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In the FOURTH READER *new* words are occasionally introduced; they should, in each case, form the subject of a short word-lesson.

For example :—

tak-ing	din-ed	ask-ed
mak-ing	tim-ed	help-ed
car-ing	tun-ed	wish-ed
wav-ing	nam-ed	pack-ed
rid-ing	lam-ed	dash-ed
ris-ing	car-ed	fill-ed
shin-ing	pleas-ed	pick-ed
slid-ing	prais-ed	peck-ed

J. H.

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FOURTH INFANT READER.

LESSON I.

A KIND BOY.

1. I saw some boys by the side of a pond. One boy had a bag with a dog in it. The dog had been ill for a long time, and the boys were sent to drown it.

2. The poor dog did not like to be shut up in a bag, and tried hard to get out.

3. But it was of no use: the boy who held the bag put it in the pond, while the other boys got stones to throw at it.

4. Just then, Ned came to sail his boat. When he saw the sad case of the poor dog, he said, "Here, boys, you shall have my boat if you will give me the dog."

5. Most of the boys said "Yes" to this; but Bob, the boy who had held the bag, said, "No, we shall lose our fun then;" and he came up with a big stone to throw at the dog. But Ned got hold of the bag, and ran off with it in his arms.

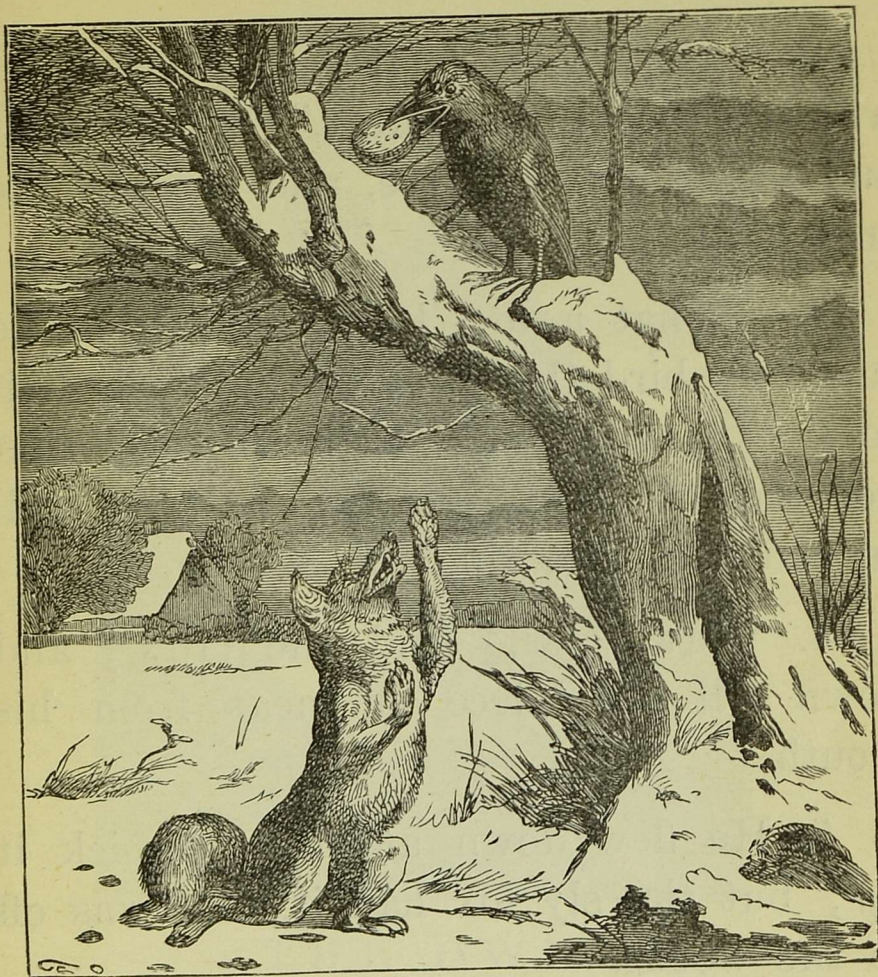
6. Ned took such care of the poor thing that it soon got well, and grew to be a fine dog. It would run by Ned's side when he went to school, and be at the gate for him when school was over.

7. When Ned had grown to be a man, and was rich by means of care and hard work, some bad men came one night to rob his house.

8. But the dog, now very old, made so much noise that the robbers ran away.

9. One of the men was caught, and who do you think it was? That same boy, who, years before, threw the poor dog into the pond.

LESSON II.



THE FOX AND THE CROW.

1. A fox, who had not had a bit of food for two days, saw a crow sitting on

the branch of a tree, with a nice piece of meat in his beak.

2. "Ah!" said the fox to himself, "I will try to get that meat." So he went and sat under the tree, and said to the crow :

3. "What a fine bird you are, to be sure ; no bird that flies in the air is half so fine as you are, and I am sure that not one of them can sing half as well as you can. Do sing me a song."

4. "Caw, caw," said the crow ; and down fell the piece of meat from his mouth.

5. He flew down at once to pick it up ; but the sly fox had it, and was off to the woods.

6. "How silly I was to try to sing!" said the crow.

LESSON III.

THE OWL.

1. Do you know what bird this is? It is an owl.
2. What large round eyes he has, and how grave and wise he looks!

3. He cannot see well by day. He does not like the sun. His eyes are so made that he can see best at night.

4. He has long sharp claws, and his beak is like a hook.

5. As soon as the sun has set, he flies about to catch mice and birds, on which he feeds.

6. His wings make no noise when he flies, so that the mice and birds cannot hear him till he is quite near.

7. The owl builds his nest in the hole of a tree, or in a rock, or in the ivy on an old wall.

8. A young owl looks like a ball of wool, with eyes peeping from it.



LESSON IV.

THE WASP AND THE BEE.

1. A wasp met a bee, and said to him :
“ Pray can you tell me why men are so rude to me, while they are so fond of you ?

2. “ We are much alike : we both have wings, we both love sweets, and we both sting folks when they hurt or vex us.

3. “ I see more of men than you do. I am more in the house with them than you are. Yet they hate me, and try to kill me ; but for you they build a grand house, and feed you when the cold days come. Can you tell me what it all means ? ”

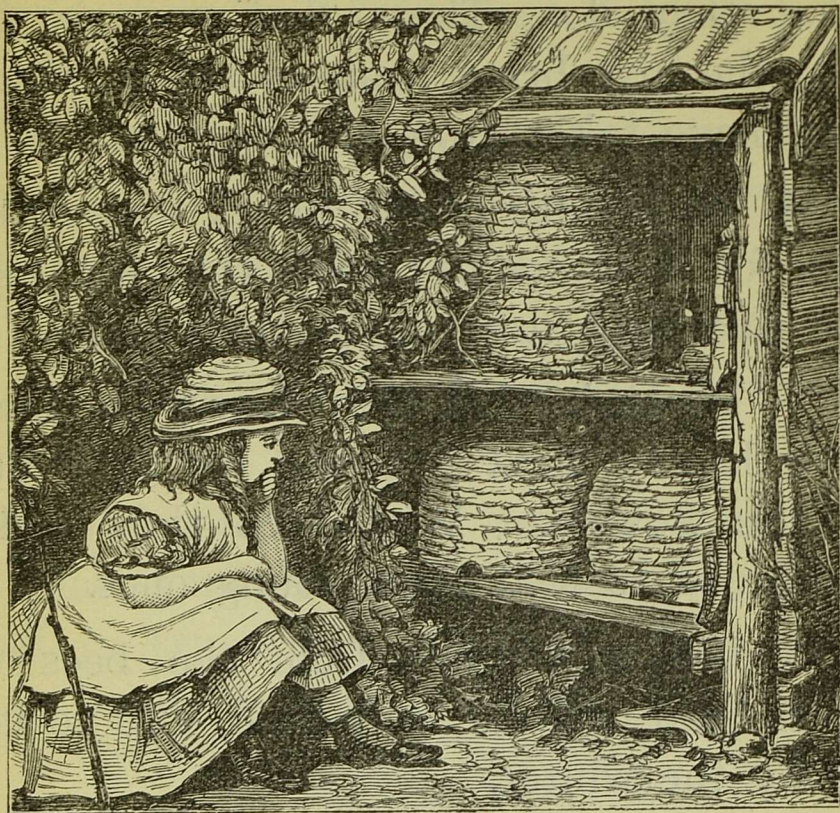
4. The bee said : “ You are of no use to man ; you only tease, and vex him, and spoil his goods. I work all day to fill my cells with sweet food for his use.”

5. Strive to be of use. Try to do good, and not harm.

LESSON V.

THE SUN-RISE.

1. Let us go and see the sun rise. Come to the top of the high hill, and we shall see it.
2. Can you tell me where the sun rises? Look for it in the east, where you can see that long streak of light.
3. See how red the sky is there! And now the sun shows his first beams.
4. The sun is so bright that it hurts our eyes to look at it; but the air is nice and cool.
5. Do you hear the birds sing in the trees? They are glad to see the sun rise. They sing for joy that the day has come once more.
6. The sun shines all day upon the earth to keep it warm, so that the plants may grow, and that we may not die of cold.

LESSON VI.

THE BEES.

1. Come with me and look at the bees. You must not go too near the hive, or the bees may sting you.

2. You may learn much from the bees. Do you see how they move here and there? The bees are hard at work.

3. Look with care, and you will see what they do. Those that you see fly into the hive bring loads of honey, which they have taken from the flowers.

4. With some of the honey they make wax for their combs ; some they eat, and the rest they stow up in their cells.

5. What is that they bring on their hind legs ? That is pollen, or dust, out of the flowers. With this they make bee-bread to feed their young ones.

6. We may learn from the bees to work hard, and to work well, and to lay up for the winter.

LESSON VII.

THE MOON.

1. What is that bright light which I see in the sky ?

2. It is the moon. How red and round it is, and how large it looks! It is now *full* moon.

3. Two weeks ago it was *new* moon. You saw the new moon in the *west*, just after the sun went down.

4. Now the moon is quite full and round, and you see it in the *east*, just after the sun has set.

5. If you watch it, you will find that the moon will be less and less each night; and in two weeks you may again see it as a bright bow in the west.

LESSON VIII.

STORY OF AN APE.

1. A man who lived on a farm had an old ape. This ape had been taught to do many useful things.

2. But he would try to do some

things which he ought not to do. When he saw the man do any-thing, he would try to do the same.

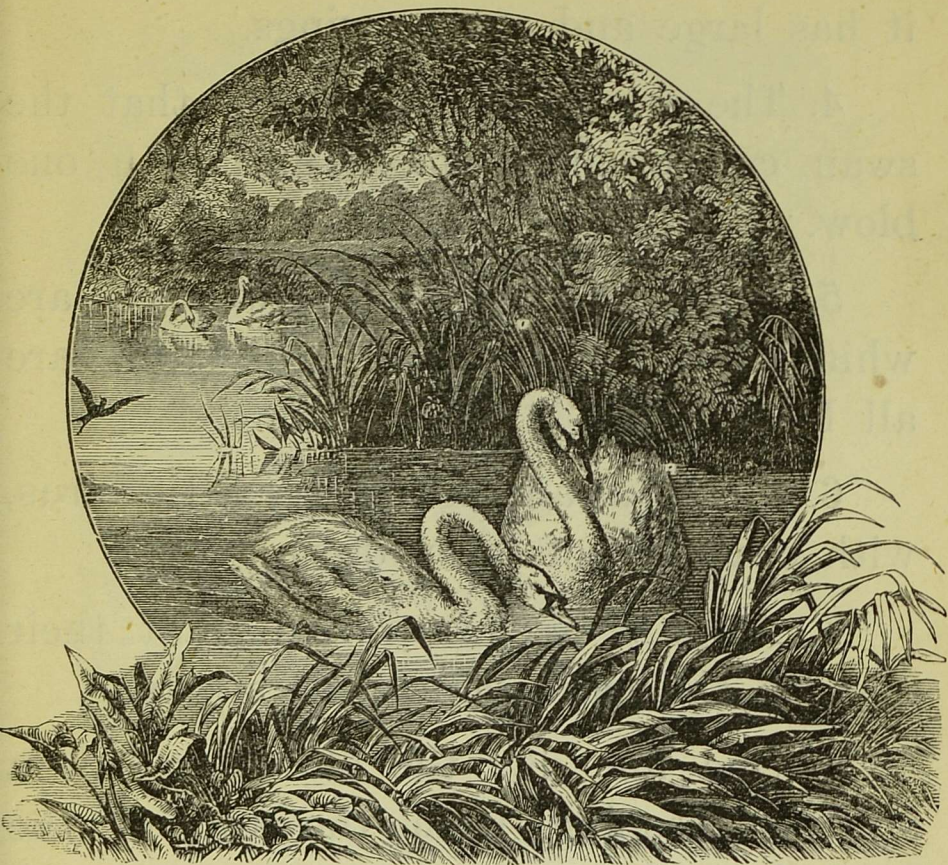
3. One day the man set a trap for a fox. He put the trap near the wood, and spread some earth and leaves over it, so that it could not be seen.

4. As soon as the man was gone, the old ape went to see what had been done. He felt round on the earth, just as he had seen the man do, when all at once his hand was caught in the trap.

5. You may be sure the old ape cried out with pain; but he had to bear it till the man came and set him free. His hand was badly hurt, and was sore for a long time.

6. This taught the ape not to try to find out what he had no right to know. Some boys and girls need to be taught this lesson.

LESSON IX.



SWANS.

1. There are few birds as large, or as pretty, as the white swans.
2. How fine and proud the swans look as they glide along on the water of the smooth lake!

3. The swan can fly as well as swim; it has large and strong wings.

4. The wings are so strong that the swan can break a man's arm with one blow.

5. Most of the swans we see are white, but in a far-off land they are all black.

6. Young swans are pretty little birds, with coats of soft grey down.

7. A pair of swans had built their nest on the bank of a clear stream.

8. One fine day the old swan saw a sly fox peeping from the top of the bank into the nest.

9. The fox wanted the young swans; but the old swan flew at him, and made such good use of his wings, that the fox soon lay dead on the ground.

LESSON X.

THE YOUNG BIRD.

1. One day, a little girl, named Clara, found a tiny bird which had fallen from its nest. It tried to fly, but could not.

2. Clara took it up in her hand, and put it in an old cage, and gave it some crumbs of bread to eat.

3. But the poor little thing was not old enough to feed itself; and so, what do you think Clara did?

4. She took the cage, bird and all, and hung it on the branch of a tree in the shade, near the house.

5. Very soon the old birds heard the chirp of their lost little one, and flew round and round till, by-and-by, they found the cage.

6. From this time they fed their little one through the bars of the cage, till one day, when it was old enough to fly, Clara left the door of the cage open, and the bird flew away into the woods.

7. But every night it came back to sleep in the cage, and in the morning it sang a sweet song. This was its only way of thanking Clara for her kindness.

LESSON XI.



HAY.

1. What is hay? And how is it made?
2. Hay is dry grass. The grass is cut down, and the men and boys toss it up and turn it over, so that it may dry in the hot sun.
3. And what is done with it when it is dry?

4. When it is dry, men rake it up, and put it into carts or waggons, and take it to the farm yard.

5. Why is the rick made in the form of a barn, with straw on the top?

6. To keep the hay dry. The rain runs off the top of the rick just as it does off the top of the barn.

7. Of what use is hay?

8. Cows, sheep, and horses eat it in the winter, when the grass will not grow.

LESSON XII.

THE ASS AND HIS LOAD.

1. A man drove his ass to market to buy a load of salt. On his way home the ass fell into a stream.

2. The salt, of course, did not take long to melt, and so the ass lost his load, and went home fresh and gay.

3. The next day, the man went to the market for more salt, and put the load on the ass as before.

4. As they went through the stream, the ass took care to fall down just at the same spot, and so got rid of his load this time too.

5. But the man, who saw the trick, hit upon a plan to cure the ass of it.

6. He bought a large load of sponge, and put it on the back of his beast, and started for home as before.

7. By-and-by they came to the stream, when the ass thought to play his old pranks.

8. But the sponge got wet, and the ass found, to his cost, that the load was many times as heavy as at first.

9. If you cheat once, you may not be trusted again

LESSON XIII.

DO AS YOU WOULD BE DONE BY.

1. (*John*) I will not play with Fred again. He is a bad boy, and I do not like him.

2. (*Mother*) What is the matter now, my son? I thought you and Fred were very good friends.

3. (*John*) So we have been; but I do not like him at all *now*. He has taken my new ball, and run off with it.

4. (*Mother*) How came Fred to run away with your ball?

5. (*John*) Why, mother, *he* wanted to play with it, and so did *I*. I let him look at it, and then I took it again, because it was *my* ball. When I was playing it rolled away. We both ran after it; but Fred got it, and ran off home.

6. (*Mother*) It was wrong in Fred to take away your ball in that way ; but if *he* had a nice ball, and you had none, would you not like to have played with it ?

7. (*John*) O yes ; indeed I should !

8. (*Mother*) And do you think Fred would have let you play with his ball ?

9. (*John*) I think he would ; for he is very kind sometimes.

10. (*Mother*) You would like to play with Fred's ball, and yet you were not willing to let him play with yours. This was not doing as you would be done by.

11. (*John*) Well, but did he do right in taking away my ball ?

12. (*Mother*) No, he did wrong, and so did you ; but you did wrong first. If you had let him play with you, then you would both have been happy ; but now you are both unhappy.

13. (*John*) That may be true ; but he shall give up my ball.

14. (*Mother*) Fred will not keep it long. He only took it to vex you a little. He will return it before night.

15. (*John*) But if he should lose it, do you think he will buy me another?

16. (*Mother*) He will, if he does by you as he would be done by. But I think I hear Fred's voice in the hall.

17. (*John*) Yes, mother, it is Fred. I will go and meet him.

18. (*Fred*) Here, John, I have brought home your ball. Mother said I was a naughty boy to run away with it, and she told me to come and bring it back. I am sorry I took it, and I will not do so again.

19. (*John*) I am sorry, Fred, I did not let you play with the ball ; for I know it was that which made you run away with it.

20. (*Mother*) I am glad to learn that you each see you have been in the wrong. Always do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

LESSON XIV.



ANTS.

1. Tom and Ellen Jones, with their mother, were sitting on a mossy bank by the side of a pretty brook, when Tom called out, in a great fright:—

2. "O, mother, what are those little black things crawling on my legs?"

3. "Those are ants," said his mother ; "you have been sitting close to an ant-hill."

4. "An ant-hill," said Tom ; "what is an ant-hill, mother?"

5. "We may call it an ant house, or an ant town, if you like : it is the place which the ants have built to live in."

6. "And have they rooms, like we have in our houses?" asked Tom.

7. "Yes, they have rooms, and large rooms too, though they are not just like ours, and they have roads leading from one room to another."

8. "Do tell us something more about ant houses," said Ellen.

9. "They roof their houses with beams of wood, which they place across each other ; and then they fill up the spaces

between with earth and bits of sticks, and leaves."

10. "And have they any doors or windows?" asked Tom.

11. "Yes," said the mother, "they have doors and windows; and what may seem very strange, they open them in the morning when it is fine, and close them at night, or when rain comes on."

12. "Here is one of the ants on a leaf; Tom shall tell us what he thinks it is like."

13. "It looks something like a bee or a wasp," said Tom, "only it is much smaller, and has no wings."

14. "True," said the mother; "but some of the ants when young have wings; and as they grow older they pull them off."

15. "I wonder why they pull them off," said Ellen. "If I were an ant I

should like to keep my wings, so that I might fly about."

16. "Yes," said her mother; "but when they have lost their wings they stay at home to lay the eggs."

17. "Here are more ants," said Tom. "And what are they doing with those little round balls?"

18. "Those are the eggs," said his mother. "We have put the ants in a fright, and they are taking their eggs to some place which they think more safe. Ants take very great care of their eggs, and of their young ones."

19. "How strong the ants must be!" said Tom; "the eggs are nearly as large as themselves."

20. "Yes; and they are very clever too; for when one ant happens to find something very nice to eat, but too large for him to carry home by himself, he

runs off, and brings a number of his mates to help him.

21. "Some day I hope to tell you more about the ants which live in other countries."

LESSON XV.

A NOBLE DOG.

1. One day, a lady was walking by the side of a stream, with a large dog by her side.

2. On the other side of the stream some little boys were at play, trying to make a tiny ship sail on the water.

3. In a little while the wind blew the ship among some reeds, which were near the bank of the stream.

4. Then one of the boys went into the water to get the ship clear again, for he thought the water was not very deep.

5. But when he had gone a little way, he began to sink, and the lady saw him throw up his hands, and heard him cry out for help.



6. Then she called her dog, and pointed to the boy in the water. In the dog sprang, with a loud bark, as much as to say, "I'll save him if I can."

7. The boy had come to the surface, and was about to sink for the last time, when the dog caught him by his coat, and held his head out of the water as he swam with him to the bank.

8. Then the dog swam back to his mistress, and was greatly pleased when she praised him for his noble deed.

LESSON XVI.

THE CAT, THE MOUSE, AND THE COCK.

1. A young mouse, which had not seen much of the world, came home one day, and said:

2. "Oh, I have had such a fright ! I have seen a thing with such a fierce look, that struts up and down on two legs.

3. "He wears a small red flag on

his head, and his arms flap up and down on his sides, as if he meant to rise in the air.

4. "You should have seen him stretch out his head, and roar at me with his sharp mouth! I thought he would eat me up.

5. "It made me shake from head to foot with fear, and I was glad to run home as fast as my feet could take me.

6. "But for this, I should have made friends with as sweet a soul as could be.

7. "She had nice soft fur, like ours, and her look was so meek that I quite fell in love with her.

8. "Then she had a fine long tail, which you might see wave to and fro, first on this side, then on that; and when I saw her fix her bright eye on me I thought she had a wish to speak.

9. "But that fierce wretch set up his scream, which drove me in this haste, quite out of breath with fear."

10. "Ah! my dear child," said the old mouse, "in good truth you have run for your life; but the fierce thing you speak of was not your foe, for it was but a bird that would have done you no harm."

11. "But that sweet thing of which you seem so fond was a cat, and cats eat mice, when they have a chance—in short, they live on mice."

12. Judge not by looks.

LESSON XVII.

EYES AND NO EYES.

PART I.

1. "Well, Bob, where have you been for your walk?" said Mr. Brown to

one of his school-boys at the close of a summer's day.

2. "I have been, sir, to Broom Heath, and so round by the wind-mill on Camp Mount, and home through the fields by the stream."

3. "Well, that's a nice round."

4. "I thought it dull, sir. I scarce met any one. If I had to choose, I would have gone by the road."

5. "Why, if you wish to see man and beast, you would do well to go on the high road. But did you see Tom?"

6. "We set out at the same time; but I lost him in the lane, and went on."

7. "That was bad. It would have been nice to have him with you."

8. "Oh, he stops so much to look at this thing and that, I do not care to have him with me. I dare say he has not got home yet."

9. "Here he comes. Well, Tom, where have you been?"

10. "Oh, sir, such a nice walk! I went up to Broom Heath, and round the mill at the top of the hill, and then down through the fields by the side of the stream."

11. "Why, that is just the round Bob has been, and he says it is dull, and that he likes the high road best."

12. "That is odd. I am sure I did not take a step that did not please me; and I have brought home such a lot of strange things."

13. "I vote, then, that you tell us what you have seen. I think it will be as new to Bob as to me."

14. "I will, sir. The lane that leads to the heath, you know, is close and full of sand, so I did not like it much, but made the best of my way out of it."

15. "Still, I saw a strange thing in the hedge. It was an old crab tree, out of which grew a bunch of something green, not at all like the tree on which I found it. Here is a bunch of it."

16. "Ah! this is the mis-tle-toe, a plant of great fame for the use made of it by the priests who dwelt in this land long years since. It bears small white balls, of which bird lime may be made.

17. "It is one of those plants which grow on the stems of other trees, and not from roots in the ground."

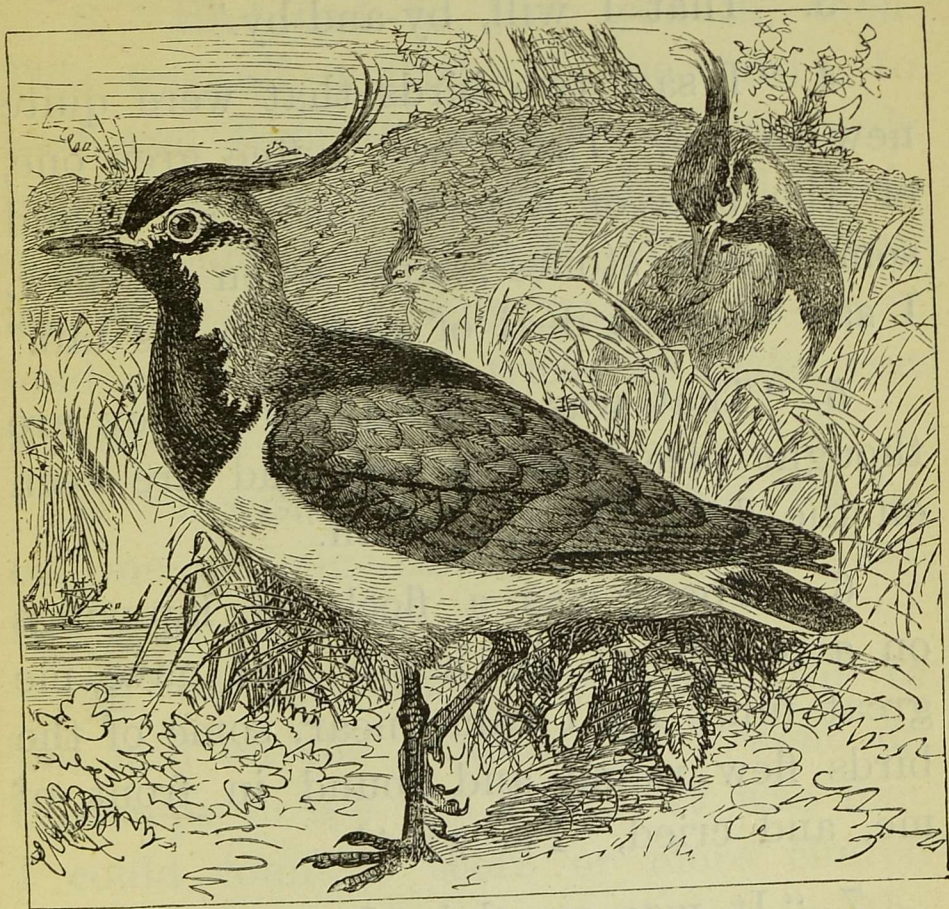
LESSON XVIII.

EYES AND NO EYES.

PART II.

1. "When I came to the heath, how grand it was, to be sure! The air was fresh, and the view on all sides was

very fine, and the heath was all strewn with gay plants in bloom.



LAPWINGS.

2. "There were at least three kinds of heath (I have them here), and gorse, and broom, and harebells, and heaps

more of all hues, of which I will beg you to tell me the names."

3. "That I will, by-and-by."

4. "I saw two birds that were quite new to me. There was a fine grey one, of the size of a lark, that ran round some great stones; and when he flew, I saw a great deal of white on his tail."

5. "That was a wheat-ear; they are thought nice birds to eat, and are seen on the downs in the south."

6. "There was a flock of lap-wings on a marsh on the heath that gave me great fun. As I came near, some of the birds flew round and round in front of me, and cried, 'Pee-wit!'

7. "It was so plain I could not but think they spoke. I thought I should have caught one of them, for he flew as if one of his wings was hurt, and sometimes fell close to the ground; but as

soon as I came near, he made a shift to get off."

8. "Ha! ha! he took you in, then. This was all a trick of the bird's to lead you from its nest, for these birds build on the bare ground, and their nests would be seen with ease did they not draw folks a long way off by their loud cries, and their tricks to make you think them lame."

9. "I wish I had known that, for he led me a long chase, often up to my knees in the wet.

10. "I then took my course up to the mill on the mount, and I went up the steps to see the view. It was fine. I could count a score or more church spires; I saw fine large halls in the midst of green woods; and I could trace the stream all through the low grounds, till it was lost at the back of a ridge of hills.

LESSON XIX.

EYES AND NO EYES.

PART III.

1. "From the hill I went straight down to the fields, and took a walk by the side of a brook that runs to the stream. There were reeds and flags, and high plants in bloom on its banks, not at all like those I had seen on the heath.

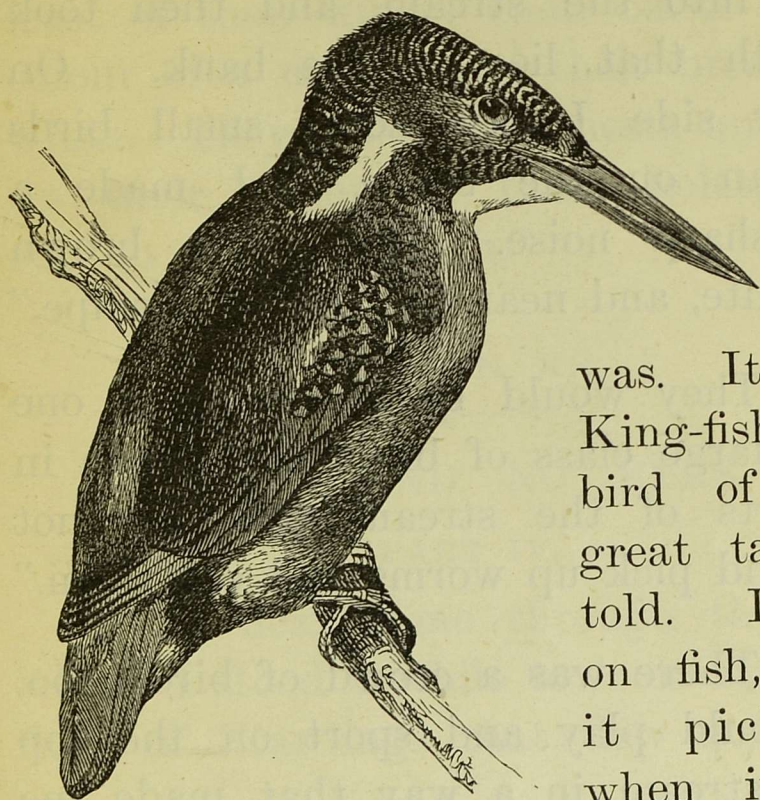
2. "As I got down the bank to reach one of them, I heard a plunge in the brook near me. It was a large water rat, and I saw it swim to the far side and go to its hole.

3. "There were large flies, too, with wings of all hues. I caught one of them, and have it here in a leaf.

4. "But how I did long to catch a bird that I saw fly past and dip its wings in the brook. It was one mass of green and gold and blue; it was less

than a thrush, and had a large head and beak, but a short tail."

5. "I can tell you what that bird



KINGFISHER.

was. It was a King-fish-er : a bird of which great tales are told. It lives on fish, which it picks up when it darts down as you

saw it do. It builds in holes in the banks, and is a shy bird, not to be caught sight of far from the stream where it lives."

6. "I must try to get one more sight of him, for I know no bird I like so much. Well, I went with the brook till it ran into the stream, and then took the path that lies on the bank. On the far side I saw some small birds that ran on the shore, and made a shrill, sharp noise. They were brown and white, and near the size of a snipe."

7. "They would be Sand-pi-pers, one of the large class of birds that wade in the parts of the stream that are not deep, and pick up worms and eat them."

8. "There was a crowd of birds, too, that would play and sport on the top of the stream in a way that made me laugh. At one time they would dash in the stream, and sometimes they would dart past so quick the eye could scarce see them. In one place, where a high steep sandbank rose out of the stream,

I saw them go in and out of holes, with which the bank was full."

9. "Those were Sand Martins, the least of their kind. Their backs are the colour of a mouse, and their breasts are white. They make their nests and bring up their young in these holes, which run to a great depth."

LESSON XX.

EYES AND NO EYES.

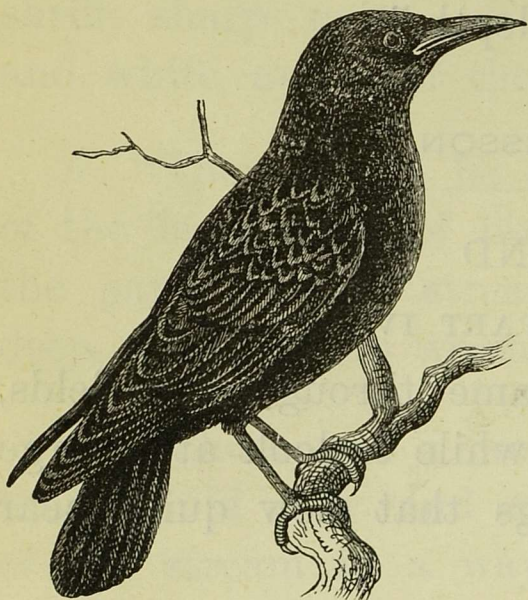
PART IV.

1. "I next came through the fields, where I stood a while to look at a large flock of Star-lings that flew quite near me.

2. "I could not tell at first what to make of them, for they rose all at once from the ground as thick as a swarm of bees, and made quite a black cloud in the sky.

3. "They would take a short round and then come down, but not for long, as they were soon up in the air once more. I dare say there were scores and scores of them."

4. "Quite so ; for in the fen lands their flocks are so great as to break down large plots of reeds as they sit on them."



STARLING.

5. "I got to the high field next our house just as the sun went down, and I stood to look at it till it was quite lost."

6. "What a fine sight ! The clouds had a tinge of red, and blue, and gold,

all shades and hues ; and the clear sky was bright blue high up, with a fine green at the edge.

7. " But how large the sun seems just as it sets ! I think it seems twice as big as when it is at its height."

8. " It does so ; and you may have seen the same thing in the moon when it first comes up.

9. " But what new thoughts this one walk has brought you. I do not doubt that you found it to your mind, and it will have been of great use to you, too. Did you see none of these things, Bob ?"

10. " I saw some of them, but did not look at them as much as Tom has done. I did not care for them, and I made the best of my way home."

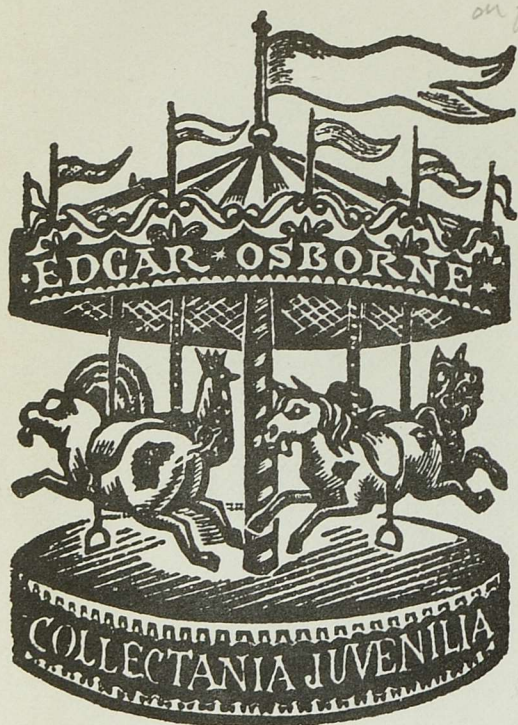
11. " That would have been right if you had been sent somewhere ; but,

as you went for a walk in your own time, you would have been wiser if you had sought for all these things, as Tom has done.

12. "But so it is: some men walk through the world with their eyes open, and some with their eyes shut; and it is just these two things that make some men so wise, and some not so.

13. "The eye that looks, and the mind that asks, may find food for growth in a short walk, such as yours has been. Do you then, Tom, still go on to make use of your eyes; and you, Bob, learn that eyes were made to use."

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