

**THE GUILFORD SPELLER:
WITH WORD STUDIES
AND DICTIONARY WORK**

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The Guilford Speller: With Word Studies and Dictionary Work by A. B. Guilford & Aaron Lovell

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A. B. GUILFORD & AARON LOVELL

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*WITH WORD STUDIES AND
DICTIONARY WORK*

BY
A. B. GUILFORD
AND
AARON LOVELL

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TO VIRU
AIRROTLIAO

PREFACE

ALTHOUGH there have undoubtedly been improvements in the method of teaching spelling during the last twenty-five years, the fact that the spelling is poor in schools, in colleges, and in business life generally cannot be gainsaid. The complaint is so common and so persistent that the inference is irresistible either that the subject is extremely difficult or that the present method of teaching it is faulty.

The authors of this book believe the trouble arises in large part from a wrong method, and accordingly offer as a remedy this book, the characteristic feature of which is *dictionary* work.

This consists not in merely telling the pupil to consult the dictionary—for the dictionary is an oracle that divulges little unless wisely interrogated,—but the pupil is given varied and numerous lessons on its proper use till he thoroughly understands what a dictionary is for, becomes expert in its use, ceases guessing when a difficulty is presented, and of himself not only consults the dictionary, but does so intelligently and rapidly; and, as a result, very rarely misspells or mispronounces a word.

The great majority of those who ever learn to spell acquire the accomplishment in precisely this way, but after leaving school. The pupil in school, however, may, by the dictionary method, be taught more systematically, much more quickly and

much better in every way, so that accurate spelling and pronunciation early become a habit. We speak confidently, for this method has been tested for several years in a large city school with the result that misspelling was soon practically banished, and in the upper grades the subject had no longer to be dealt with. This was not accomplished without work, but when the use of the dictionary was once mastered, the pupil managed his own spelling.

Side by side with the teaching of orthography, and somewhat more fully than usual, lessons are given on *Prefixes, Suffixes, Roots, Homonyms, and Synonyms*, in such a way as to lend interest to the main subject. These lessons are not made memory tasks for show purposes, but drill work is given on each, and the pupil is set squarely in the road to further knowledge of these subjects, and may travel therein with profit if he chooses.

A. L.

JUNE, 1901.

NOTE. — The spelling and diacritical marks used in this book follow Webster's International Dictionary, and all references are to that work.

THE GUILFORD SPELLER

PART I

LESSON 1

VOWELS

Section I

Pronounce slowly and distinctly each word in the following list.

In pronouncing each word, prolong the sound of the italicized letter, then give its sound separately and slowly.

bay	me	line	go
cane	she	ride	home
lame	seen	kite	doze
cube	talk	ask	form
tune	arm	lamp	blot
blue	dark	met	dove
try	calm	miss	down

As you utter these sounds, the voice comes from the throat clearly and freely. The flow of sound is but little obstructed by the teeth, tongue, or lips.

A letter that represents a free and open voice sound is a Vowel.

The vowels are a, e, i, o, and u, and w and y when they stand for pure voice sounds.

Section II

Read slowly, prolonging the vowel sounds in the following stanza.

THE BUGLE SONG

The splendor falls on castle walls
And snowy summits old in story :
The long light shakes across the lakes,
And the wild cataract leaps in glory.
Blow, bugle, blow, set the wild echoes flying,
Blow, bugle ; answer, echoes, dying, dying, dying.

TENNYSON.

falls story lakes blow long bugle castle
walls glory shakes echo leaps flying dying

NOTE.— Observe the force and beauty attained by the repetition of the vowel sounds at intervals.

LESSON 2

LONG A AND SHORT A

Section I

Read carefully :

Break, break, break,
On thy cold gray stones, O sea !
And I would that my tongue could utter
The thoughts that arise in me.

TENNYSON.

Sound the a in break and the a in and.