

**THE BROOK BOOK; A FIRST  
ACQUAINTANCE WITH THE  
BROOK AND ITS INHABITANTS  
THROUGH THE CHANGING YEAR**

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The Brook Book; A First Acquaintance with the Brook and Its Inhabitants Through the Changing Year by Mary Rogers Miller

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THE BROOK BOOK



THE REFLECTIONS OF A BROOK



# THE BROOK BOOK ❀

A FIRST ACQUAINTANCE WITH  
THE BROOK AND ITS INHABITANTS  
THROUGH THE CHANGING YEAR

BY

MARY ROGERS MILLER

LECTURER ON NATURE STUDY AT CORNELL UNIVERSITY

**Illustrated**



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TO

JOHN HENRY COMSTOCK

*Guide, Philosopher and Friend*

ALL THAT IS WORTHY IN THIS BOOK  
IS AFFECTIONATELY  
DEDICATED

## Lyrics

IN NATURE'S OPEN BOOK  
AN EPIC IS THE SEA,  
A LYRIC IS THE BROOK:—  
LYRICS FOR ME!

—FRANK DEMPSTER SHERMAN  
*From "Lyrics for a Lute"*

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*Throughout the year a brook is captivating. It is as companionable as a child, and as changeful. It hints at mysteries. But does it tell secrets other than its own? Does it tell where the wild things come down to drink? Does it tell where the birds take their baths, or where the choicest wild flowers lurk? I fain would know the story of its playfellows and dependents.*

*The brook has made its own way down the hill, through the woods and across the meadow. May we not follow it? Is it not a type of the best kind of human life?—the steep hillside of youth, the wild dash, the splashing through and under and between difficulties, the firm, steady flow down the gradual slope of middle age,—finally the safe and tranquil passing into the unknown?*

*And yet, in spite of its mysteries, one may really know a brook. A river is too distant,—too much an institution and too little an individual. A brook*