

PREFACE

IN the Primer the letters and combinations of letters representing most of the sounds in English words have been introduced. In this book these are reviewed and a few others are added.

The chief purpose of the lessons is to afford interesting and stimulating practice in reading with the acquisitions which the pupils have made in the preceding book.

Experiments conducted by the authors showed them that the most interesting subjects of reading lessons for children in "Part II" grade are, first, stories about familiar animals and domestic pets; second, stories of children in action, — games, adventures, etc.; and third, the standard nursery or "Mother Goose" stories. Myths and fairy stories were less strongly attractive than in the junior second classes. This book is made up of a judicious apportionment of matter from the first three groups of subjects.

Every lesson, from multiplied proof-copies, has been tested and perfected in the class room. Not a picture was made for any lesson before the suitability of the latter had been determined by the test of critical teaching in one or more large classes, and the improvements discovered by such test had been incorporated.