TUCK-ME-IN TALES. THE TALE OF MRS. LADYBUG

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Tuck-Me-In Tales. The Tale of Mrs. Ladybug by Arthur Scott Bailey & Harry L. Smith

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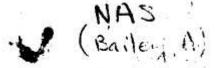
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ARTHUR SCOTT BAILEY & HARRY L. SMITH

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THE TALE OF MRS. LADYBUG



SLUMBER-TOWN TALES (Trademark Registered)

BY ARTHUR SCOTT BAILEY

AUTHOR OF

SLEEPY-TIME TALES (Trademark Registered)

TUCK-ME-IN TALBS (Trademark Registered)

THE TALE OF THE MULEY COW THE TALE OF OLD DOG SPOT THE TALE OF GRUNTY PIG THE TALE OF HENRIETTA HEN THE TALE OF TURKEY PROUB-FOOT

THE TALE OF PONY TWINKLE-HEELS

THE TALE OF MISS KITTY CAT

TUCK-ME-IN TALES

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HARRY L. SMITH

GROSSET & DUNLAP.
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THE TALE OF MRS. LADYBUG

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THE POLKA DOT LADY

LITTLE Mrs. Ladybug was a worker. Nobody could deny that. To be sure, she had to stop now and then to talk to her neighbors, because Mrs. Ladybug dearly loved a bit of gossip. At the same time there wasn't anyone in Pleasant Valley that helped Farmer Green more than she did. She tried her hardest to keep the trees in the orchard free from insects.

Some of her less worthy neighbors were known sometimes to say with a sniff, "If

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Mrs. Ladybug didn't enjoy her work she wouldn't care about helping Farmer Green. If she hadn't such a big appetite she'd stop to chat even more than she does now."

That might seem an odd remark—unless one happened to know how Mrs. Ladybug freed the orchard of the tiny pests that attacked it. The truth of the matter was this: Mrs. Ladybug ate the little insects that fed upon the fruit trees. Her constant toil meant that she devoured huge numbers of Farmer Green's enemies.

Goodness knows what Farmer Green would have done had Mrs. Ladybug and all her family lost their taste for that kind of fare. The orchard might have been a sorry sight.

Perhaps it was only to be expected that Mrs. Ladybug should have little patience with folk that seemed lazy. She thought