

**BLACK'S GRADED
READERS.
THIRD READER**

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Black's Graded Readers. Third Reader by Benj. N. Black

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BENJ. N. BLACK

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UNIV. OF
CALIFORNIA

THIRD READER

BY

BENJ. N. BLACK



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PREFACE.

Facility in the use of a good vocabulary is the most valuable acquirement in the early years of school life. Children learn the ordinary application of a large number of words very early in life, and these are the words they should learn to read fluently, before extending their vocabulary in the fields of literature and science.

By repeating the child's vocabulary in many different relations the common application of words is greatly extended, and thereby the child learns much while reading pleasing stories.

Almost all pieces of standard literature contain too many difficult words for pupils of a third reader grade. Of course, if fables and folk stories in adapted English are considered standard literature, then the third reader may contain an abundance.

The subjects of this book have a high moral tone, without being didactic; the children themselves being unwittingly the judges of character.

B. N. BLACK.

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SUGGESTIONS TO TEACHERS.

The following exercises are recommended for elocutionary drill. They should be studied after the pupils have read through, or nearly through, this reader. All the difficult words and phrases in any selection should be explained before the pupils are asked to read it.

This is a conversation between an artist and some people who were trying to find out his profession by roundabout questions. Mr. Stuart, the artist, said he sometimes dressed gentlemen's hair.

“ You are a hair-dresser, then ! ”

“ What, ” said he, “ do I look like a barber ? ”

“ I beg your pardon, sir, but I inferred it from what you said. If I mistook you, may I take the liberty to ask what you are, then ? ”

“ Why, I sometimes brush a gentleman's coat or hat, and sometimes adjust a cravat. ”

“ Oh, you are a valet, then, to some nobleman ? ”

“ A valet! indeed, sir, I am not. I am not a servant.

“ To be sure, I make coats and waistcoats for gentlemen.”

“ Oh, you are a tailor ? ”

“ A tailor! do I look like a tailor? I assure you, I never handled a goose other than a roasted one.”

“ What are you, then ? ” said one.

“ I'll tell you,” said Stuart. “ Be assured, all I have said is strictly true. I dress hair, brush hats and coats, adjust a cravat, and make coats, waistcoats, and breeches, and likewise boots and shoes, at your service.”

“ Oh, ho! a boot and shoe maker after all! ”

“ Guess again, gentlemen. I never handled boot or shoe, but for my own feet and legs; yet all I have told you is true.”

“ We may as well give up guessing,” said they all.

“ Well, then, I will tell you, upon my word of honor, I get my bread by making faces.” (Here he screwed his face into such horrible shapes that it set the whole company in a roar. Every one was sure now that he was an actor.)

“ You are an actor! ” said several at the same time.