

**STORY PLAYS OLD
AND NEW.
BOOK TWO**

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Story Plays Old and New. Book Two by Alice Sumner Varney

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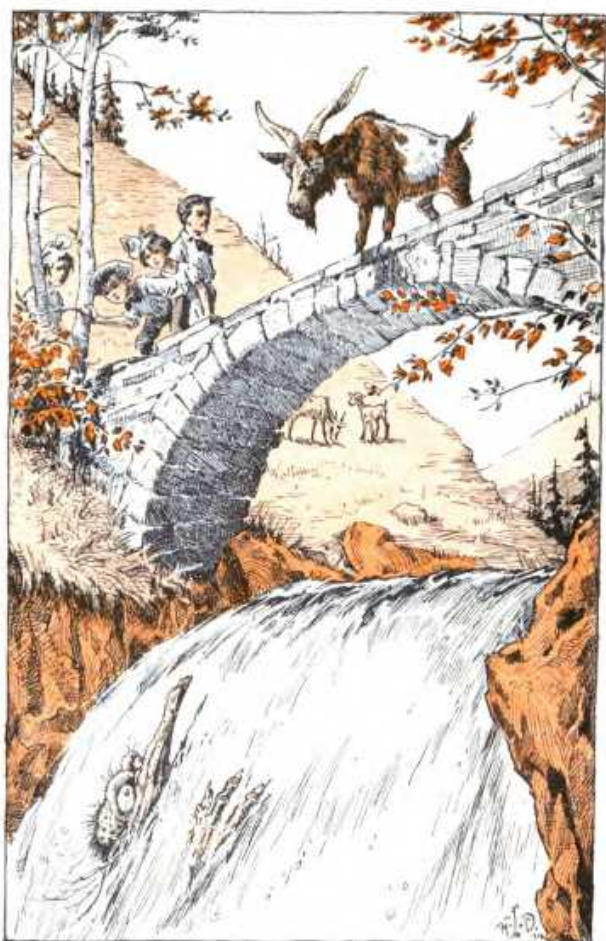
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ALICE SUMNER VARNEY

**STORY PLAYS OLD
AND NEW.
BOOK TWO**



THE THREE GOATS NAMED BRUSE (2)

STORY PLAYS OLD AND NEW

BOOK TWO

BY

ALICE SUMNER VARNEY

FORMERLY TEACHER IN NEWTON (MASS.) PUBLIC SCHOOLS



AMERICAN BOOK COMPANY

NEW YORK

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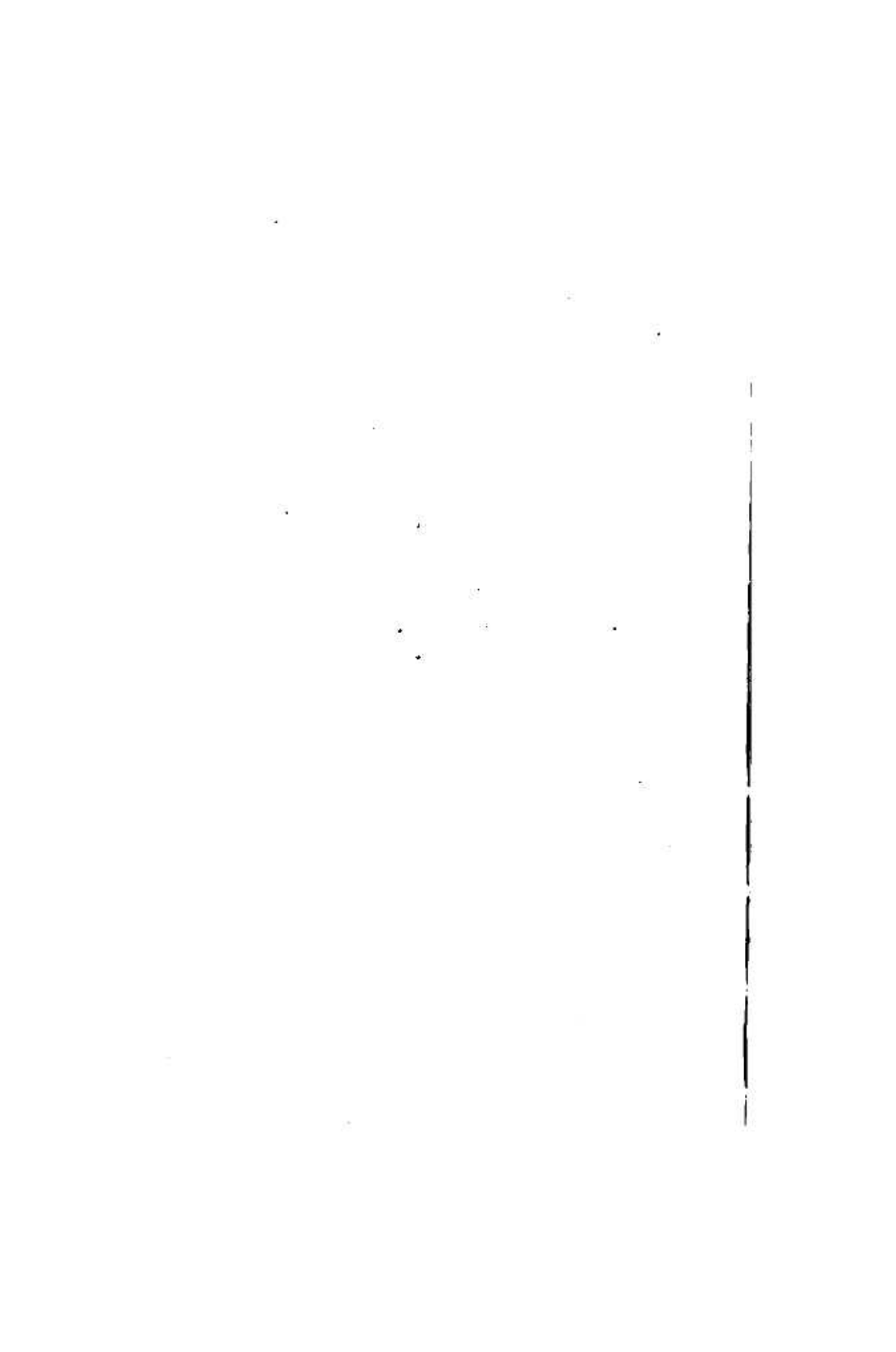
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VARNEY'S STORY PLAYS, BOOK TWO.

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THE UNFINISHED LESSON

TIME: *Morning.*

PLACE: *At the edge of a wood bordering a meadow.*

MAGPIE. THRUSH. BLACKBIRD. OWL. SPARROW.
ROBIN. STARLING. WOODPECKER. CRANE. DOVE.

Thrush Come, all of you, and see what Magpie is doing.

Robin Oh, I know what she is doing, she's making a nest.

Sparrow Yes, of course she is.

Owl I wish the sun were not so bright; I would like to see exactly what she is about.

Starling Stand over here by me.

Owl There's just as much sunshine where you are.

Crane Stand in the shadow I make, then you may be able to see better.

Owl I can see a little. Thank you!

Woodpecker I don't think much of that for a nest.

Maggie How would you make a nest ?

Woodpecker I would first cut a hole in the trunk of a tree. Then I would hollow a place out inside. That's what I'm going to do as soon as I can find a tree that suits me.

Thrush I see just how you do it, Maggie. All one needs to make a nest is some mud. I know a place in the meadow where that is to be found. I am going to it right away. My nest will be ready very soon.

Maggie Thrush ! Thrush ! Dear me, she doesn't hear me. A nest made of mud may satisfy her ; it wouldn't me.

Sparrow Is mud all she will use to make her nest ?

Maggie Oh, she may line it with dried grass or a few dead leaves.

Sparrow How funny. I should want a better nest than that.

Maggie If you watch me, you will see how to make a better nest. A nest that will be good enough for any bird. When you have made the mud into a nice round cake, then lay some slender twigs across it, so.

Blackbird I declare, that is a fine nest, and