

**THE LITERARY  
PRIMER: FIRST STEPS  
WITH GOOD WRITERS**

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The Literary Primer: First Steps with Good Writers by Mary E. Burt & Mildred Howells

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**MARY E. BURT & MILDRED HOWELLS**

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THE LITERARY PRIMER

# THE LITERARY PRIMER

FIRST STEPS WITH GOOD WRITERS

BY

MARY E. BURT

AND

MILDRED HOWELLS

NEW YORK

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS

1901



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## PREFACE

THE LITERARY PRIMER is a beginner's book, designed, like the "Hiawatha Primer" or "Little Nature Studies," to put the child at once in contact with good writers and permanent literature. The lessons are adapted from world-famous classics or folk-lore of the past as well as from standard writers of the present century. "Gulliver's Travels," always so dear to a child's heart, by Dean Swift; the ancient folk-story of "Tom Thumb"; "My Shadow," by Robert Louis Stevenson; Hawthorne's "Snow Image"; Sidney Lanier's "Bob"; Eugene Field's "Wynken, Blynken, and Nod" and his "Shut Eye Town"; "Brer Rabbit," by Joel Chandler Harris; "Christmas Every Day," by William Dean Howells; Ernest Seton-Thompson's story of "Rag," the rabbit, and a story by Rudyard Kipling, have been pressed into service to give the teacher suggestions for acquainting children with standard writing while



doing the drudgery of word-getting and learning simple spelling. Many primers are based upon word-getting only, and claim merits on account of diacritical markings, devices for teaching sounds, repetition of vocabulary, and correlation with childhood's activities. This primer claims all of that in addition to what is vital in reading, namely, an uplift to the child, through the interpretation of thought and action a little above him but not beyond his reach.

MARY E. BURT.

NEW YORK CITY,  
1901.



A B C D E F  
a b c d e f  
G H I J K L  
g h i j k l  
M N O P Q R  
m n o p q r  
S T U V W X Y Z  
s t u v w x y z  
a b c d e f g h i  
a b c d e f g h i  
j k l m n o p q r  
j k l m n o p q r  
s t u v w x y z  
s t u v w x y z