

**ROYAL SCHOOL SERIES.
THE ROYAL
HISTORY READERS. NO.
1. ENGLAND, TO 1154 A.D**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649695867

Royal School Series. The Royal History Readers. No. 1. England, to 1154 A.D by Thomas Nelson

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

THOMAS NELSON

**ROYAL SCHOOL SERIES.
THE ROYAL
HISTORY READERS. NO.
1. ENGLAND, TO 1154 A.D**

Royal School Series.

NEW CLASS SUBJECT READERS.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL READERS.

Now Ready, Nos. I., II., and III. Beautifully Illustrated.

**Other Volumes in Preparation.*

ROYAL HISTORY READERS.

Now Ready, Nos. I. and II. Beautifully Illustrated.

No. III., *Shortly.*

ROYAL NATURAL HISTORY READERS.

Now Ready, No. I., for Standard II. Beautifully Illustrated.

Nos. II. and III., *in Preparation.*

T. NELSON AND SONS, LONDON AND EDINBURGH.

Royal School Series.

THE ROYAL
HISTORY READERS.

No. I.

ENGLAND, to 1154 A.D.



London:

T. NELSON AND SONS, PATERNOSTER ROW.
EDINBURGH; AND NEW YORK.

1881.

276. f. 26

PREFACE.

THIS History Reader is the first of a Series of three books, covering the whole period of English History, and intended to be used in the three higher Standards.

It consists of a complete and consecutive outline* of English History, interspersed with picturesque narratives of the Great Events. The titles of the lessons forming the outline are in bold type. The supplementary narratives include Biographies of Great Men, and Pictures of Life and Manners at different epochs. The pieces of Historical Poetry contained in the volume will add to the value of the book as a Reader, and will at the same time increase the interest of the lessons and deepen the impression they produce.

The following are the three books of the Series :—

1. **THE ROYAL HISTORY READER, No. I. England from the Earliest Times to the Close of the Norman Line (1154). Illustrated. Price 1s.**
2. **THE ROYAL HISTORY READER, No. II. England—The Plantagenets (Anjou, Lancaster, and York) and the Tudors (1154-1603). Illustrated. Price 1s. 3d.**
3. **THE ROYAL HISTORY READER, No. III. England—The House of Stewart and the House of Hanover (1603-1881). Illustrated. Price 1s. 6d.**

* The outline of English History contained in these three Readers is also issued separately, under the title "A Simple History of England," to suit those who wish to have the leading facts in the history of our country presented briefly in one book.

CONTENTS.

. The titles of the Outline Lessons are in Bold type; the star (*) indicates Poetical Places.

1. The Early Britons,	9
2. How the Early Britons Lived,	11
3. Customs of the Druids,	15
4. The Roman Times,	19
5. Caesar's Second Invasion,	22
6. Defeat of Caractacus,	25
7. Caractacus at Rome,*	27
8. Defeat and Death of Boadicea,	30
9. Boadicea,*	32
10. Agricola,	34
11. From the English Settlement to Egbert,	37
12. Hengist and Horsa,	39
13. King Arthur,	42
14. The Passing of Arthur,*	45
15. The English become Christian,	48
16. Edwin of Deira,	50
17. The Rise of Wessex,	53
18. From Egbert to Æthelstan,	57
19. King Alfred's Wanderings,	59
20. King Alfred and the Danes,	60
21. From Æthelstan to the Norman Conquest,	63
22. Dunstan, Abbot of Glastonbury,	66
23. How a Dane became King,	69
24. Stories of King Canute,	71
25. The Norman Triumph at Hastings,	74
26. The Battle of Hastings,*	78
27. Old English Society and Government,	80
28. Old English Life and Customs,	82

THE NORMAN LINE.

29. William I.—The Conqueror,	56
30. William the Conqueror,*	88
31. Hereward the Englishman,	90
32. Siege of the Camp of Refuge,	92
33. The Burial of William the Conqueror,*	94
34. William II.—Rufus,	97
35. The Crusaders' War-Song,*	99
36. A Fatal Arrow,	101
37. Henry I.—Beaumont,	103
38. The White Ship,	105
39. The Children of Henry the First,*	107
40. Stephen,	110
41. The Battle of the Standard,	112
42. The Feudal System,	116
43. Norman Life and Customs,	120
44. Curfew Song of England,*	122
<hr/>	
Chief Dates,	124
Genealogical Trees,	126

THE
ROYAL HISTORY READERS.

No. 1.—ENGLAND TO 1154.

1.—THE EARLY BRITONS.

1. Two thousand years ago, the country in which we live was almost covered with 'dense forests, where roamed wolves, bears, wild boars, and white-maned bulls. The Britons who lived in it then were the forefathers of the Welsh. But they were a wild and almost savage race. The country was very little known to other nations.¹

2. In those days there were no large towns, nor pretty villages, nor well-built houses; no churches, nor school-houses. Here and there, where the forest had been 'cleared, there were a few poor huts, made of rods tied into the shape of a bee-hive or a sugar-loaf, and covered with mud and turf. Perhaps a trench or ditch was cut around the huts, to keep off the wild beasts.

3. The Early Britons did not 'till the soil. They sowed no corn or other seeds. They lived on roots and fruits, and on the flesh of animals killed in