipe

gh (as f)

The boys have made a big snow man.

They have put a tall hat on his head, and
 an old pipe in his mouth.

Hear them laugh as they play!

It is good fun for the boys.

They would like to have it snow all day
 and all night.

LESSON XLIV,

swēets mēan

plēaše bēe

būzz vīne

eould

said (sēd)

oncē (wūns)



sweets mean

please bee

buzz vine

could

said (sed)

once (wuns)

"Buzz! buzz!" a bee said to Mary.

"What do you mean?" said Mary. "Please tell
me once more."

"Buzz! buzz! buzz!" but Mary could not tell
its wants.

I think it said, "Please let me get some sweets
in this vine."

LESSON XLV.-REVIEW.

One day Nat and I sat on the high hill by the sea, where the tall lighthouse stands. We could look far out, and could see the ships at sea.

As we sat there, we saw a man near by, with some sheep and lambs. The man had a pipe in his mouth. He sat with us, and let the sheep eat the grass.

What fun it is to see lambs play! It made us laugh to see them.

The man said that once, when the sheep and lambs were out in the snow, an old wolf took one of the lambs, and ran off with it.

I think that men should watch their sheep, so that a wolf can not catch them.

LESSON XLVI.

while	might	time	things
done	right	your	halves

Work while you work,
Play while you play;
One thing each time,
That is the way.

All that you do,
Do with your might;
Things done by halves.
Are not done right.

while	might	time	things
done	right	your	halves

Work while you work,
Play while you play,
One thing each time,
That is the way.

All that you do,
Do with your might,
Things done by halves,
Are not done right.

LESSON XLVII.



sprāng wāṣ thānk gōt

wěnt

fīsh

fēll

sāfe

ärmş

sprang was thank got

went

fish

fell

safe

arms

One day John went to the pond to fish. His
dog, Watch, went with him.

John sat on a log for a time, but did not catch a
fish.

As he got up to go, he fell off the log.
Watch sprang in to save him. John put his arms
round the

dog's neck, and was soon safe on the log once more.

"Thank you, my brave old dog," said John to Watch.

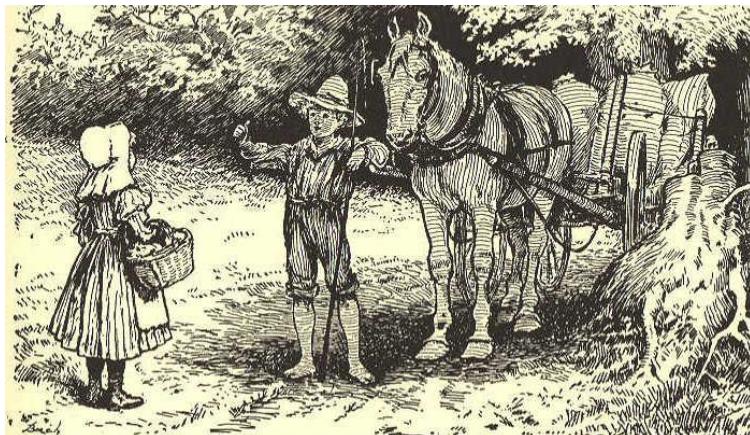
LESSON XLVIII.

Jāmes	åks	wärm	town
thēn	drīves	been (bēn)	shōw

James	asks	warm	town
then	drives	been(ben)	show

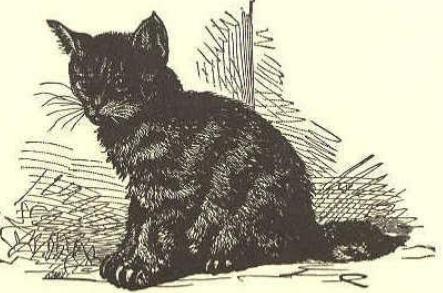
James has been to the mill.

The day is warm, and he lets his horse stand
in the shade.



A girl asks him to show her the way to the town. He tells her the way, and then drives on.

LESSON XLIX.

I'll	shē'll	dōn't
puss		pûr
păt		fûr
härm		dēeds

I'll	she'll	don't
puss		pur
pat		fur
harm		deeds

I love my dear puss,
Her fur is so warm;
And, if I don't hurt her,
She'll do me no harm.

I'll pat my dear puss,
And then she will pur,
And show me her thanks
For my kind deeds to her.

LESSON L.



now wrēathſ who quēen
woodſ shāll ērown

now wreaths who queen
woods shall crown

It is the first of May. The boys and girls
have gone to the woods to have a good time.
See them at their play.

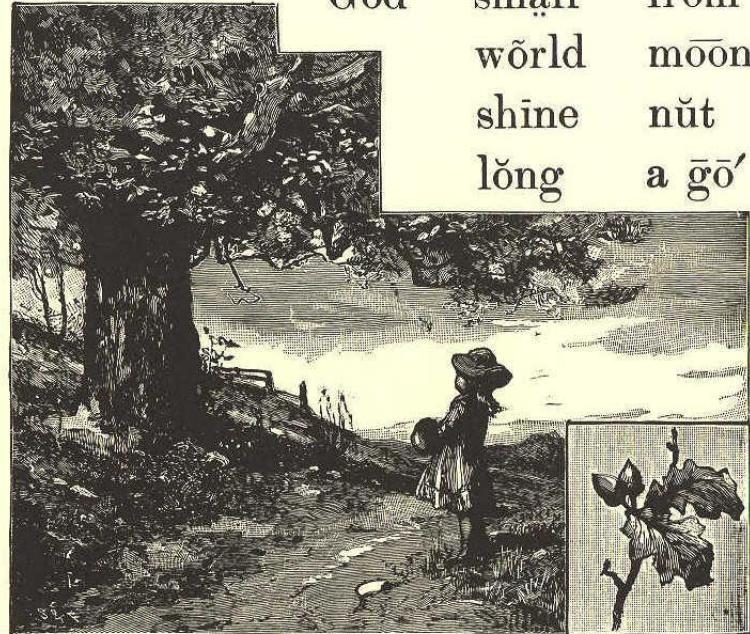
The girls have wreaths in their hands.

Now they will crown some one

Queen of the May. Who shall it be?

It should be the best girl, and that is Kate.

LESSON LI.



Gōd small frōm
wōrld mōōn
shīne nūt
lōng a gō'

God	small	from
world	moon	
shine	nut	
long	ago	

Do you see that tall tree?

Long ago it sprang up from a small nut.

Do you know who made it do so?

It was God, my child. God made the world
and all things in it. He made the sun to light the
day, and the moon to shine at night.

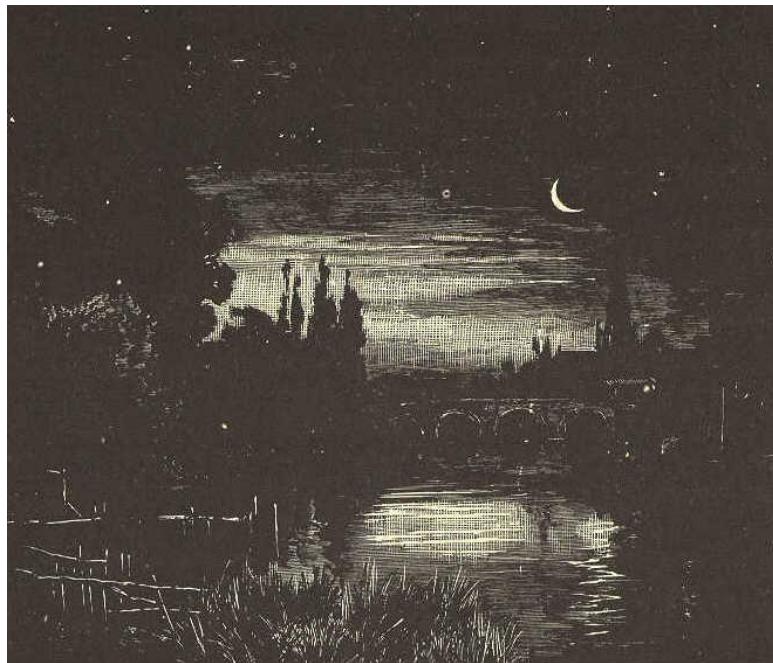
God shows that he loves us by all that he has
done for us. Should we not then love him?

LESSON LII.

Lôrd smile joys têar nîgh
môrn griefs wôes stârs sây

Lord smile joys tears nigh
morn griefs woes stars say

When the stars, at set of sun,
Watch you from on high;
When the light of morn has come,
Think the Lord is nigh.



All you do, and all you say,
He can see and hear;
When you work and when you play,
Think the Lord is near.

All your joys and griefs he knows,
Sees each smile and tear;
When to him you tell your woes,
Know the Lord will hear.

SLATE EXERCISES

n u n nun

u r n urn

s u n sun

c o w cow

s a w saw

n u n nun

u r n urn

s u n sun

c o w cow

s a w saw

r i m rim

c a t cat

l a d lad

b o x box

h e n hen

k i d kid

g u o quo

r i m rim

c a t cat

l a d lad

b o x box

h e n hen

k i d kid

p e n pen
j a r jar
e y e eye
g u n gun
v i z viz
i v y ivy
f a n fan

p e n	pen
j a r	jar
e y e	eye
g u n	gun
v i z	viz
i v y	ivy
f a n	fan

SCRIPT ALPHABET

A B C D E Z G
 H J F K L M N
 O P Q R S J U
 V W X Y Z
 a b c d e f g h i
 j k l m n o p q
 r s t u v w x y z

SCRIPT FIGURES

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0

A B C D E FG

H I J K L M N

O P Q R S Y U

V W X Y Z

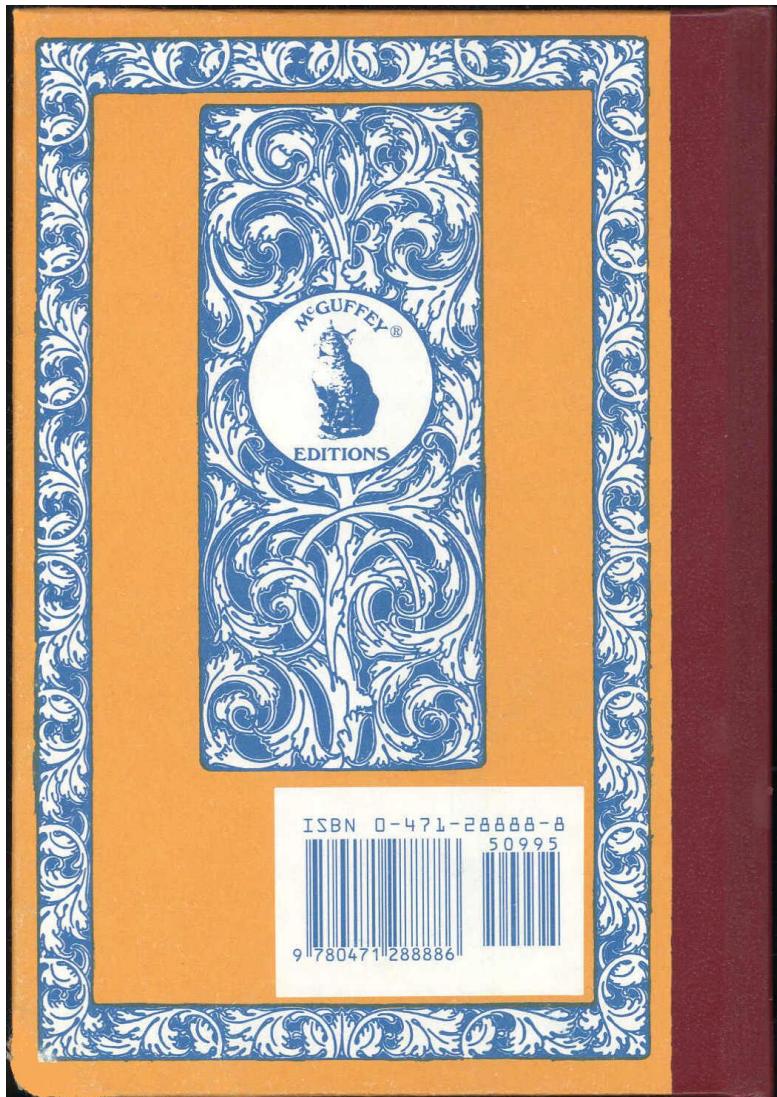
a b c d e f g h

i j k l m n o p q

r s t u v w x y z

SCRIPT FIGURES

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0



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