

**LEAVES FROM  
NATURE'S STORY-  
BOOK, VOL. II; PP.1-239**

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Leaves from Nature's Story-Book, Vol. II; pp.1-239 by M. A. B. Kelly

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**M. A. B. KELLY**

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# LEAVES

FROM

## NATURE'S STORY-BOOK.

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VOL. II.

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By MRS. M. A. B. KELLY,  
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*Author of "A Volume of Poems," etc.*

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
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## PREFACE.

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In our Second Book, we shall listen to stories that will be hummed to us by the insect world; and each Order of insects will tell its own story, in its own simple way.

We shall hear about bird-life, too, from the gushing throats of the feathered warblers in their snug, leafy homes.

The fair flowers of field, forest, and garden shall lend their charms to our volume; and even the strange creatures, that are clad in scales and fins, shall leap up into the sunshine and the air, to tell us about their watery homes below.

And thus as we journey on, and on, we shall learn that the busy workers everywhere, in earth, air and water, each and all have a part in making up the the pleasing pages of Nature's great Story-Book.

M. A. B. KELLY.



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## SUGGESTIONS TO TEACHERS.

The author has deemed it unnecessary to place at the close of each story-lesson a set of studied questions. It is hoped that the subject-matter itself will prove of sufficient interest to awaken in the minds of both teacher and pupil a desire to consider and discuss the essential points presented.

Questions will naturally arise concerning the definition of words, terms, etc., and there will, perhaps, be a tendency on the part of some to inquire minutely into details.

The teacher should therefore make a careful study of each lesson before presenting it to her class as a supplementary exercise.

Natural History necessarily includes subjects in which children are deeply interested, and concerning which they are ever ready to ask questions.

In fact each querist, with his *how* and *when*,  
Would puzzle Huxley, o'er and o'er again.

How necessary, then, that the teacher prepare herself as thoroughly as possible to meet these earnest inquiries; for with her rests largely the responsibility of either encouraging or checking the spirit of research,—a spirit that if, properly directed, will lead on to the fullest measure of success.

A cautious hint here, a timely suggestion there, and the way is opened that shall bring the child into a condition of hearty sympathy and a close communion with nature and nature's God.

These suggestions are briefly given with a belief that the true teacher will recognize their importance, and accept them in the same cordial spirit in which they are submitted.





IN THE FIELDS.

LEAVES FROM  
NATURE'S STORY-BOOK.

II.



**THE LITTLE MAKE-BELIEVE.**

"**O**H, sister, do come quick, and help me catch this dear little humming-bird," cried Jennie, as she ran toward a cluster of honeysuckles in the lower end of the flower garden.

Her sister hurried to the spot just in time to see a handsome hawk moth flit away out of sight.

The next day at twilight,—the usual hour at which these moths fly about,—the girls were waiting in the garden, and as soon as the insect came near enough, it was quickly caught in a little net which they had prepared for it.

This net was simply a long bag, made of gauze, and the mouth of it was held open by a wire ring which was fastened to a light, wooden handle.

With such a net, one may catch insects that are on the wing, without spoiling their beauty in the least.

They soon put their prize into a wide-mouthed bottle in which there was a poison that would kill it without much pain.

“This is far better than sticking pins through its body,” said Jennie.

“I have seen people use pins in that way,” said her sister, “and I think it is a very cruel thing to do.”

In a little while it ceased to move, and then it was taken out of the bottle and placed where they could examine it carefully.