

**MACMILLAN'S READING  
BOOKS, BOOK IV.  
(STANDARD IV.)**

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Macmillan's Reading Books, Book IV. (Standard IV.) by Anonymous

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**ANONYMOUS**

**MACMILLAN'S READING  
BOOKS, BOOK IV.  
(STANDARD IV.)**



*Maxime Bôcher.*

MACMILLAN'S  
READING BOOKS.

Book IV.

(STANDARD IV.)

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## STANDARD IV.

### ENGLISH CODE.

#### *For Ordinary Pass.*

To read with intelligence a few lines of poetry selected by the Inspector, and to recite from memory fifty lines of poetry.

N.B.—The passages for recitation may be taken from one or more standard authors, previously approved by the Inspector. Meaning and allusions to be known, and if well known to atone for deficiencies of memory.

*For Special Grant (Art. 19, C. 1).*

Parsing of a simple sentence.

### SCOTCH CODE.

#### *For Ordinary Pass.*

Reading intelligently a passage from some history book in use in the school, with parts of speech and explanation of sentences.

*The Special Grant under Art. 19, C. 1, Scotch Code, depends in this and higher Standards on History and Geography.*

In specific subject—English Literature and Language, 1st year.

*(Art. 21 and Schedule IV., Scotch Code.)*

Two hundred lines of poetry, got by heart, with knowledge of meaning and allusions,

# BOOK IV.

## CONTENTS.

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*Prose.*

NO.		PAGE
1.	COWPER'S PETS, PART I. . . . .	7
2.	" PART II. . . . .	10
5.	BRUCE AND THE SPIDER . . . . .	16
6.	ADVENTURES OF BRUCE . . . . .	20
7.	TAKING OF ROXBURGH CASTLE . . . . .	25
9.	BANNOCKBURN . . . . .	29
10.	THE GOODMAN OF BALLENGIEN . . . . .	36
11.	THE GIANT AND THE DWARF . . . . .	40
13.	REGULUS . . . . .	43
15.	NORWAY . . . . .	49
18.	THE ATTACK UPON THE TUILLERIES IN THE FRENCH REVOLUTION . . . . .	54
20.	THE SHEPHERD BOY AND HIS DOG . . . . .	59
25.	MAGNA CHARTA . . . . .	72
26.	THE BISHOP OF CALAIS . . . . .	75
27.	THE BATTLE OF PONTIERS . . . . .	80
33.	ANECDOTE OF GEORGE HERBERT . . . . .	98
36.	A WALK ON A FROSTY DAY . . . . .	102
40.	THE DOGS OF THE MONKS OF ST. BERNARD . . . . .	111
41.	THE EYE OF PHILIPPI . . . . .	114
42.	THE BATTLE OF PHILIPPI . . . . .	116
44.	THE TALE OF THE TWO OFFAS . . . . .	123
46.	THE STORY OF KING ALFRED AND SAINT CUTHBERT . . . . .	132
47.	THE STORY OF EDWIN THE ÆTHELING . . . . .	135

NO.			PAGE
48.	A COUNTRY WALK . . .	Miss Mitford . . .	157
49.	ROBINSON CRUSOE ATTACKED BY WOLVES . . .	Deфоe . . .	149
56.	DEATH OF A COVENANTER . . .	Scott . . .	163

## Poetry.

3.	THE NIGHTINGALE AND GLOW- WORM . . .	W. Cooper . . .	12
4.	THE WRACK OF THE 'HMS- PERUS' . . .	H. W. Longfellow . . .	13
8.	BRUCE TO HIS ARMY . . .	Robert Burns . . .	28
12.	ELEGY ON THE DEATH OF A MAD DOG . . .	Oliver Goldsmith . . .	42
14.	THE MORNING . . .	Earl of Surrey . . .	48
16.	COMING SPRING . . .	Mary Howitt . . .	52
17.	SUMMER'S EYE . . .	Michael Drayton . . .	53
19.	A SOOTY WINTER . . .	Scott . . .	57
21.	THE SHEPHERD'S WINTER NIGHT . . .	" . . .	63
22.	ARGUS . . .	Pope . . .	64
23.	KING CANUTE . . .	Bernard Barton . . .	65
24.	THE BATTLE OF AGINCOURT . . .	Michael Drayton . . .	67
28.	THE SPANISH ARMADA . . .	Macaulay . . .	86
29.	QUEEN MAB . . .	Michael Drayton . . .	91
30.	PIGWIGGEN'S EQUIPMENT . . .	" . . .	93
31.	ROSAELLE . . .	Scott . . .	94
32.	LORD ULLIN'S DAUGHTER . . .	Campbell . . .	96
34.	SHUN DELAYS . . .	Robert Southwell . . .	99
35.	REVENGE . . .	Lady Elizabeth Cary . . .	101
37.	THE CHASE . . .	Scott . . .	106
38.	THE DEATH OF THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON . . .	H. W. Longfellow . . .	108
39.	SOLDIER, WAKE ! . . .	Scott . . .	110
43.	PATRIOTISM . . .	" . . .	124
45.	THE FALL OF THE YEAR . . .	" . . .	131
50.	CHEVY CHASE . . .	Old Ballad . . .	144
51.	THE STORY OF A SUMMER DAY . . .	Alexander Hume . . .	154
52.	TO MOUNTAIN DAISY . . .	Burns . . .	159
53.	HOHENLIEDEN . . .	Campbell . . .	160
54.	THE LESSON OF CREATION . . .	Addison . . .	162
55.	WILLIAM TELL . . .	J. H. Gurney . . .	163
	NOTES . . .		171



## BOOK IV.

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### No. 1. COWPER'S PETS.—PART I.

IN the year 1774, being much indisposed both in mind and body, incapable of diverting myself either with company or books, and yet in a condition that made some diversion necessary, I was glad of anything that would engage my attention without fatiguing it. The children of a neighbour of mine had a leveret given them for a plaything; it was at that time about three months old. Understanding better how to tease the poor creature than to feed it, and soon becoming weary of their charge, they readily consented that their father, who saw it pining and growing leaner every day, should offer it to my acceptance. I was willing enough to take the prisoner under my protection, perceiving that in the management of such an animal, and in the attempt to tame it, I should find just that sort of employment which my case required. It was soon known among the neighbours that I was pleased with the present; and the consequence was that in a short time I had as many leverets offered to me as would have stocked a paddock. I under-

took the care of three, called Puss, Tiney, and Bess. Immediately commencing carpenter, I built them houses to sleep in, so contrived that they were kept perfectly sweet and clean. In the day-time they had the range of a hall, and at night retired each to his own bed, never intruding into that of another.

Puss grew presently familiar, would leap into my lap, raise himself upon his hinder feet, and bite the hair from my temples. He would suffer me to take him up, and to carry him about in my arms, and has more than once fallen fast asleep upon my knee. He was ill three days, during which time I nursed him, kept him apart from his fellows, that they might not molest him (for, like many other wild animals, they persecute one of their own species that is sick), and by constant care, and trying him with a variety of herbs, restored him to perfect health. No creature could be more grateful than my patient after his recovery, a sentiment which he expressed by licking my hand, first the back of it, then the palm, then every finger separately, then between all the fingers—a ceremony which he never performed but once again upon a similar occasion. Finding him extremely tractable, I made it my custom to carry him always after breakfast into the garden, where he hid himself generally under the leaves of a cucumber vine, sleeping or chewing the cud till evening; in the leaves also of

that vine he found a favourite repast. I had not long habituated him to this state of liberty before he began to be impatient for the return of the time when he might enjoy it. He would invite me to the garden by drumming upon my knee, and by a look of such expression as it was not possible to misinterpret. If this rhetoric did not immediately succeed, he would take the skirt of my coat between his teeth and pull it with all his force. Thus Puss might be said to be perfectly tamed, the shyness of his nature was done away, and on the whole it was visible, by many symptoms, which I have not room to enumerate, that he was happier in human society than when shut up with his natural companions.

Not so Tiney: upon him the kindest treatment had not the least effect. He, too, was sick, and in his sickness had an equal share of my attention; but if, after his recovery, I took the liberty to stroke him, he would grunt, strike with his fore-feet, spring forward, and bite. He was, however, very entertaining in his way; even his surliness was matter of mirth; and in his play he preserved such an air of gravity, and performed his feats with such a solemnity of manner, that in him, too, I had an agreeable companion.