

**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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ARTHUR SCOTT BAILEY & HARRY L. SMITH

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MRS. LADYBUG**

NAS
(Bailey, A.)

SLUMBER-TOWN TALES
(Trademark Registered)

BY

ARTHUR SCOTT BAILEY

AUTHOR OF

SLEEPY-TIME TALES
(Trademark Registered)

TUCK-ME-IN TALES
(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 PROUD-
FOOT

THE TALE OF PONY TWINKLE-
HEELS

THE TALE OF MISS KITTY CAT

TUCK-ME-IN TALES

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ILLUSTRATED BY

HARRY L. SMITH

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CONTENTS

CHAPTER		PAGE
I	THE POLKA DOT LADY . . .	1
II	BUSTER'S RESOLVE	6
III	HIDDEN WINGS	11
IV	RUSTY WREN HELPS	16
V	A HARD SHELL	21
VI	THE TRAVELER	26
VII	A HANDSOME STRANGER . . .	31
VIII	SEEKING THE TRUTH	36
IX	THAT CARPETBAG	40
X	A BIT OF NEWS	45
XI	THE NEW COUSIN	50
XII	A QUEER WAY TO HELP . . .	55
XIII	JENNIE JUNEBUG	60
XIV	BUMPS	65
XV	ENOUGH!	71
XVI	PLAYING DEAD	76
XVII	A BRAVE GENTLEMAN	80

CONTENTS

CHAPTER		PAGE
XVIII	A MYSTERY	84
XIX	THE DINNER BELL	88
XX	FIRE! FIRE!	93
XXI	PLANS FOR WINTER	98
XXII	MRS. LADYBUG LEAVES	103
XXIII	BACK AGAIN	108
XXIV	MRS. GREEN'S MISTAKE	112

THE TALE OF MRS. LADYBUG

I

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

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