

**CHILD CLASSICS:
THE
FOURTH READER**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649546374

Child Classics: The Fourth Reader by Georgia Alexander & Grace Alexander

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

GEORGIA ALEXANDER & GRACE ALEXANDER

**CHILD CLASSICS:
THE
FOURTH READER**



WE PATER ALONG IN THE DUST AGAIN

See "Old Aunt Mary's."

CHILD CLASSICS
THE FOURTH READER

By
GEORGIA ALEXANDER
and
GRACE ALEXANDER

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS

INDIANAPOLIS
THE BOBBS-MERRILL COMPANY
PUBLISHERS

COPYRIGHT, 1909
THE BOBBS-MERRILL COMPANY

588373

C

THE HOLLENBECK PRESS
INDIANAPOLIS

PREFACE

WHEN a community takes upon itself the responsibility of teaching its children to read it should assume at the same time that greater responsibility of teaching them what to read. A series of school readers designed to teach the art of reading should therefore carry in its pages that which will train in the choice of reading.

The cultivation of this habit should begin with the primer. From the first page the child should go to the book to get thought, not merely exercise in word calling. The succeeding books should gradually develop a high and catholic taste, and foster this taste by establishing early the custom of reading standard books at home.

Child Classics have been prepared with these principles in view. In addition to providing a definite and flexible method for teaching beginners to read, effort has been made to include only material that may justly be called classic. The selections chosen have borne the repeated test of school-room trial both as to interest and careful grading. Care has also been taken to present a variety of appeal through the heroic, the imaginative, the humorous, the ethical and the realistic.

Special attention has been given to the biographies of authors in the desire to make them interesting as well as instructive. As great men truly furnish the "very marrow of the world's history," a vivid personal impression, especially glimpses of their childhood when ideals were forming, outvalues many dates and other encyclopedic details.

Lists of books for home reading edited for this series by Hamilton Wright Mabie are included in the *Third*, *Fourth* and *Fifth Readers*, not only for the direction of the child and the guidance of the teacher, but also to obtain the coöperation of parents in fixing in habit the taste for good literature created by the text books themselves.

The notes appended for study have been prepared, not only to

explain the text, but to further the child's interest in the author and the selection. At the end of each book will be found suggestions to teachers. These have been made unusually concrete and full in the desire to throw increased light on the teaching of this, the most important subject in the school curriculum. It is hoped that a measure of success has attended the undertaking, and that teachers and pupils to whom the books may come will take new joy in their work.

It is a pleasure to thank Miss Nebraska Cropsey, Assistant Superintendent of Schools in Indianapolis, for suggestions concerning the teaching of reading covering a period of twenty years; Miss Adelaide Baylor, Superintendent of Schools at Wabash, who has carefully read the text and made valuable criticisms, and the many teachers who have tested the books in their classes.

G. A.

Acknowledgment is made for permission to use selections from the writings of Andrew Lang, to Longmans, Green and Company; from Louisa M. Alcott, to Little, Brown and Company; from Joaquin Miller, to the Whitaker and Ray Company; from David Starr Jordan, to A. C. McClurg and Company; from Frank R. Stockton, to Charles Scribner's Sons; for selections from Bryant's *Complete Poetical Works*, to D. Appleton and Company; and for *The Merry Pranks of Till Owl-glass*, to Lothrop, Lee and Shepard Company. Acknowledgment is also made for permission to use an illustration from *Puck of Pook's Hill*, to Doubleday, Page and Company; and from Dickens's *Christmas Carol*, to G. P. Putnam's Sons.

The selections from the writings of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, J. T. Trowbridge and Josephine Preston Peabody are used by special arrangement with Houghton, Mifflin and Company.

CONTENTS

	PAGE
TOM, THE CHIMNEY SWEEP	<i>Charles Kingsley</i> 11
THE SEA	<i>Barry Cornwall</i> 20 (<i>Bryan Waller Procter</i>)
THE DISCONTENTED PENDULUM	<i>Jane Taylor</i> 22
THE INCHCAPE ROCK	<i>Robert Southey</i> 26
TURNING THE GRINDSTONE	<i>Benjamin Franklin</i> 29
THE CORN-SONG	<i>John Greenleaf Whittier</i> 30
A LETTER TO HIS SON	<i>Robert Southey</i> 32
ROBERT OF LINCOLN	<i>William Cullen Bryant</i> 35
BARON MÜNCHHAUSEN IN RUSSIA	<i>R. E. Raspe</i> 38
JERRY, THE MILLER	<i>John G. Saxe</i> 40
THE MONKEY AND THE PEAS	<i>Leo Tolstoy</i> 42
ARTHUR'S FIRST NIGHT AT RUGBY	<i>Thomas Hughes</i> 43
THE VILLAGE BLACKSMITH	<i>Henry Wadsworth Longfellow</i> 48
THE NOBLE NATURE	<i>Ben Jonson</i> 52
SOME PROVERBS OF KING SOLOMON	<i>The Bible</i> 53
THE REVERIE OF POOR SUSAN	<i>William Wordsworth</i> 54
THE HOUSE IN BIDWELL STREET	<i>George Ade</i> 55
OLD AUNT MARY'S	<i>James Whitcomb Riley</i> 61
HANS, CLODHOOPER	<i>Hans Christian Andersen</i> 65
THE GRAY SWAN	<i>Alice Cary</i> 71
THE LAST ROSE OF SUMMER	<i>Thomas Moore</i> 74
THE MERRY PRANKS OF TILL OWLGlass	<i>From the German</i> 75
EVENING AT THE FARM	<i>John Townsend Trowbridge</i> 78
PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS	<i>Louisa M. Alcott</i> 80

CONTENTS

	PAGE
HOW THEY BROUGHT THE GOOD NEWS	
FROM GHEENT TO AIX	<i>Robert Browning</i> 86
LITTLE NELL	<i>Charles Dickens</i> 89
THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER	<i>Francis Scott Key</i> 95
THE COCK AND THE FOX	<i>Retold from Geoffrey Chaucer</i> 97
JOHN GILPIN	<i>William Cowper</i> 105
ICARUS AND DÆDALUS	<i>A Greek Myth</i> 115
DARIUS GREEN AND HIS FLYING- MACHINE	<i>John Townsend Trowbridge</i> 118
CHRISTMAS AT THE CRATCHITS'	<i>Charles Dickens</i> 129
COLUMBUS	<i>Joaquin Miller</i> 136
HOW THOR WENT TO THE LAND OF GIANTS	<i>Retold from the Norse Sagas</i> 138
HORATIUS AT THE BRIDGE	<i>Thomas Babington Macaulay</i> 144
KING JOHN AND THE ABBOT OF CANTERBURY	<i>An English Folk Tale</i> 147
THE EARTHEN POT AND THE POT OF BRASS	<i>Æsop</i> 151
DAFFODILS	<i>William Wordsworth</i> 152
MAGGIE VISITS THE GIPSIES	<i>George Eliot</i> 154
TO THE FRINGED GENTIAN	<i>William Cullen Bryant</i> 164
LEARNING BY OBSERVATION	<i>Charles Kingsley</i> 166
NÜREMBERG	<i>Henry Wadsworth Longfellow</i> 171
COSETTE	<i>Victor Hugo</i> 176
AN ORDER FOR A PICTURE	<i>Alice Cary</i> 180
ANSWER TO A CHILD'S QUESTION	<i>Samuel Taylor Coleridge</i> 185
THE WINNING OF THE SWORD	<i>Sir Thomas Malory</i> 186
INCIDENT OF THE FRENCH CAMP	<i>Robert Browning</i> 192
JOAN OF ARC	<i>Andrew Lang</i> 195
THE PIED PIPER OF HAMELIN	<i>Robert Browning</i> 204
THE GRIFFIN AND THE MINOR CANON	<i>Frank R. Stockton</i> 218
WILLIAM TELL	<i>Sheridan Knowles</i> 229
JOHNNY DARTER	<i>David Starr Jordan</i> 236