

**THE HOLBORN SERIES OF
READING
BOOKS. INSTRUCTIVE
READER, NO. 1**

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The Holborn Series of Reading Books. Instructive Reader, No. 1 by C. S. Dawe

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C. S. DAWE

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THE
HOLBORN SERIES
OF
READING BOOKS.

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INSTRUCTIVE READER, NO. I.

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PREFACE.

THIS Series of Reading-books is designed to provide carefully-graduated Exercises in reading, and at the same time useful information on a variety of topics generally interesting to young people.

The lessons will be found, it is hoped, sufficiently attractive in style to be read with pleasure, whilst affording material sufficiently solid to require and repay an investigation of the subject-matter.

Pupils in Elementary Schools are now required to read with *intelligence*, to secure a "Pass" at the Government Examinations. It is believed that this Series will be found conducive to this important end, by providing suitable lessons for thoughtful reading.

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* From "Rhymes worth Remembering" (Partridge & Co.), issued by the kind permission of the Author.

THE HOLBORN SERIES.

INSTRUCTIVE READER, No. I.

ROBINS AT SCHOOL.

bet-ter din-ner de-light qui-et
cor-ner hurt-ing peep-ed na-ked

I was once told of a pair of robins, that built their nest in a school-room. They chose a corner of an old desk. All the boys were very kind to the birds, and they let the robins go in and out without hurting them. It was fine fun to see them come into the room with straw or hair in their beaks. And it was still better fun to watch them build their nest.

When the boys came to school one morning, they peeped into the desk, and there was a little egg. On the next day there were two eggs, and before the end of the week there were four.

But what was their delight, when one morning they looked in, and saw four little naked birds with their mouths wide open! It was not long before the old birds came with their dinner. The boys looked more at the robins than at their books, when they saw them come in at the window with a worm for their young ones. But they kept quite quiet, to hear the little birds chirp, chirp, chirp.

school room mouth watch
build chirp chose desk

THE PET LAMB.

shep-herd	wool-ly	fel-low	play-mate
bas-ket	rib-bon	tin-kle	hap-py
fath-er	moth-er	broth-er	sist-er

I once knew a little lad, named Henry Scott, whose father was a shepherd. The little fellow had no brothers or sisters to play with, and no other children lived near. So his father, one day, brought him home a little lamb for his playmate. It had such a white woolly coat, and such a fine long tail!

When the father came home with the lamb in his arms, he said—"This poor little lamb has lost his mother; she died last night. He has no one to take care of him but you, Harry; so I hope you will be very kind to him, and act like a good mother towards him." Little Henry was very much pleased.



and said, he would do all he could to make the lamb happy.

Three times a day he fed it with milk; and every morning he went out with his basket, and filled it with nice young grass. When he came back again, he sat down on a stool, and his little pet came, and ate from his hand.

Harry's mother gave him a ribbon with a bell to tie round the lamb's neck; so he always knew where to find his pet, for the bell went tinkle, tinkle, at every step.

lamb coat tail mother
grass neck young brother

MORE ABOUT ROBINS.

ket-tle or-gan bro-ken join-er

Robins sometimes build their nests in a strange place. I have read of a robin that built a nest in an old kettle, and laid three eggs in it. And so one day the old kettle was all alive with three little robins.

I was told of a pair of robins that chose a church for their home. They built a nest on a small shelf at the back of the organ. And when the young ones grew strong, and were able to fly, they all flew away through a broken pane in the window.

I once saw a robin in a joiner's shop. He first came into the shop in a snow-storm.