

**THE FARMER  
AND HIS FRIENDS**

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The Farmer and His Friends by Eva March Tappan

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**EVA MARCH TAPPAN**

**THE FARMER  
AND HIS FRIENDS**



THE INDUSTRIAL READERS

*Book I*

THE FARMER AND HIS  
FRIENDS

BY

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**THE INDUSTRIAL READERS**

**By Eva March Tappan**

- I. THE FARMER AND HIS FRIENDS. 50 cents.
- II. DIGGERS IN THE EARTH. 50 cents.
- III. MAKERS OF MANY THINGS. 50 cents.
- IV. TRAVELERS AND TRAVELING. 50 cents.

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## PREFACE

THE four books of this series have been written not merely to provide agreeable reading matter for children, but to give them information. When a child can look at a steel pen not simply as an article furnished by the city for his use, but rather as the result of many interesting processes, he has made a distinct growth in intelligence. When he has begun to apprehend the fruitfulness of the earth, both above ground and below, and the best way in which its products may be utilized and carried to the places where they are needed, he has not only acquired a knowledge of many kinds of industrial life which may help him to choose his life-work wisely from among them, but he has learned the dependence of one person upon other persons, of one part of the world upon other parts, and the necessity of peaceful intercourse. Best of all, he has learned to see. Wordsworth's familiar lines say of a man whose eyes had not been opened, —

"A primrose by a river's brim  
A yellow primrose was to him,  
And it was nothing more."

These books are planned to show the children that there is "something more"; to broaden their horizon; to reveal to them what invention has accomplished and what wide room for invention still remains; to teach them that reward comes to the

man who improves his output beyond the task of the moment; and that success is waiting not for him who works because he must, but him who works because he may.

Acknowledgment is due to Professor W. J. Spillman, of the Bureau of Plant Industry at Washington, whose advice and criticism have been of most valuable aid in the preparation of this volume.

EVA MARCH TAPPAN.



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# THE INDUSTRIAL READERS

## BOOK I

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### THE FARMER AND HIS FRIENDS

#### I

##### THE FARMER OF TO-DAY

EVERYTHING that we eat or drink or wear comes either directly or indirectly from the earth; and the earth will always do her share of providing it if we do ours.

Not many years ago, people used to carry on farms in a sort of hit-or-miss fashion. If the potatoes were soggy, they said there had been too much rain. If the peas were hard and shriveled, they said the summer had been terribly dry. If the corn did not ripen, they blamed the early frosts. If an apple tree ceased to bear and began to decay, they looked at it with regret and said, "What a pity!" If the young turkeys died, they recalled the tradition that turkeys were always hard to raise. Hens were of no particular breed and had no special care. If they were thirsty, they drank — if they could find any water. They caught grasshoppers as best they could, and they waited hungrily about the back door for crumbs from the dinner table. They laid no eggs in