

# **THE PRACTICAL SPELLER**

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The Practical Speller by B. K. Benson

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**B. K. BENSON**

**THE PRACTICAL  
SPELLER**



**Five Hundred Spelling-Lists**

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THE  
PRACTICAL SPELLER

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*FIRST BOOK*

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EDITED FOR THE AUTHOR

BY

J. W. REDWAY

BOSTON, U.S.A.

D. C. HEATH & CO., PUBLISHERS

1897

## PREFACE

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THIS book has the following distinctive features: —

1. Little space is given to sentences.
2. The lessons are not distinguished as oral and written exercises.

3. The arrangement is such that a word is not a key to the spelling of the succeeding word: for instance, the words that contain *ei*, *ie*, *ea*, etc., are so irregularly grouped that the pupil must acquire each word; this arrangement stimulates attention, promotes studiousness, and, while seemingly increasing present difficulty, adds rapidly to the pupil's powers not only to acquire but also to retain the words.

4. In the Reviews the most difficult words are repeated frequently and in varied combinations; the word *seize*, for example, occurs in seven lessons.

Successful teaching of the lessons requires: —

1. That the teacher take the place of a dictionary until the pupil has learned how to use it. That the script sentences in the book are so few suggests what the book

at once admits, namely, the greater ability of the teacher, in any exigency of a recitation, to make a sentence (the simpler the better) to illustrate the use of a word. The teacher should pronounce the words, and use them in sentences familiar to the pupils.

2. That, at the close of a recitation, the teacher give help upon the next lesson; pupils should be led to know the meaning or use of the words whose orthography they are expected to retain.

3. That the class exercise be a combination of written and oral spelling, and that each pupil learn every word.

*Do your best — your level best —  
And do it every day ;  
Little boys and little girls,  
That is the wisest way.  
No matter what you try to do,  
At home or at your school,  
Always do your level best —  
That is a golden rule.*

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## THE PRACTICAL SPELLER

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### FIRST BOOK

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#### LESSON 1

I have a pen. I say "I have a pen."  
I did not say "I have a pin".

be	day	hay
bed	had	did
may	pen	say
bad	pin	no
have	not	but



## LESSON 2

Come on Tom! Let us go and play ball with Ned in his yard. He told me to get you.

he	you	go
has	can	tell
the	play	Tom
bat	in	to
and	our	come
ball	yard	too

## LESSON 3

Let the new doll sit up. She must not sleep now.

now	take	let
they	your	her
are	new	sit
here	doll	up

## LESSON 4

I can spell jug and box and keg. I  
can spell all of them.

man	old	bag
men	good	box
has	bad	jug
have	red	keg
was	hot	bin
were	cold	hod

## LESSON 5

These dogs are near us. Those birds  
are far from us.

boys	these	yes
dogs	those	sir
girls	near	we
birds	far	do

## LESSON 6

*"Make hay while the sun shines."  
That means we must study now.*

see	him	we'll
saw	her	stud y
make	then	while
made	when	that
give	son	means
gave	sun	shines

## LESSON 7

*Work while you work,  
Play while you play;  
That is the way  
To be happy and gay.*

could	good	don't
should	bet ter	quit
would	best	yet
work	hap py	gay