



## PREFACE.

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THE FIRST READER has been issued in response to a demand for additional reading matter for the lower classes in the schools of the Province. The lessons chosen will, it is believed, hold the voluntary attention of the pupils, increase considerably their stock of word-forms, and aid in securing correct and effective reading. The illustrations, apart from their use as pictures, and the occasional exercises thereon, are designed to train the imagination, and cultivate fluent oral expression.

It is assumed:

- (1) That the needs of the pupils will determine the order in which the lessons shall be read.
- (2) That the pronunciation of difficult words will be indicated on the blackboard by diacritical marks in order that the pupils may be prepared to use the dictionary in subsequent study.