



held the basket up as high as I could reach. Then I called, "Kitty, Kitty," and, with a spring, down she came into the basket.

5. I took her down and into the house. She seemed so glad to be safe on the ground once more that I thought she would never do that foolish thing again.

6. But every morning this stupid little kitten would climb the trellis just the same, and have to be taken down in the basket. I suppose she

thought it fun to climb up, and I think she rather enjoyed the ride down in the basket.

LANGUAGE AND PUNCTUATION.

The little marks around "Mew! mew!" and "Kitty, kitty," are called QUOTATION MARKS. What is between the two is a *quotation*. Write sentences with these quotations, and place the marks around what is quoted. Notice that the marks are commas, and that two of them are "commas wrong side up," that is, *inverted commas*.

SPELLING.

bas'ket	stood	reach	safe'ly
suppose'	bad'ly	spring	climb

VII. GRANDMOTHER TOAD AND BRIGHTEYES.

niece	Bright eyes	tongue	scratched	grand'daugh ter
Grace	trow'el	laugh	poked	e nough'

1. My little niece Grace lives in the country. In the summer I go to visit her.

2. Close by the steps of the house in which she lives is quite a good-sized hole. In it lives,— what do you suppose? You might guess, and you might not. I'll tell you. It is the home of Grandmother Toad and her granddaughter Brighteyes. Grace and I have tamed them.

3. When I am there I take little Grace by the

hand and say, "Come, we must go down into the garden and find a damp place to get some supper for Grandmother Toad and Brighteyes." We have with us a trowel, and after digging a few minutes we find enough worms for their



supper. They have to get their own breakfast and dinner.

4. Did you ever see a toad eat? If you have not, try sometime to feed one. I know you will laugh when its tongue comes out and so quickly folds back again.

5. One day last summer I took a walk around

the yard and down into the garden. I met Brighteyes there; she kept so very close to me that I said, "Want to go to sleep, Brighteyes?"

6. I took a little stick and scratched her head, and soon she was fast asleep. When I thought she had slept long enough I told her to wake up; but she did not want to do so. I poked her gently with the stick and tried to make her jump, but it was some little time before she was wide awake.

NATURAL HISTORY.

The picture illustrates. (1) The large, full eyes. (2) The very wide mouth. (3) The absence of a neck. (4) The long hind legs, with flexible joints, and toes turned outward. (5) The short fore legs, with spreading toes turned inward. (6) The dark color, and rough, warty surface of back, and light color of lower parts. From these, seeing what is in front or at either side without turning the head, ease in catching insects, the long leaps, the power of digging in soft mud, or climbing banks, can be easily inferred.

LANGUAGE AND PUNCTUATION.

There are three questions in this story. Find them, and notice that the same little mark (?) is after each. It is the mark of INTERROGATION. Interrogation means question. Write a question, and use the mark. Supply what is missing in "Want to go to sleep, Brighteyes?"

SPELLING.

vis'it	laugh	gar'den	gent'ly
close	guess	a sleep'	a wake'

Use these words in sentences.

VIII. SIX NICE DUCKS.

dove	curled	a head'	bot'tom	grubbed
ruled	feath'ers	swam	broad	snapped



There were six nice ducks
that I once knew,
Fat ducks and pretty
ducks they were too.
And one had a feather
curled up on his back,
And he ruled the others
with his

“Quack! Quack! Quack!”

Across the green fields those ducks would go,
Widdle, waddle, wuddle, all in a row;
But the one with a feather curled up on his back
Was always ahead, with his

“Quack! Quack! Quack!”

Here a fat bug, and there a small toad,
They snapped up quickly while on the road;
But the one with the feather his broad bill would
smack

As he ate the biggest with his

“Quack! Quack! Quack!”

Into the brook they went with a dash,
They swam through the water with many a
splash;

But the one with a feather curled up on his back
He swam the fastest, with his

“Quack! Quack! Quack!”



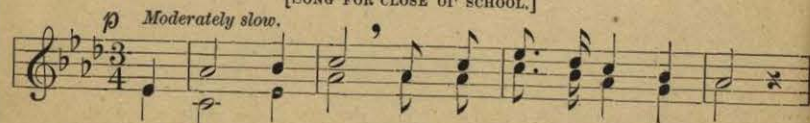
Some dove to the bottom, pink feet in air,
And grubbed in the mud for fat worms rare.
But the one with a feather of worms had no lack;
For he stayed the longest, with his

“Quack! Quack! Quack!”

If I told you all that these ducks did,
 What nice times they had in the meadow hid,
 The one with a feather curled up on his back
 Would fill half the story with his
 "Quack! Quack! Quack!"

IX. GOOD NIGHT.

[SONG FOR CLOSE OF SCHOOL.]



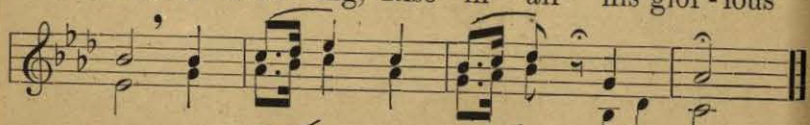
1. Good night! good night! now to all a kind good night!
2. Good night! good night! now to all a kind good night!



An-gel-like, while earth is sleep-ing, Stars a-bove their
 Slum-ber sweet-ly till the morn-ing, Till the sun, the



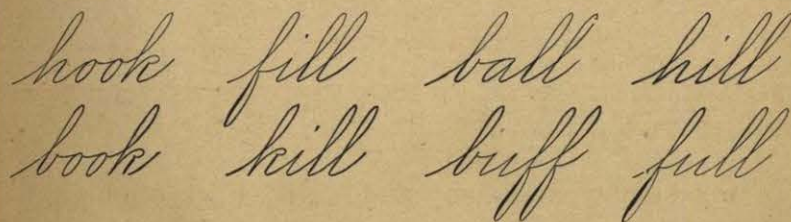
watch are keep-ing, As the star of Beth-lehem
 world a-dorn-ing, Rise in all his glor-ious



bright. Good night!.. Good night!.. Good night!
 might! Good night!.. Good night!.. Good night!

TALES OUT OF SCHOOL. II.

"This was our lesson to-day, mamma," said Vio. "We wrote on this ruled yellow paper, and Miss Hill said those who wrote well might keep their papers. The others will have to use slates till they make the loops all just alike."



"You see mamma," she added, "they have to be *exactly* the same height, and to cross at the height of the low letters, — *i, o, a,* and *u*; and the line mustn't *bend* the least bit where it crosses. Miss Hill says it will not do to have crooked-backed letters.

"There were only a few that had their papers to keep. She told one of the boys that his *f* looked as if he was thinking of his bow and arrow when he made it.

"I am very glad now that you were so particular with me. I should not like to write worse than the others."

X. WE THANK THEE.

For flowers that bloom about our feet;
 For tender grass, so fresh, so sweet;
 For song of bird and hum of bee;
 For all things fair we hear or see,—
 Father in heaven, we thank thee!

For blue of stream and blue of sky;
 For pleasant shade of branches high;
 For fragrant air and cooling breeze;
 For beauty of the blooming trees,—
 Father in heaven, we thank thee!

For mother-love and father-care,
 For brothers strong and sisters fair;
 For love at home and school each day;
 For guidance, lest we go astray,—
 Father in heaven, we thank thee!

For thy dear, everlasting arms,
 That bear us o'er all ills and harms;
 For blessed words of long ago,
 That help us now thy will to know,—
 Father in heaven, we thank thee!

XI. PIGGY'S PLIGHT.

lis'tened	crea'ture	min'ute	shoul'ders	heart'ily
choked	pick'et	o bliged'	pinch	guess

1. Willie went to ride one day with his mother. As they turned a corner, Kittie, the horse, pricked up her ears and listened. The others listened too.

2. There were cries, very loud cries, from something behind the fence by the road.

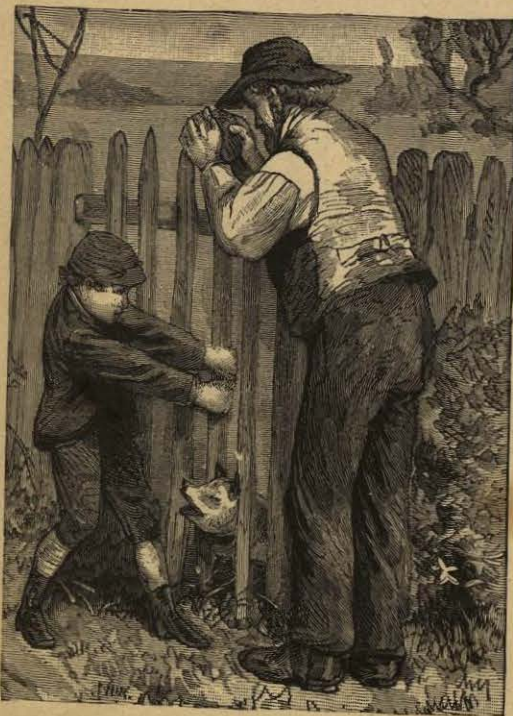
"What can it be?" said Willie's mother. "Some poor creature is in pain."

3. In a minute Willie saw a poor little pig held fast in the fence. He had tried to get through, and see the world on the other side. He pushed his head through, but his plump shoulders wouldn't go.

4. "Wee, wee, wee!" he cried, as loud as he could. "I'm caught! Oh, I'm caught! Wee, wee! Come and help me! Won't somebody come?"



5. He was almost choked. Willie's mamma stopped the horse, and Willie jumped out and ran to piggy. He tried to get him out, but it was of no use. Piggy was fast. Willie could



neither pull him through nor push him back.

6. "Go to the house, quick, Willie, and tell somebody," said mamma.

7. Willie went, and an old man came. He, too, tried to get piggy out; but it was of no use. Poor piggy's cries were growing fainter and faint-

er. At last the old man picked up a large stone. He pounded a picket off the fence on one side of the pig. This crowded it away so that piggy could pull his head back.

8. "Ugh, ugh, ugh!" he grunted behind the

fence. "Ugh! I'm safe, but, oh, dear! how that fence did pinch! I won't try that again!—Ugh!"

9. "I'm very much obliged to you," said the old man heartily. "I guess I should have lost him if you had not told me."

10. "Ugh, ugh, ugh!" grunted piggy behind the fence. "I guess you would!"

LANGUAGE AND PUNCTUATION.

The mark after "Wee, wee, wee!" and "Ugh, ugh, ugh!" is the EXCLAMATION POINT (!). It is used thirteen times in this lesson.

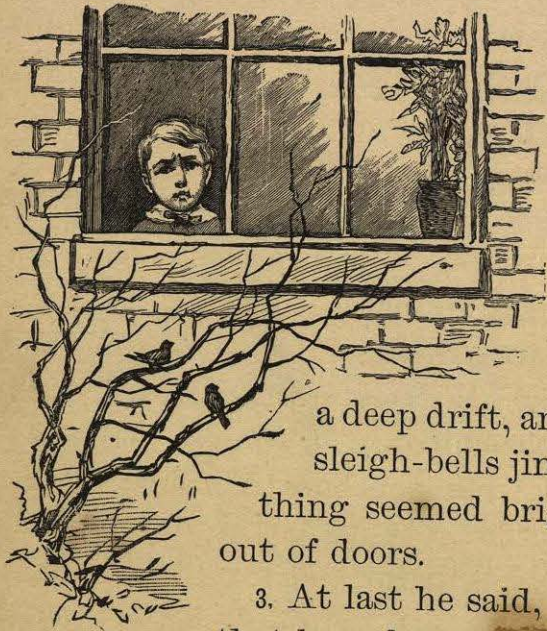
What the old man said to Willie meant the same as "Thank you." Write the words he used. Tell what Willie might have said in reply.

XII. WHAT BEN WOULD RATHER BE.

pout'ing	sleigh'-bells	cir'cus	om'ni bus	for got'ten
sleigh'ride	butch'ers	el'e phants	crack'ers	believe'

1. Little Ben felt very cross one morning. He would not speak a pleasant word to anybody. He cried because grandma would not let him go out and play in the wet snow. His mamma was away from home, and grandma did not want him to take cold.

2. Ben sat by the window and pouted. He



looked out and saw the birds hopping about over the snow and picking up crumbs. He saw the butcher's dog tumbling through

a deep drift, and he heard the sleigh-bells jingling. Everything seemed bright and merry out of doors.

3. At last he said, "I don't think that boys have any good times at all. I should rather be a dog than to be a boy. I should rather be a bird, too. Then I could play in the snow as much as I wanted to."

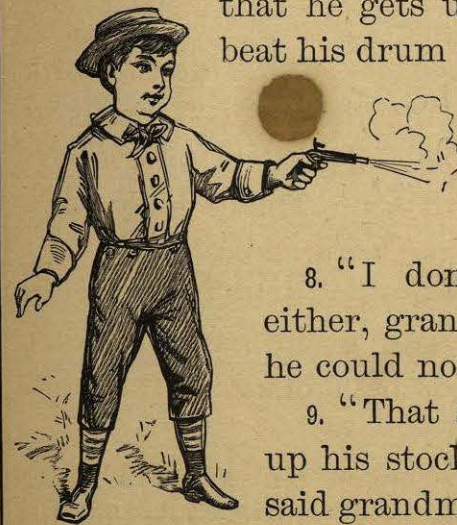
4. "I am sorry to hear my little Ben talk in such a foolish way," said grandma. "I don't think that dogs or birds have one-half the good times that boys do."

5. "I think they have better times," said Ben; and he kept on pouting and looking out of the window.

6. Grandma did not reply, but after Ben had had a little time to think, she said, —

"I know a little boy who went to the circus with his grandpa and had a very nice time. He saw the horses, the ponies, and the elephants, and he rode home in the big omnibus. He had enough to talk about for a whole week. I never knew any dogs or birds that went to a circus with their grandpas."

7. Ben began to remember the nice time she spoke of, but he did not say a word. After awhile grandma went on: "I know a little boy who is so happy when the Fourth of July comes that he gets up before daylight to beat his drum and fire his crackers.



I don't believe that dogs know anything about the Fourth of July."

8. "I don't believe they do, either, grandma," said Ben; and he could not help smiling.

9. "That same little boy hung up his stocking last Christmas," said grandma presently, "and, oh, what pretty presents he had in it! And what

pretty presents he had that were too large to be put into a stocking! I don't think that Santa Claus brings presents to dogs and birds."

10. Little Ben could not be cross any longer, and he laughed aloud. "Why, I'm that boy, grandma," he said; "and I do have lots of good times."

11. "That's just what I thought," said grandma. "I knew you must have forgotten about some of the things that children enjoy so much;" and she laughed, too, at the sight of his funny face.

12. "I was foolish to say what I did," said Ben; "but I feel better now."

13. Little Ben was pleasant and happy all the rest of the day. He helped grandma as much as he could. He was very glad when her spool dropped so that he could pick it up for her. And the next morning, when it was clear and bright, he went out and had a fine sleighride with his grandpa.

LANGUAGE AND PUNCTUATION.

There are two new marks in this lesson. In paragraph 7, after on, is the COLON (:); and there are five SEMICOLONS (;). See if you can find them.

XIII. A QUEER PLACE FOR A BIRD'S HOME.

trav'el ler	chafed	jour'ney	spied
pre pared'	groaned	search'ing	co'sily

1. One evening last summer a tramp, who had travelled many miles, lay down on the leaves in a pleasant wood to sleep.

Before he went to sleep he pulled off one shoe, for it had



chafed his foot and made it very sore.

2. In the morning he rose, and prepared to go on to beg his morning meal.

When he tried to put on his shoe, it hurt his foot so badly that he groaned aloud. He gave up trying to wear it, and threw it into the bushes.

3. The shoe caught in the fork of a young maple-tree, and hung fast by the heel, with the toe downward. The poor man limped away on his journey, and went I don't know where.

4. Before many days a bright-eyed little bird spied the shoe. She thought it would be a fine place to build a home in. So she and her mate brought fine twigs and straw and leaves in their bills. They placed them in the shoe in pretty nest-shape, and lined their new house with soft hair and wool.

5. Beth and her papa were out searching the woods for wild-flowers one day. The shadow of the shoe fell on the moss beneath the little maple.

6. Looking up, Beth saw the nest. Her papa bent the maple down, and Beth looked in. She saw five cunning little blue eggs lying cosily against the gray lining.

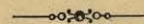
7. Beth is a tiny girl, just past being rocked to sleep in mamma's lap. She laughed aloud, and clapped her fat little hands for joy, when she saw this dainty sight.

8. "There will be birds here before long," said her papa, "and you shall come to see them."

LANGUAGE AND SPELLING.

bushes	hurt	limped	a gainst'
leaves	sore	lined	a loud'

Use these words in conversation.



XIV. WHAT A BIG MAN AM I!

dis'tric't	sol'diers	be lieve'	fierce'ly	shoul'der
re cite'	plumes	sword	kitch'en	cap'tain

1. Tommy Stiles lived on a farm, and went to a district school. He was a bright boy, and learned his lesson quickly.

2. But he liked best to hear the older children recite. He liked to hear of wars, and the brave deeds of soldiers. One fine June day Tommy thought he would play soldier himself, and go to war. He put on an old red vest which his father wore in the brass band. His mother made him a paper soldier-cap, with plumes. He had a wooden gun, a tin sword, and a small drum.

3. There was no other boy there to play with him, and so he "made believe" he was the whole army. He was Captain Thomas, and Tommy

the drummer-boy, and Tom the soldier,—and all three were the army.

4. Then Captain Thomas said, "Forward, march!" and waved his sword. Tom shouldered his gun. Tommy beat the drum,—but this was not easy, for Tom's gun and Captain Thomas' sword kept getting in the way. Then the army marched to the field behind the barn.

5. Up and down it filed, back and forth, now quick, now slow. Indeed, now and then it hopped! Captain Thomas had to call out to Tom pretty often to keep step. But there was no fault to find with Tommy. He drummed so hard that he scared the hens and sheep.

6. All went well, save for one thing. Once Tom ran so fast that he tumbled down, and bumped the army's nose against a stone. Then Captain Thomas was angry, and scolded poor Tom well, I can tell you.

7. At last a grand charge was made. The army raced after Spot, the calf, and thumped the drum, and shook the sword, and threw stones. (This was firing the gun.) Poor Spot was put to flight. He ran off up the hill, with his heels and tail flying wildly in the air.

8. Then the army marched back to the garden

fence, and Captain Thomas made a speech. "Soldiers," said he, "we have whipped the whole world, and it has run away. I did it with my sword. Now I must be the king."



9. Just then Trix, the gray goose, stretched her neck through the fence and bit Tommy on the leg. The captain, the drummer, and the whole army raised a loud yell, while Trix hissed fiercely.