# READINGS FROM THE BOOK OF NATURE, PP. 1-130

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Readings from the Book of Nature, pp. 1-130 by Simeon Mills

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### SIMEON MILLS

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#### **READINGS**

FROM THE

15-437

## BOOK OF NATURE

BY

## SIMEON MILLS

"Plants and trees are the children of light;

CHICAGO: CHARLES H. KERR & COMPANY, 1893.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Flowers and fruits are condensed sun beams."

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#### INTRODUCTION.

In reading the book of nature, some hidden truths have been discovered, some new theories formulated, and some speculative ideas indulged in.

The most important truth is the discovery that water is the element, and that hydrogen and oxygen gases, are compound combustible substances, and not the component parts of water.

The arguments and facts that sustain this great truth, it is hoped are so clearly stated, and the experiments that prove it, so well illustrated that it will not require a professional chemist to comprehend them.

The discoveries made and being made with electricity, will in all probability in the near future cause important changes in the natural sciences, as now understood and taught.

All that is desired is a careful investigation of the arguments and facts presented; and that secured the truths contained in the discoveries herein made known, will in the end prevail.

THE AUTHOR.

Madison, Wisconsin, 1893.

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#### TO THE READER.

Reader, have you not often struck the prepared end of a common match against a rough surface, and seen a blaze instantly burst forth, and apparently consume the match?

Such, however, was not the case, the blaze did not burn the stick, it was the *result* and not the cause of its burning.

Have you not seen the seed fall upon the ground, and no matter which side or which end up it lay, burst its shell and always send its root downward and its top upward, grow and mature in the plant or tree?

Have you not sometimes been inclined to wonder how, or why, these things occur?

It is the purpose of these readings, to explain so far as possible, the cause of some of these little mysteries that surround us; illustrating each statement of fact, with such familiar examples that every reader can understand them.



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