

**THE CYR READERS:  
ARRANGED BY  
GRADES. BOOK FOUR**

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The Cyr Readers: Arranged by Grades. Book Four by Ellen M. Cyr

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ELLEN M. CYR

BOOK FOUR

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## PREFACE.

IN presenting Book Four to the public, the author would call attention to a few of its distinguishing features which should commend it to modern educators.

The primary aim of this Reader is education by means of good literature. The mere teaching of the art of reading is of minor importance compared to the awakening of interest and the formation and education of the literary taste.

We have now reached the period when children begin to select their own reading, and it is of the utmost importance that they shall make the acquaintance of such authors as shall be helpful and stimulating.

A large share of the pupils in our public schools have no intelligent means for selecting books from the public libraries; the reading book should be the means of introducing such authors as have written wholesome books for children.

The study of the poets is continued in this Reader by means of biographical stories from the lives of Holmes and Bryant, and a standard poem from each of these two eminent American poets. The work in literature is broadened and enlarged by the introduction of choice selections from other authors, whose writings are of special interest to the young.

Great care has been taken in selecting this matter; only such authors as have written standard literature have been chosen. In order to impress their lives and writings upon the children, portraits

are given, and an introductory sketch has been written about each one.

Grateful acknowledgment is accorded to Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. for permission to use certain copyright matter from their publications; also to the Alcott heirs, Mrs. Diaz, Mrs. Elizabeth Phelps-Ward, and Mr. Henry L. Koopman for their ready response in allowing the use of their copyrighted stories.

ELLEN M. CYR.

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