

187
Notice A
2-17-190

NATIONAL SERIES.—No. IV.

THE
NATIONAL
FOURTH READER,

CONTAINING
A COURSE OF INSTRUCTION IN ELOCUTION;
EXERCISES IN
READING AND DECLAMATION,

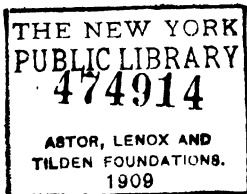
AND
COPIOUS NOTES, GIVING THE PRONUNCIATION AND DEFINITIONS OF WORDS,
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF PERSONS WHOSE NAMES OCCUR IN THE
READING LESSONS, AND THE EXPLANATION OF CLASSICAL
AND HISTORICAL ALLUSIONS.

revises
By RICHARD G. PARKER, A. M.

AND
J. MADISON WATSON.



NEW YORK:
PUBLISHED BY A. S. BARNES & BURR,
51 & 53 JOHN STREET.
SOLD BY BOOKSELLERS, GENERALLY, THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES.
1861.



Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1909

By A. S. BARNES & CO.,

In the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the United States for the Southern
District of New York.

A. C. VALENTINE,
STEREOTYPER AND ELECTROTYPES,
81, 83, and 85 Centre-street,
New York.

GEO. W. WOOD, PRINTER,
No. 2 Duane st., N. Y.

P R E F A C E.

THE opportunities presented in this volume for the practice of all the characteristics of a good reader are many and important, and the selections themselves, made as they are from so great a number of authors whose works are well known and highly estimated, while they subserve the purpose for which they have been arranged, can not fail to inform the understanding, improve the taste, and cultivate the heart.

In Part First, the important principles of *Orthoëpy* and *Elocution* are comprehensively and systematically arranged, and accompanied by copious and lucid examples, illustrating their use and application.

In Part Second, while the exercises in reading have been graded in a systematic manner, presenting the simplest pieces first in order, it will also be found that a strict classification has been preserved with regard to the nature of the subjects. Many of the pieces have never before appeared in any reading-books; and, in most of those which are not entirely new, some new feature will be found to give freshness and peculiar adaptation.

It has been our especial aim, while introducing a great variety of the choicest literature of the English language into this work, to reject such pieces as, from the nature

of their subjects, would not be understood by the pupils for whom the book has been prepared.

Great pains have been taken to indicate the pronunciation of all words liable to be mispronounced, *where* they occur; and in notes, placed for convenience *at the bottom of each page*, will be found full explanations of difficult or uncommon words, not only by their appropriate synonyms, but, wherever necessary, by an extended paraphrase. Biographical sketches of noted persons whose names occur in the reading exercises, and explanations of classical allusions, are also given in the notes.

It remains to be stated, that, while this volume appears as a constituent member of a series, it has been so arranged that it may be profitably used either in connection with the members of its own family, by itself, or with any other series of reading-books.

CONTENTS.

PART I.

ELOCUTION.

	PAGE
SECTION I.—ARTICULATION	11
Definitions	11
Table of Oral Elements	12
Cognates	14
Alphabetic Equivalents	14
Spelling by Sounds	15
Errors in Articulation	16
Exercises in Articulation	18
SECTION II.—SYLLABICATION	20
Formation of Syllables	20
SECTION III.—ACCENT	22
Words Distinguished by Accent	23
Accent Changed by Contrast	23
SECTION IV.—EMPHASIS	24
Rules for the Use of Emphasis	24
Examples	25
SECTION V.—INFLECTIONS	26
The Rising Inflection	27
The Falling Inflection	27
The Circumflex	27
Rules for the Use of Inflections	28
SECTION VI.—MODULATION	35
Pitch	35
Force	36
Quality	37
Rate	38
SECTION VII.—PAUSES	39
Rules for the Use of Pauses	40
Suspensive Quantity	41
Exercise	42

PART II.
EXERCISES IN READING.

I. PIECES IN PROSE.

	PAGE
1. Spring	<i>D. G. Mitchell.</i> 45
3. Birds of Spring	<i>Washington Irving.</i> 49
5. Daniel Webster at School.....	<i>Banvard.</i> 55
6. Wish for no Man's Money.....	57
7. Lad and his Neighbor.....	58
9. Peter of Cortona	61
10. Peter of Cortona—concluded.....	63
12. Amusing Anecdote.....	66
16. On the Waste of Life.....	<i>Dr. Franklin.</i> 70
17. Who was the Gentleman?.....	72
18. A Modern Cincinnatus.....	74
20. Conversation	<i>Sir Matthew Hale.</i> 76
21. The Deformed Child	<i>C. Edwards.</i> 79
23. Anecdote of a Dog.....	84
24. A Human Being with Nothing to Do.....	86
26. The Author of "Sweet Home".....	88
27. The Old Family Bible.....	90
29. Ornithology.....	<i>N. A. Review.</i> 94
34. Archbishop Sharpe and the Robber.....	<i>Percy Anecdotes.</i> 103
35. The Fisherman of Casco Bay.....	<i>Independent Statesman.</i> 105
37. Stuart, the Painter.....	110
39. Lokman.....	<i>Aikin.</i> 118
40. Lazy People.....	<i>Caroline M. Kirkland.</i> 114
42. The Sabbath in New England	<i>Miss C. M. Sedgwick.</i> 118
44. The Cynic.....	<i>Henry Ward Beecher.</i> 124
46. Comparison of Watches.....	<i>Miss Edgeworth.</i> 126
48. The Cavern by the Sea.....	<i>Quarterly Review.</i> 130
49. The Hippopotamus.....	131
50. The Hippopotamus—continued.....	134
51. The Hippopotamus—concluded.....	136
52. The Rothschilds.....	<i>Anon.</i> 140
53. Opposite Examples.....	<i>Horace Mann.</i> 141
55. The Famine in Ireland.....	<i>George D. Prentice.</i> 144
57. Anecdote of Chief-Justice Marshall	147
59. Dr. Franklin's Conversational Powers.....	<i>Wm. Wirt.</i> 150

Oh! thou shalt find, howe'er thy footsteps roam,
That land *thy* country, and that spot *thy* home.

MONTGOMERY.

57. ANECDOTE OF CHIEF-JUSTICE MARSHALL.

IT is not löng sínce a gentleman was traveling in one of the counties of Virginia, and, about the close of the day, stopped at a public house, to obtain refreshment and spend the night. He had been there but a short time, before an old mán alighted from his gig, with the apparent¹ intention of becoming his fellow-guest at the same house.

2. As the old man drove up, he observed that bõth of the shafts of his gig were broken, and that they were held together by withes² formed from the bark of a hickory sapling.³ Our traveler observed further, that he was plainly clad, that his knee-buckles were loosened, and that something like negligence pervaded⁴ his dress. Conceiving him to be one of the honest yeó-manry⁵ of our land, the courtesies⁶ of strangers passed between them, and they entered the tavern.

3. It was about the same time, that an addition of three or four young gentlemen was made to their number—most, if not all of them, of the legal profession. As soon as they became comfortably accommodated, the conversation was turned by one of the latter upon a display of eloquence which he had that day heard at the bar. It was replied by the other, that he had witnessed, the same day, a degree of eloquence no doubt equal, but that it was from the pulpit.

4. Something like a sarcastic⁷ rejoinder⁸ was made to the eloquence of the pulpit; and a warm and able altercation⁹ ensued, in which the merits of the Christian religion became the

¹ Appár'ent, seeming.— Withes, willow twigs; oands of twigs of any green tree. — Sap'ling, a young tree. — ² Per väd'ed, passed through; appeared in all parts.— Yeó' man ry, the common people.— ³ Courtesies (kér' tsez), acts of civility or politeness.— Sár cá's tic, severely taunting: tending to ridicule or disgrace.— ⁴ Re join' der, a reply to an answer.— ⁵ Al ter cá' tion, an angry dispute

subject of discussion.¹ From six o'clock until eleven, the young champions² wielded the sword of argument, adducing with ingenuity and ability every thing that could be said, *pro* and *con*.³

5. During this protracted⁴ period, the old gentleman listened with all the meekness and modesty of a child, as if he was adding new information to the stores of his own mind; or perhaps he was observing, with philosophic eye, the faculties of the youthful mind, and how energies are evolved⁵ by repeated action; or, perhaps, with patriotic emotion, he was reflecting upon the future destinies of his country, and on the rising generation on whom these future destinies must devolve; or, most probably, with a sentiment of moral and religious feeling, he was collecting an argument, which (characteristic of himself) no art would be "able to elude, and no force to resist." Our traveler remained a spectator, and took no part in what was said.

6. At last, one of the young men, remarking that it was impossible to combat with long and established prejudices,⁶ wheeled around, and with some familiarity exclaimed, "Well, my old gentleman, what think you of these things?" If, said the traveler, a streak of vivid lightning had at that moment crossed the room, their amazement could not have been greater than it was with what followed.

7. The most eloquent and unanswerable appeal was made by the old gentleman, for nearly an hour, that he ever heard or read. So perfect was his recollection, that every argument urged against the Christian religion was met in the order in which it was advanced.

8. Hume's *sophistry*⁷ on the subject of miracles⁸ was, if possible, more perfectly answered than it had already been by Campbell. And in the whole lecture there was so much simplicity and force, pathos and energy, that not another word was

¹ Dis cūs' sion, reasoning; conversation in favor of and against an opinion; consideration of the merits.—² Chāmp'ions, those who fight, contend, or dispute.—³ Pro and con, for and against.—⁴ Pro trāct'ed, extended: lengthy.—⁵ Evōlved', brought out.—⁶ Prēj' u dic es, opinions formed before knowledge; judgments without reason.—⁷ Sōph' istry, false reasoning.—⁸ Miracles (mīr' a klz), events or acts beyond, or contrary to, the laws of nature

uttered. An attempt to describe it, said the traveler, would be an attempt to paint the sunbeams.

9. It was now matter of curiosity and inquiry, who the old gentleman was. The traveler concluded that it was the preacher from whom the pulpit eloquence was heard; but no—it was the CHIEF-JUSTICE OF THE UNITED STATES.

58. WOODMAN, SPARE THAT TREE.

THE following beautiful lyric¹ owes its origin² to a circumstance which took place near the city of New York. The tree, which belonged to the homestead of a gentleman whose subsequent³ successes retrieved⁴ the misfortunes of early life, was threatened with the ax. As it was about to be cut down for fire-wood, the youngest son of the former owner paid its value, and a bond was executed, by which the present owner of the property pledged that it should stand forever. The author of this piece was present at the bargain, and the gentleman, turning to him, said, "In youth it sheltered me, and I'll protect it now."

The song was set to music by Henry Russel, and sung by him in many cities in Europe. As, on one occasion, he was singing it at Boulogne,⁵ an old gentleman among the auditors rose, and asked with much feeling whether the tree was spared. Mr. Russel assured him that it was, and the old gentleman resumed his seat, with great satisfaction, amid the enthusiastic⁶ plaudits⁷ of the whole assembly.

-
1. WOODMAN, spare that tree!
 Touch not a single bough!
 In youth it shelter'd me,
 And I'll protect it now.

¹ Lyr' ic, a song; any thing sung with a lyre, or other musical instrument.—² Or' i gin, source; the beginning of a thing.—³ Sub'se quent, following; after.—⁴ Re triéved', recovered from the effects of; made atonement or amends for.—⁵ Boulogne (bô lôn'), a fortified seaport town of France, on the English Channel. A great number of its residents are English.—⁶ En thu si ás' tic, warm; filled with admiration.—⁷ Pláud' its, applause; marks of strong admiration, or approval.