

**ELECTRIC EDUCATIONAL  
SERIES: MCGUFFEY'S  
FOURTH ECLECTIC READER**

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**WILLIAM HOLMES MCGUFFEY**

**ELECTRIC EDUCATIONAL  
SERIES: MCGUFFEY'S  
FOURTH ECLECTIC READER**



*ECLECTIC EDUCATIONAL SERIES.*

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M<sup>C</sup>GUFFEY'S

FOURTH

ECLECTIC READER.

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*REVISED EDITION.*

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## PREFACE.

IN revising the FOURTH READER, the aim has been—as it has with the other books of the Series—to preserve unimpaired all the essential characteristics of MCGUFFEY'S READERS. New articles have been substituted for old ones only where the advantage was manifest.

The book has been considerably enlarged, and has been liberally illustrated by the first artists of the country.

It can not be presumed that every pupil has at hand all the works of reference necessary for the proper preparation of each lesson; hence all the aids that seem requisite to this purpose have been given. Brief notices concerning the various authors represented have been inserted; the more difficult words have been defined, and their pronunciation has been indicated by diacritical marks; and short explanatory notes have been given wherever required for a full understanding of the text.

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## PUNCTUATION MARKS.

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1. The **Hyphen** (-) is used between syllables and between the parts of a compound word; as, No-ble, col-o-ny, and text-book, easy-chair.

2. The **Comma** (,), the **Semicolon** (;), and the **Colon** (:) denote grammatical divisions.

**NOTE.**—These marks do not indicate the comparative length of the pauses to be made where they occur.

3. The **Period** (.) is placed at the end of a sentence. It is also used after an abbreviation; as, God is love. Dr. Eben Goodwin.

4. The **Interrogation point** (?) denotes a question; as, Has he come? Who are you?

5. The **Exclamation point** (!) denotes strong feeling; as, Oh Absalom! my son! my son!

6. **Quotation marks** (“ ”) denote the words of another; as, God said, “Let there be light.”

7. The **Apostrophe** (') denotes that a letter or letters are left out; as, O'er, for over; 'tis, for it is.

It also denotes the possessive case; as, John's hat.

8. The **Curves** ( ) include what, if omitted, would not obscure the sense. The parenthesis, or words included by the curves, should be read in a low key, and with greater rapidity than the rest of the sentence.

9. **Brackets** [ ] include something intended to exemplify what goes before, or to supply some deficiency, or rectify some mistake.

10. A **Dash** (—) denotes a long or significant pause, or an abrupt change or transition in a sentence.