

**PRACTICAL RECITATIONS:  
SHORT PIECES FOR SCHOOL  
ENTERTAINMENT FOR  
CHILDREN OF THIRTEEN YEARS**

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Practical Recitations: Short Pieces for School Entertainment for Children of Thirteen Years by  
Amos M. Kellogg

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**AMOS M. KELLOGG**

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# Practical Recitations

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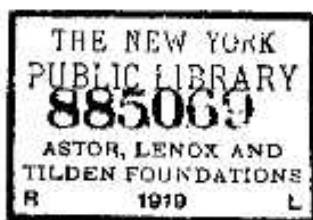
SHORT PIECES FOR SCHOOL ENTERTAINMENT

A R R A N G E D B Y  
A M O S M . K E L L O G G  
Author of "Primary Speaker," Etc.

FOR CHILDREN OF THIRTEEN YEARS

PHILADELPHIA  
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## CONTENTS.

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	PAGE
LIFE PICTURES.....	5
WATER.....	6
THE TWO WORKERS.....	6
THE JESTER CONDEMNED.....	7
THE SIGN-BOARD.....	9
THE BUILDERS.....	9
A WONDERFUL CURE IN BARLEY TOWN.....	10
A KING IN DISGUISE.....	13
THE REAPERS.....	14
"FATHER WILLIAM QUESTIONED".....	15
A TRUE HERO.....	16
THE PETRIFIED FERN.....	17
THE ACADEMY BELL.....	18
WAITING BY THE SHORE.....	20
A HYMN FOR THE CONQUERED.....	22
GREEN RIVER.....	23
FERGUSON'S CAT.....	24
A JOLLY OLD PEDAGOGUE.....	26
OUR DEAD HEROES.....	27
WORK AND WIN.....	28
THE IDEAL YOUNG MAN.....	29
BY-AND-BY.....	30
WILLIAM TELL.....	31
IF WE HAD BUT A DAY.....	32
THE WAY TO HEAVEN.....	33
LOOK UP, NOT DOWN.....	34
WHAT TIME IS IT?.....	35
LABOR.....	36
DAYS THAT ARE GONE.....	37
BETTER LATE THAN NEVER.....	38
THE IDEAL GIRL.....	39
IS IT WORTH WHILE?.....	40
THE ROUND OF LIFE.....	41
THE JOY OF DOING GOOD.....	42

Baker & Taylor 30 f<sup>3</sup>

	PAGE
HIS LAST VICTORY.....	44
THE TEACHER'S TALE.....	45
A MERRY MAIDEN MAYING.....	47
WHERE DO YOU LIVE?.....	49
THE NANTUCKET SKIPPER.....	50
THE WATER-MILL.....	52
TACKLING SHIP OFF SHORE.....	53
THE WEIGHT OF A WORD.....	55
THE FLOWERS' KNOWLEDGE.....	55
THE SHIP ON FIRE.....	57
"SAVING MOTHER".....	58
THE CHRISTMAS STAR.....	60
TO A WATERFOWL.....	61
WITCH-HAZEL.....	62
"GUILTY OR NOT GUILTY".....	63
MAXIMUS.....	65
THEN AND NOW.....	66
THE SLAVE'S DREAM.....	67
THE WELL-DIGGER.....	69
THE POLICEMAN'S STORY.....	71
THE LITTLE GRAVE.....	72
THE OLD SCHOOL-HOUSE.....	73
THE LIGHT-HOUSE.....	75
OPPORTUNITY.....	76
THE TWO STREAMS.....	77
TO THE FRINGED GENTIAN.....	78
OUR COUNTRY AND OUR HOME.....	79
THE LIGHT-SHIP.....	80
A GLORIOUS DEED.....	81
THE MODEL GIRL.....	82
WE PARTED IN SILENCE.....	83
WHAT DOES IT MATTER?.....	84
COMPANIONSHIP.....	85
WHAT LIFE MAY BE.....	86
THE LUCKY HORSESHOE.....	87
THE PEN.....	89
THE WILL MARKS THE WAY.....	89
THE MONKEY'S SCHEME.....	91
HOW TO SERVE MY COUNTRY.....	91
THEORY AND PRACTICE.....	92
A RELIGIOUS MAN.....	93

*(Practical Recitations.)*



# Practical Recitations.



## Life Pictures.

A traveler through a dusty road  
Strewed acorns on the lea,  
And one took root and sprouted up  
And grew into a tree.

A passing stranger scooped a well  
Where weary men might bide;  
He passed again, and lo! the well,  
By summers never dried,  
Had cooled ten thousand parched tongues  
And saved a life beside.

A dreamer dropped a random thought  
'Twas old and yet 'twas new—  
A simple fancy of the brain,  
But strong in being true.

It shone upon a genial mind,  
And lo! its light became  
A lamp of life, a beacon ray,  
A monitory flame.

A nameless man, amid a crowd  
That thronged the daily mart,  
Let fall a word of Hope and Love  
Unstudied from the heart.

O germ! O fount! O word of love!  
O thought at random cast!  
Ye were but little at the first  
But mighty at the last.

## Water.

It is present in the storm and rain, it is present in the dew;  
 It glistens in a tear-drop, for that is water too;  
 It forms the beautiful fountain, it is the ocean foam;  
 It is found in every climate, every country is its home.

It dwells in vegetation, and in the human form;  
 It is needed by every nation, in climates cold and warm;  
 It is found upon the mountain-top, and in the grassy plain;  
 It sometimes comes in snow-flakes, sometimes in showers of  
 rain.

It spreads wide out in crystal lakes, it forms the mighty falls;  
 It runs along in rivers, it flows through our canals;  
 It floats all our noble ships, it turns the ponderous wheel;  
 It helps to form the motive power for factory, shop, or mill.

It forms the lovely rainbow after a summer shower;  
 It invigorates the tender plant by its magic power;  
 It keeps alive the sturdy oak, it makes the flowers bloom;  
 It forms a mirror of the lake, reflects the shining moon.

\*\*\*

## The Two Workers.

Two workers in one field  
 Toiled on from day to day,  
 Both had the same hard labor,  
 Both had the same small pay.  
 With the same blue sky above,  
 And the same green earth below,  
 One soul was full of love,  
 The other full of woe.

One leaped up with the light,  
 With the soaring of the lark,  
 One felt his woe each night,  
 For his soul was ever dark.

## The Jester Condemned.

7

One heart was hard as stone,  
One heart was ever gay,  
One toiled with many a groan,  
One whistled all the day.

One had a flower-clad cot  
Beside a merry mill;  
Wife and children near the spot  
Made it sweeter, fairer still.  
One a wretched hovel had,  
Full of discord, dirt, and din;  
No wonder he seemed mad,  
Wife and children starved within.

Still they worked in the same field,  
Toiling on from day to day,  
Both had the same hard labor,  
Both had the same small pay.  
But they worked not with one will,  
The reason, let me tell—  
Lo! one drank at the still,  
And the other at the well.

—JOHN W. AVERY.



## The Jester Condemned.

One of the kings of Scanderoon,  
A royal jester,  
Had in his train a gross buffoon,  
Who used to pester  
The court with tricks inopportune,  
Venting on the highest folks his  
Scurvy pleasantries and hoaxes.

It needs some sense to play the fool,  
Which wholesome rule  
Occurred not to our jackanapes,  
Who consequently found his freaks,