### TEACHERS' EDITION; FIRST LESSONS IN READING: BASED ON THE PHONIC-WORD METHOD

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Teachers' Edition; First Lessons in Reading: Based on the Phonic-Word Method by Elizabeth H. Fundenberg

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### ELIZABETH H. FUNDENBERG

### TEACHERS' EDITION; FIRST LESSONS IN READING: BASED ON THE PHONIC-WORD METHOD



#### TEACHERS' EDITION

# FIRST LESSONS IN READING

## THE PHONIC-WORD METHOD

BY
ELIZABETH H. FUNDENBERG



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#### FIRST LESSONS IN READING.

#### INTRODUCTION.

The teacher who follows Nature's methods must be right. In no part of his work is this more apparent than in the very beginnings of instruction.

The child commences to learn oral language by pronouncing words in imitation of others. He should also commence to learn printed and written language by imitation.

The true starting point for the teaching of reading is the thought; then comes its sign.

Language deals with thought, and neither letters nor sounds are elements of thought, but merely elements of words.

The first teaching should connect the words already known to the ear with their written or printed forms, the letters and the sounds they represent being left to a future step. Believing this to be the logical order in training beginners in the art of reading, the Sentence or Word Method has been adopted as the basis of this work; and when the child has become familiar with the printed and written forms of a considerable number of the words which are in his oral vocabulary, he gradually passes to the Phonic-Word Method, so that he may acquire the power to pronounce new word-forms without the aid of the teacher.

The Word Method calls out only one faculty—memory. By the Phonic-Word Method the learner is required to observe, to compare, to analyze, and to construct words.

If the Word Method only is used, the child is deprived of the power to pronounce new word-forms, and is continually dependent upon his teacher for aid.

By the use of the Phonic Method only, too much importance is given to the characters which compose the word, and the child consequently hesitates, stammers, and loses the thought expressed by the sentence.

Hence the necessity for a judicious combination of these methods, that thought may be developed in the pupil, and machine teaching avoided.

For the reading lessons of this book, words have not been sought simply because they contained certain sounds; but the author, recognizing the fact that sense and not sound is the main thing desired, has used such words as are in the child's known or needed vocabulary.

Since the sounds of the letters, as well as the sounds of the words, are taught by imitation, it is necessary that the teacher shall have the ability to give correctly every sound presented.

The teacher should not be limited to the words found in the lesson, and should not hesitate to teach any word needed in the construction of a script reading lesson, provided the meaning of the word is within the child's comprehension.

The proper place to develop a word is in its natural position in a sentence; here the child will most readily learn its form and use. Hence the new words used in Part II. will not be registered at the top of the lessons, but will be seen for the first time in a sentence.

The sounds of the letters found at the top of each lesson of Part L are to be taught independently of the words used in the lessons, and as far as possible have been arranged in pairs, so that the children as well as the teacher may learn which sounds formed by the same position of the vocal organs use breath and which use voice.

The words found at the end of each lesson in Part II. are for the use of the teacher in illustrating the sounds taught, in script sentences to be placed on the board.

All words not taught in Part I. must be developed phonetically by the *child*; but, should be recognize a new word at sight, let him pronounce it at once, without analyzing it into its elementary sounds.

In teaching each lesson, constant reference should be made to the pictures. Let the children talk about the pictures without restraint. Question them, to lead them to exercise their imagination. Ask what they specially like about the picture, etc.

Allow the children a few moments in which to get the thought expressed in the sentence, before asking them to express the thought orally. Ever keep in mind that reading does not mean the calling of words, but the obtaining of thought.

A short review daily is indispensable. The child must become familiar with the forms of the words; he will learn to read as he does to talk—by seeing, hearing, and doing. Insist upon individual work, and under no circumstances allow any concert exercises.

Two spaces on the board must be reserved—one termed the Sound Board, for registering all sounds as taught, and the other termed the Word Board, for registering the words as taught in Part I. Teach the lessons first in script and then in print.

In the Teachers' Edition will be found a complete manual wherein each lesson is developed, together with outlines for slate and board work; also full instructions on phonetics, rules for pronunciation, spelling, etc.

ELIZABETH H. FUNDENBERG.

PITTSBURG, PA., February 1, 1894.