

I did not have any fish to take to Mrs. Green that day. My pail slid into the water and my fish were spilt.

Sim's trick dog, Dash, likes to have me throw sticks into the water. Then Dash will get them for me. He grips them in his mouth and brings them to me dripping with water.

Dash can do many tricks. He can sit up like a man. He can outstrip me in a race. Dash is not a fat dog. It takes a thin dog to win a race. When Dash and I have a sprinting race we go at it with a vim.

I like to see Mr. Green shear or clip his sheep. Sometimes the old sheep will kick, but Mr. Green goes on with the shearing.

I like to be on the farm at apple picking time. I like the nice big king apples. Some apples have pretty tints of red, green, and yellow. Mr. Green ships his apples to the city. The shipping time is late in the fall. The city boys can buy the apples on the fruit stands. Do you wish you were a country boy?

sow

cover

gentle

ripe

IN THE COUNTRY.

PART II.

In the spring time Mr. Green sows the grain in the field. It is the planting time of the year. He throws the seeds upon the ground. The dark ground will cover them. Every seed will send its little rootlets into the ground.

The gentle rains will fall on the ground and water the seeds. The warm sun will help the grain to grow.

Little leaves will soon come up.

The tall grain will bend low when the wind blows. Soon the blossoms will come. Then, some day we shall find the ripe grain in the field.

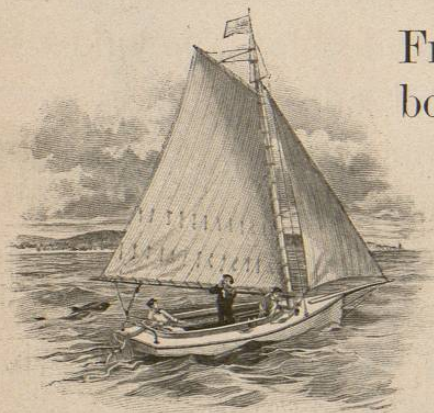
The stems and leaves will be as yellow as gold. When the grain is ripe, Mr. Green will take it to the barn



Some day he will take some of the grain to the mill. The man at the mill will make flour out of it. Mrs. Green will first sift the flour. Then she will make a nice cake for the boys. I like to see her when she is mixing the eggs and flour.

only mast strong

THE SAIL BOAT.



Fred Clark has his sail boat out for a sail. The boat is not a brig nor a ship. It is only a small boat.

He calls it "The Water Witch." It has one big sail and one small sail. The small sail is a jib. Fred calls it a jib-sail. The tall stick which stands up and holds the sail is a mast.

On the tip of the mast is a small flag. Fred has the sailing gear in his hand.

Do you think that the wind will blow well to-day? If the wind does not blow well the boat will only drift on the water.

See, Fred is shifting the sail so as to get more wind. Mark Clark is helping him shift it.

Will the strong wind upset the boat? It will, if Fred does not look out. Does Fred know how to sail a boat well?

Yes, he does. He can sail it as well as any man. He goes sailing every clear day.

When the strong winds blow, he takes in some of the big sail.

See Nat dipping the flag to us. It is the flag of our country. Let us tip our hats to Nat.

If the wind is too strong it will rip the stitching in the sails. Then the boys will have to row to the land.

Mark has his hands up to his mouth or lips. What does he want to tell us? He is telling us to look at the big shark swimming in the water. Can you tell the parts of a ship? If you cannot, some day, ask your teacher to tell you.

but

OUR BABY.

This is our dear little baby. It is a warm summer day, and she is sitting in the grass.

She has a yellow flower in one hand. In the other she holds a gilt ring. It looks like gold but it is not. Do not think that all gilt things are gold; for they are not.



There are buttercups in the grass around her. Dan is holding a buttercup under her chin to see if she likes butter.

When baby has to eat or drink, mother puts a nice white bib on her. A bib is for a baby. Do you have a bib on when you eat? If you do you are a little baby.

Our baby is the pride of the home. She has a fair face, blue eyes, and brown hair.

THE CAT AND THE MICE.

There was a barn which had many mice in it. A cat went there one day to get them. Hearing the cat, the mice hid under the grain bins. So the cat saw that she must take them by a trick. Then she hid near the grain bin. She said: "The mice will soon come out."

One of the mice said, "I will look out and see if Mrs. Cat is near." When he saw the cat he said: "Old cat, if you were all the grain in the bin and all the meat in the house, I will not come out to you."

A QUESTION LESSON.

Where do plants grow?

How do the seeds go from place to place?

Who said, "I will tell my mother the truth"?

When did Mr. Green sow the grain?

How do plants get a drink of water?

Where do we find the first flowers of spring?

Which seed has two wings?

How many parts has a plant?

TWENTY-FOURTH AND TWENTY-FIFTH WEEKS' DRILL.

NEW VOWEL SOUND.

ě

ITS FAMILY.



ed	elt	ess
en	ent	ead
et	eck	ench
em	ell	esh
est	edge	ept

NEW BLEND WORDS.

fed, shed, sheds, shedding, bed, beds, bedding, Ned, Ned's, bred, Fred, Fred's, sled, sleds.

men, ten, pen, pens, hen, hens, den, dens, glen, glens.

set, sets, setting, met, net, nets, netting, netted, get, gets, getting, wet, wets, wetting, pet, pets.

hem, hems, hemming.

rest, rests, resting, rested, vest, vests, vested, invest, invests, investing, invested,

zest, chest, chests, chestnut, chestnuts, crest, crests.

melt, melts, melting, melted, pelt, pelts, pelting, pelted, belt, belts, belting, smelt, smelts, smelting.

sent, rent, rents, renting, rented, lent, bent, dent, dents, denting, scent, scents, scenting, scented, tent, tents, tenting, spent.

neck, necks, peck, pecks, pecking, deck, decks, check, checks, checking, speck, specks.

fell, Nell, Nell's, shell, shells, shelling, dell, dells, swell, swells, swelling, smell, smells, smelling, snell, snells, spell, spells, spelling.

ledge, hedge, sledge.

mess, Bess, bless, blessing, dress, dressing, cress.

head, heads, heading, bread, dread, dreads, dreading, stead, instead, tread, treads, treading, spread, spreads, spreading, thread, threads, threading, threaded.

bench, French.

thresh, threshing, fresh.

kept, wept, slept.

TWENTY-FOURTH AND TWENTY-FIFTH WEEKS'
READING.

roll snow down pond their
WINTER.

Boys like the winter. It is the time of the year when we look for the snow and ice. The snow is a good cover for the grain fields.



It keeps the grain warm. The snow covers the hedge, too. It covers all the ground.

The singing birds are not with us in the winter. They are then in the warm south. Instead of the birds that sing we have the

little snow birds. We throw bits of bread on the snow for them to eat.

I like to see the little things tread on the snow. When they have fed on the bread, they fly to the shed for some grain. Every winter Fred spreads a peck of grain under the shed for his snow pets.

Fred and Ned like to play in the snow. They like to make a snow man. Fred puts a stick in the snow man's hand. Then he puts an old hat on his head. The snow man has a stout neck and a large chest.

Fred dreads the warm days. He knows that the warm sun will melt his snow man.

Fred has a blue sled. It has red stripes on it. The sled will go well on the ice and snow.

The boys take their sleds to the crest of the hill. Then down they come like a flash. They do not stop till they reach the glen.

Sometimes they take Nell and Bess with them. Nell does not like the snow. It makes her hair wet and her hands cold.

The boys like to give one another a good pelting with snowballs. They make their snowballs when the snow is melting.

Bess likes to throw snowballs with the boys. One day Bess was pelted on the head with large snowballs. She had a swelling on her head for two days. More than that, the hemming was rent from her dress and her French hat had a big dent in it. She does not want any more snowballing.

Fred, being a well-bred boy, took Bess on his sled to his home. Fred's mother gave her some thread to mend the dress.

Sometimes the boys like to roll in the snow. They like to throw it at one another.

When the ice is thick, the boys like to go skating. Fred put a bench on the ice pond. The boys sit on the bench to put on their skates. Sometimes they sit on the bench and rest.

Boys play their winter games with a zest. What a grand time you can have in the winter.

hay

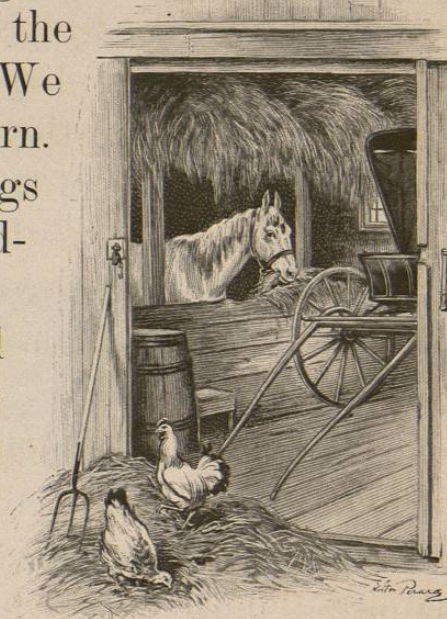
IN THE BARN.

When it is raining we cannot play under the spreading trees. We then go to the barn. There are many things to see in grandfather's barn.

There is the old horse standing in his stall eating hay. We like to give the old horse a feast of good corn and oats. Every day Ned makes a nice bed of soft hay in the stall for the horse.

I like to smell the scented hay in the loft. Sometimes we go to the loft and roll on the hay. We call the hayloft "our den."

One day I saw a hen sitting on her nest in



the loft. She had white and brown specks on her neck and wings. Ned set her on ten white eggs. She will sit for some time. Then the little chicks will come out of the egg shells.

The black hen has her nest under the pigpen. It is hidden in the leaves and sticks so you cannot find it. In this nest there are six eggs.

We give the hens grain and corn to eat. Ned gets the corn in the ear and I help him shell it.

Ned keeps the cows in a stall under the shed. We give the cows nice green corn and some wheat bran to eat. Then they will give good milk.

When the threshing time comes the men thresh the grain in the fields. Then they take the grain to the barns and put it into bins.

There are many mice and rats in grandfather's barn. They get into the bins and eat the grain. Fred sets traps for them.

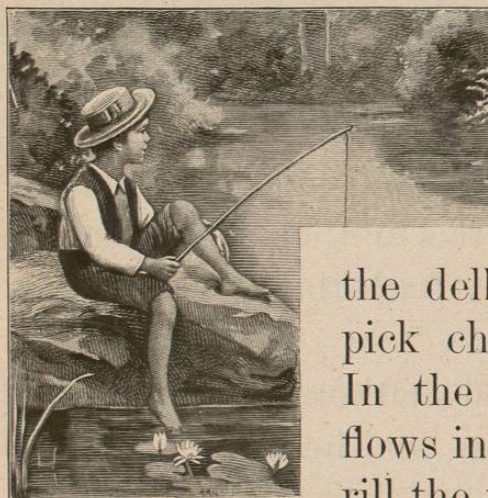
When the old cat sees a rat she makes a spring for it and tries to get it.

The rats and mice do not like the old yellow cat. They do not come around when she is basking in the sun near the barn.

happy

now

FISHING.



Sam is a little boy. He likes to sit on the ledge at the mill-pond. The ledge is near

the dell where he goes to pick chestnuts in the fall. In the dell is a rill that flows into the pond. In the rill the water cress grows.

Sam picks the cress to sell. His father sends it to the city market. It sells there for a good price. When the market man gets the cress he sends father a check or cash for it.

Sam is now sitting on the ledge. He has on a vest and a brown hat. The band on his hat looks like a belt.

He has a long stick, a string, and a bent pin. They are his fishing outfit. He takes the pin for a hook.

He will fish in the mill-pond. He likes to sit and look at the fish. He likes to see them swimming in the clear water.

There are many big fish in the pond. There are many small ones, too. They swim around his hook.

Sam wants to buy some snells. Then he will put some fish hooks on them. They make the best fish hooks. With them he thinks he can get some sunfish.

The other day Sam's father gave him a fish net. He will set this, and he may get a nice mess of smelts.

One day Sam met the milkman. He lent Sam a snell hook. That day Sam landed a big fish. It was his first fish. He was a happy boy.

word

says

PLAYING SCHOOL.



The boys and girls are playing under the spreading chestnut tree.

Bess wants to play school. She wants to be the play-teacher. Her playmates have books, slates, pens, and ink.

Mark will get a bench for them to sit on. Bess is ringing a call-bell. She says, "Boys and girls, school is now in."

Nell has a reading book. She can read everything in it.

The teacher wants Mark to write a letter. In it he will tell how he fell from the deck of his boat. He will write how he was sent home dripping wet.

Little Bess, the play-teacher, is now looking at the letter. She does not like the heading. She is telling Mark that she will keep him in. His playmates may go out to play.

Dan has a spelling book. Dan can spell well. Bess will say: "Dan, I will now hear you spell." Dan will not miss a word.

One little girl cannot read or write. She is the little French girl.

Ned is at his tricks. Look, Bess will take him by the hand. This is what she will say to Ned: "Your time in school is not well spent."

"That is mother calling," shouts Dan. Soon Bess will say, "School is out." Then the boys and girls will run to the house.

Dan says that he smells a cake baking. Their mother wants to give them a nice treat. It makes mother happy when we are good.

Then she likes to make us happy. Our mother is a dear, good mother.

Every boy will some day think well of his mother. Then he will bless her. A mother's blessing will go with her boy. That will help to make him a good man.

guess stocking morning strike

A GUESSING GAME.

I am thinking of one that is very dear to all of us. He is a very old man and has snow-white hair. He is not tall, but very stout.

He comes to see me when it is dark. He comes in a very large sled or sledge. He lands on the top of the house. He fills my stockings with good things.

He makes me very happy. He makes only one trip a year. Do you know who he is? I will give another hint. He brings many gifts at the end of each year.

Do you know this grand old man? Can you guess who he is?