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The Tale of Reddy Woodpecker by Arthur Scott Bailey

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BY

#### ARTHUR SCOTT BAILEY

Author of "SLEEPY-TIME TALES" (Tradsmark Registared)

and

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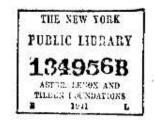
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### CONTENTS

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CHAPTER	+		PAGE
I	MRS. ROBIN'S NEWS .	×	7
п	GETTING ACQUAINTED	×	13
III	MORNING TATTOOS .	2	19
IV	THE HIGH-HOLE	÷	25
v	Too MUCH COUSIN .		30
VI	MR. FLICKER'S PLANS		35
VII	THE TWO NEIGHBORS .	×	,39
VIII	AN EARLY CALL		<b>`44</b>
IX	MRS. ROBIN WORRIES .		50
X	OBEYING ORDERS	ŝ	55
XI	A VERY SHORT FIGHT		61
XII	JOLLY ROBIN'S HELPER	÷	65
XIII	THE CARPENTER		71
XIV	MR. CROW'S QUESTIONS	਼	76

#### CONTENTS

CHAPTER			PAGE
xv	THE REDCAPS		81
XVI	A SLY TRICK		
XVII	A HUNTING PARTY .		91
XVIII	A BIG APPETITE	•	96
XIX	WHO WAS GREEDY? .		100
XX	CATCHING FLIES	•	105
XXI	THE ODD MR. FROG .		110
XXII	DODGING DANGER	•	114
XXIII	BEECHNUTS		118
XXIV	THE WINTER'S STORE		123

## THE TALE OF REDDY WOODPECKER

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#### MRS. ROBIN'S NEWS

IF you had been in Farmer Green's dooryard on a certain day in May you would have heard an unusual twittering and chirping and squawking.

Now, there was a reason for all this chatter. Jolly Robin's wife had seen a handsome stranger in the orchard. And she had hurried away to spread the news among her friends.

"He's a dashing person, very elegantly dressed," Mrs. Robin told everybody.

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#### **REDDY WOODPECKER**

That remark did not seem to please the good lady's husband. For Jolly Robin turned up his nose—or his bill—slightly, and he said to his wife, "The question is: What are his manners like?"

Mrs. Robin admitted that the stranger's manners were not all that one might wish.

"He was somewhat noisy," she explained. "And I fear he may be quarrelsome. But his clothes certainly were beautiful."

Jasper Jay, who was something of a dandy, wanted to know exactly what the stranger wore. He said he doubted that the newcomer was as fashionable as Mrs. Robin supposed.

"I can't tell you much about his suit," Mrs. Robin went on, "except that it was new and stylish. What I noticed specially was his cap. It was a big one and it was a brilliant red."

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