

**A TEACHER'S
HAND-BOOK OF
MORAL LESSONS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649741052

A Teacher's Hand-Book of Moral Lessons by A. J. Waldegrave

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A. J. WALDEGRAVE

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A TEACHER'S HAND-BOOK OF MORAL LESSONS

By A. J. WALDEGRAVE.

Crown 8vo., Cloth, 1s. 6d. net.

SOME PRESS NOTICES.

The *Sunday School Chronicle* (organ of the Sunday School Union):—"This *Teacher's Hand-Book of Moral Lessons* ought to prove a boon to both teachers and taught. Here the teacher may find models of lessons on such great themes as habits, manners, truthfulness, patriotism, justice. They are all, without exception, treated in such a bright and interesting way, and are so frequently illustrated by pithy anecdote or telling illustration, that he will be a poor teacher who will not gain guidance, and they must be dull pupils who will not profit by them. They might with advantage be studied by Sunday-school teachers. The appendix (*A Graded Syllabus of Moral Instruction for Elementary Schools, Infants and Standards 1-7*), with subjects and points classified, arranged, and variously adapted to all the different standards, enhances the worth of a hand-book that cannot be too highly praised."

The *Westminster Review*:—"It requires no little talent to make such lessons interesting, but we can heartily recommend this collection to the attention of teachers."

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The *Clarion*:—"This little book is packed full of pleasure. No class of children could fail to be interested by these lessons. Vivified by the imagination and tact of an enthusiastic teacher, there can be no doubt of their good effect. . . . The full adoption of the methods suggested by the Moral Instruction League would work a revolution in the schools which would have tremendous results in a generation, and no reasonable person could object to their introduction, or fail to perceive their superiority over the present system."

The *New Age*:—"We cordially recommend it to teachers in both day and Sunday schools."

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The *Garden City Press*:—"By anecdote, short biography or simple story, the child is first interested, then led to admire the truly noble and good. The book contains nothing to offend any particular sect, and many lessons are found which even adults would do well to master. Although intended for a teacher's use, all parents should find this of interest."

The *Dundee Advertiser*:—"To give moral lessons to the children at Elementary schools is very desirable, provided the lessons can be made interesting. How to make them so is well shown in *A Teacher's Hand-Book of Moral Lessons*. Various teachers have contributed to the making of the book, which seems calculated to serve a very useful purpose."

The *Labour Leader*:—"No pains have been spared to make the book useful. The writer does not claim to have covered the whole ground of moral instruction, he seeks rather to make suggestions which could be developed according to the individuality of the teacher. The lessons have been carefully thought out, and deal with such subjects as Manners, Habits, Patriotism, Justice, Truthfulness, Work, etc."

LONDON: SWAN SONNENSCHN & CO., LIM.

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ARRANGED BY
A. J. WALDEGRAVE
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*(Issued for the Moral Instruction League, 19 Buckingham Street,
Strand, W.C.)*

SECOND



EDITION

LONDON
SWAN SONNENSCHN & CO., LIM.
HIGH STREET, BLOOMSBURY, W.C.

1905



LC 268
W3

GENERAL

FIRST EDITION, *October 1904.*

SECOND EDITION, *March 1905.*

PREFACE

THIS book has been written to illustrate the lessons outlined for Standard V. in the "Graduated Syllabus of Moral Instruction for Elementary Schools,"¹ issued by the Moral Instruction League, and is largely based on Notes of Lessons furnished by various teachers on forms supplied for the purpose by the League; indeed, one or two of the lessons are practically only transcripts of such Notes. Although specially arranged for one standard, it is hoped that, pending the issue of further volumes, the book will be found of general usefulness.

An endeavour has been made to indicate how Moral Lessons may be so given as to be, above all, *interesting*. It cannot be too clearly recognised that positive harm will be done if morality becomes associated in the mind of the child with half-hours of dull and disagreeable maxim-grinding. The teacher can scarcely hope that his lessons will be sufficiently vivid and attractive if he follows the book slavishly, and he will understand that the plain "Ask this" or "Say that" (sometimes, perhaps, sounding rather peremptory) is used for the sake of brevity, and is often simply meant to suggest

¹ See Appendix.

lines on which he may accumulate and adapt material for himself.

It is perhaps necessary to say that it is not expected that Moral Lessons will constitute the whole moral training given in the school. Far from it! Their function is to provide an opportunity of focussing the instruction in matters of conduct which is constantly being called forth by the events of the school-day. Moral Lessons without an ethical atmosphere and discipline in the school would be worse than useless. On the other hand, discipline misses its aim if, under its control, the power of intelligent self-government, and the idea of devotion to the social good, are not developed.

Considerable use has been made of Mr. F. J. Gould's "Children's Book of Moral Lessons," 1st, 2nd, and 3rd series (Watts & Co.), which contains a most valuable store of illustrative material. Mention should also be made of the help obtained from Mr. F. W. Hackwood's "Notes of Lessons on Moral Subjects" (Nelson & Sons), Mr. H. H. Quilter's "Onward and Upward" (Swan Sonnenschein & Co.), and Mr. Walter L. Sheldon's "Lessons in the Study of Habits" (W. M. Welch & Co., Chicago).

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