

**THE PROGRESSIVE ENGLISH
READING BOOKS.
THE JUNIOR READER.
(NELSON'S SCHOOL SERIES)**

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The Progressive English Reading Books. The Junior Reader. (Nelson's School Series) by
Various

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JUNIOR READER.

(Nelson's School Series.)




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**"THE PROGRESSIVE
ENGLISH READING BOOKS."**

To Teachers.

HE present volume forms the First of a New Series of English Readers, designed to follow the "Step by Step" books already published in "*Nelsons' School Series*."

The object aimed at is, to provide a set of books adapted to all classes of schools, and fitted to teach not only *the art of reading*, but to train the pupil to *the love of reading*. With this in view the pieces selected for the present volume are such as cannot fail to attract and interest the young reader. They are chiefly of a lively and entertaining kind, as being best fitted to train the pupil to a lively and spirited style of reading

"The Progressive Reading Books" will be of a strictly *progressive* character in style and subject.

In the Second Book of the Series (*The Junior Reader, No. II.*), which will be issued early in February, the pieces will be varied by "Stories from History," "Instructive Lessons," "Lessons from Biography," &c.

The Third of the Series will form a "Reading Book for Senior Classes." This volume, formerly advertised as No. 7 of Nelsons' School Series, will be arranged on the plan of a Voyage round the World. It will consist of pictures of travel and adventure, stories of history, with descriptions of the people, and the productions of the principal countries of the world, &c.

JANUARY 1862.

The attention of Teachers is invited to the following works recently published in NELSONS' SCHOOL SERIES :—

A HISTORY OF ENGLISH LITERATURE.
WORD EXPOSITOR.
FIRST LATIN READER
BIBLE GEOGRAPHY.
WALL MAPS.

See advertisement at the end of this volume.

Contents.

PROSE.

	Page
Grumble and Chceery.....	1
The Monkey and the Cats.....	8
The Stinging Nettle.....	11
The Ugly Duckling.....	10
The Sheep and the Birds.....	25
The Young Witness.....	28
Dreaming Sasy.....	34
The Lion and the Mouse.....	36
The Time-Piece in my Parlour.....	37
The Fox without a Tail.....	40
Mercury and the Woodman.....	40
It's very Hard.....	43
The Wolf and the Lamb.....	44
The Guarded House.....	45
The Bustling Way and the Quiet Way.....	46
The Spider's Web.....	52
The Poor Man and the Rich Man.....	54
Widow Wasp.....	63
The Sailor Boy's Prayer.....	63
The Turnip.....	65
Something Wrong in the Boot.....	66
Casting our Shadows.....	68
To-Morrow.....	90
A Tiger Story.....	91
Only one Brick upon another.....	93
The Wind and the Sun.....	94
Washington and the Corporal.....	95
Promptness.....	96
Dreaming and Doing.....	97
The Khan and the Dervish.....	103
The White Sparrow.....	103
The Lying Servant.....	111
The Discontented Pendulum.....	116
The Bell Rock.....	119
Good for Evil.....	123
A Faithful Dog.....	126
The Arab and his Horse.....	129

		Page
Gold Dust.....	<i>Anon.</i>	131
The Three Steps.....	<i>Anon.</i>	133
Courage.....	<i>Anon.</i>	136
Androcles and the Lion.....	<i>Evenings at Home</i>	142
Anecdotes of Dogs.....	<i>Anon.</i>	147
Lost in the Forest.....	<i>K.</i>	159
Useful Maxims.....	<i>Franklin</i>	165
Latrelle and the Beetle.....	<i>Anon.</i>	166
The Rescue.....	<i>Toad.</i>	167
The Conjugating Dutchman.....	<i>Anon.</i>	170
The Dishonest Peasant.....	<i>Anon.</i>	172
Story of a Newfoundland Dog.....	<i>Anon.</i>	177
Robinson Crusoe—		
Crusoe and his Boat.....	<i>Defoe.</i>	180
The Footprint on the Sand.....	<i>Ibid.</i>	187
Crusoe and the Savages.....	<i>Ibid.</i>	192
Crusoe saves Friday.....	<i>Ibid.</i>	196

POETRY.

By-and-By.....	<i>Anon.</i>	6
The Voice of Spring.....	<i>Mary Howitt.</i>	7
The Spider and the Fly.....	<i>Mary Howitt.</i>	9
The Butterfly's Ball.....	<i>F. Boscaw.</i>	14
We are Seven.....	<i>Wordsworth.</i>	23
The Frost.....	<i>Miss Gould.</i>	27
The Pet Lamb.....	<i>Wordsworth.</i>	31
The Orphan Boy's Tale.....	<i>Mrs. Opie.</i>	38
The Oak Tree.....	<i>Mary Howitt.</i>	43
Lacy Gray.....	<i>Wordsworth.</i>	50
The Fox and the Crow.....	<i>A. Smart.</i>	63
The Wind in a Yew.....	<i>William Howitt.</i>	60
The Beggar Man.....	<i>Lucy Atkin.</i>	61
The Lily and the Rose.....	<i>Cosper.</i>	64
Perseverance.....	<i>Elice Cook.</i>	101
Better than Gold.....	<i>A. Smart.</i>	109
The Incheape Bell.....	<i>Southey.</i>	120
Be Kind.....	<i>Anon.</i>	128
Fidelity.....	<i>Wordsworth.</i>	139
The Hare and the Tortoise.....	<i>Lloyd.</i>	145
The Hemes of England.....	<i>Mrs. Hemans.</i>	169
The Wreck of the Hesperus.....	<i>Longfellow.</i>	175
Never Give Up.....	<i>Tupper.</i>	179
The Diverting History of John Gilpin.....	<i>Cosper.</i>	204
The Village Blacksmith.....	<i>Longfellow.</i>	213

JUNIOR READER.

PART I.

GRUMBLE AND CHEERY.

GRUMBLE and Cheery were two millers who kept a large mill between them. Every one in the neighbouring village looked upon Cheery as the kindest, merriest fellow alive. But Grumble was not in very good favour; for he always found fault with the times—the weather—the neighbours—the mill—Madame Grumble, or with his partner, Cheery. Somehow or another accidents seemed to fall thicker on him than on any one else. Folks said, if it were not for Cheery, bread and cheese would be scarce at the mill: for Grumble's sole delight seemed to be to stroll about with his hands in his pockets, doing nothing but grumble, grumble, grumble; while Cheery worked and sung, as blithe as a lark.

One bright morning, Cheery and Grumble set off to buy a horse.

As they walked, they passed by a turn of the road where there was a small, narrow cave, in the chalky side of a hill, all fringed about with box-trees; and as they drew near it, two or three very

shrill voices screamed out, "Let us out, masters! let us out! let us out!"

Grumble said, "Get out as you got in—who's to blame but yourselves?" But Cheery said, "Nay, Grumble, if one won't help another, how shall we live?"

Then Cheery turned towards the mouth of the cave, and found a great lump of chalk had rolled down close against it, so that one could not get in or out. He set his shoulder well to work, and he called loudly to those inside, saying, "Push, push away, my fine fellows!" and after moving the great stone three or four times, away it rolled, and left the mouth of the cave open.

Out from the cave walked three fat little men, the queerest little fellows possible, with long hair, long noses, long chins, and very long hands. And as they came out, they danced and sprang about like young frogs. Then one said, "Stop! here's Master Cheery, who let us out. In return for his kindness, I promise him that the horse he shall buy at market shall have the speed of the wind." "And I," said the second, "say the horse shall never tire under weight or work." And the third little old man promised that, after three years' service, the horse should run away with all the ill luck in the house. As he finished, the three little men scampered back into the cave as fast as they could, singing in chorus:—

"A smiling face and a ready hand
Outweigh the riches of all the land;
For the face gets fat while the hand doth toil,
Heedless of every one's chatter or coil."

Cheery laughed hard enough at the little men's