MY OWN PRIMER,

or

FIRST LESSONS

in

SPELLING AND READING.

PREPARED FOR THE BOARD OF PUBLICATION

BY THE

Rev. JOHN P. CARTER.

PHILADELPHIA

PRESBYTERIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION,

1531 CHESTNUT STREET.
The Lucile Clarke Memorial
Children's Library
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1331 CHESTNUT STREET.
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JESPER HARDING & SON,
INQUIRER BUILDING, SOUTH THIRD STREET, PHILADELPHIA.
PREFACE.

A wish has often been expressed, especially by the Colporteurs of the Board, that a cheap, simple Primer should be prepared for the use of the young, and of adults who have not enjoyed the benefit of early instruction. In compliance with this wish, a kind friend of the young and ignorant, who has devoted himself to the work of education, has prepared this little book, which, it is hoped, will prove a valuable aid to mothers and school-teachers, in imparting the first rudiments of knowledge.

It is to be feared that many who undertake the task of instruction, are not aware
of the difficulty and importance of the work in which they are engaged. The laying of the foundations of the Pyramids of Egypt, or of the keel of the steamship "Great Eastern," shrinks into insignificance in comparison with the importance of teaching the humblest child its A B C. The difference is as great as that between immortal mind, and inert matter.

How important then that the teacher should possess the indispensable qualifications of tact, patience, love, and perseverance! None other should attempt so delicate and difficult a task.

May teachers and pupils alike find pleasure and profit in the use of this little volume. 

THE EDITOR OF THE BOARD.
THE MUSICAL ALPHABET.

\[\text{A B C D E F G:}\]
\[\text{H I J K L M N O P:}\]
\[\text{Q R S T U and V:}\]
\[\text{double U X and Y and Z.}\]
GOD IS LOVE. BAD MEN DO NOT LOVE GOD. A GOOD BOY WILL MIND HIS BOOK. AN AXE CUTS WOOD TO BURN. HE JUMPS FOR JOY. IF WE HAVE ZEAL FOR GOD'S LAW, WE WILL QUIT ALL BAD THINGS.
God is love. Bad men do not love God. A good boy will mind his book. An axe cuts wood to burn. He jumps for joy. If we have zeal for God's law, we will quit all bad things. The box is full of toys.
MY OWN PRIMER.

A
B
C
D
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EXERCISE ON THE LETTERS. SHOW ME A, B, C, &c.

GOD IS LOVE. BAD MEN DO NOT LOVE GOD. A GOOD BOY WILL MIND HIS BOOK. AN AXE CUTS WOOD TO BURN. HE JUMPS FOR JOY. IF WE HAVE ZEAL FOR GOD'S LAW, WE WILL QUIT ALL BAD THINGS. THE BOX IS FULL OF TOYS. THE GOOD GIRL IS KIND TO ALL.
EXERCISE ON THE LETTERS. SHOW ME A, B, C, &c.

God is love. Bad men do not love God. A good boy will mind his book. An axe cuts wood to burn. He jumps for joy. If we have zeal for God’s law, we will quit all bad things. The box is full of toys. The good girl is kind to all. Be thou in the fear of the Lord all the day long. My son, give me thine heart. Have faith in God. Be ye all of one mind. Cease to do evil; learn to do well. Love the truth and peace.
### THESE SIX LETTERS ARE VOWELS.

| a | e | i | o | u | y |

### THE REST ARE CONSONANTS.

| b | c | d | f | g | h | j |
| k | l | m | n | p | q | r |
| s | t | v | w | x | z |

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**WORDS OF TWO LETTERS.**

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SENTENCES.

Be thou in the fear of the Lord all the day long. My son, give me thine heart. Have faith in God. Grow in grace. Be ye all of one mind. Lord, help me. Fear not: I will help thee. Wait on the Lord, and he shall save thee.

ban  den  din  bat

can  fen  fin  cat

fan  hen  pin  fat

man  men  sin  hat

ran  pen  tin  mat

tan  ten  win  rat
<p>| bad | sad | bla | bra |
| had | boy | ble | bre |
| lad | coy | bli | bri |
| mad | joy | blo | bro |
| pad | toy | blu | bru |
| bed | bow | bog | bid |
| fed | cow | cog | did |
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</table>
See this good Girl. She has a Book.
Does she love her Book? Yes, she does.
Look at the Boy with his Hoop.
How glad he is to drive his Hoop.

LESSONS IN WORDS OF FOUR AND FIVE LETTERS.

land  plump  lame  bless
bland  loss  blame  rook
lock  gloss  lack  brook
clock  loud  black  reed
lump  cloud  less  breed
We can not see God, but God can see us, and all men.

If we sin, God will not love us.
The Son of God will keep us from sin, if we ask him.

Be thou in the fear of the Lord all the day long.
The end of sin is woe.

mound  taste  plain  birth
pound  paste  grain  girth
round  haste  chain  mirth
sound  baste  slain  worth
bear  duck  bean  earth
cow  hen  corn  coal
calf  dove  date  sand
lamb  lark  hemp  rock
frog  quail  wheat  clay
goat  wren  flax  hill
sheep  hawk  rye  wind
John  new  with  will
fly  when  made  boys
wind  house  blows  fine
girls  hands  kite  here
good  them  this  die

Here is John with his new kite.
He will fly his kite when the wind blows.
This fine house was made with the hands of men.
Good boys and girls, when they die, will go to live in a house not made with hands.
Will you not try to be good, and go to live with them?
EASY READING LESSONS.

THE BEAR lives in the woods. When he is caught and held with a chain, it will be safe for boys and girls to look at him.

THE CALF plays near the side of the cow. Its flesh is called VEAL.

THE DUCK can swim, and dive in the pond for food.

THE HEN guards her young ones from the HAWK, and hides them with her wings.

GOAT'S milk is good food for some who are weak.

THE WREN is a small BIRD. She builds her nest in a box.

THE LARK sings with joy in the fields.

CORN and RYE make good bread.

HEMP is spun and made into ropes.

FLAX is spun and made into cloth.

DATES and FIGS are fine fruits.

COAL is used to burn. It keeps us quite warm.

SAND is used to make glass. BRICKS are made of CLAY.

The same great and good God that made me, made all these things!
THE HOLY BIBLE.

God    Jesus    loved
Christ  Father   word
heart   beings   life
that    wisest   tells
things  perish   Son
should  taketh   lamb

THE BIBLE is God's holy word. It tells us that the great God who made us, and all things, is the wisest and best of beings. It tells us that God is our Father, and that we should love him with all our heart, and do all his holy will.
OUR PARENTS.

thy love command children
they pray honour blessing
bless teach daily very
save great giveth father
clothes when obey mother
sick buy upon parents

How good is God to give us our dear parents! They love us very much. They buy us food and clothes, and take great care of us, both when we are well, and when we are sick. They teach us to read God's holy Bible; they teach us to pray to God; and they pray daily that God will bless and save us.
THE SAVIOUR.

When Jesus, the blessed Saviour, was on earth, some parents brought their children to him that he might bless them. His disciples blamed them for doing so, because they thought it would trouble the Saviour. But he said, "Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbidd them not, for of such is the kingdom of heaven." And he put his hands on the children and blessed them.
AGAINST QUARRELLING AND FIGHTING.

Let dogs delight to bark and bite,
For God hath made them so;
Let bears and lions growl and fight
For 'tis their nature too.

But children, you should never let
Such angry passions rise;
Your little hands were never made
To tear each other's eyes.

Let love through all your actions run,
And all your words be mild;
Live like the blessed Virgin's Son,
That sweet and lovely child.
His soul was gentle as a lamb;
And, as his stature grew,
He grew in favour both with man
And God his Father too.

Now Lord of all, he reigns above,
And from his heavenly throne
He sees what children dwell in love,
And marks them for his own.

JESUS CHRIST, the Son of God, came into the world to save sinners. We are all sinners, and need his salvation. When he lived on earth he went about doing good, healing the sick, comforting the afflicted, and raising the dead. He did those great works, to show that he was equal to God the Father, and that he is able to save all that come unto God by him. After he died upon the cross for our sins, he arose from the dead, and ascended into heaven, where he sitteth at the right hand of God the Father. At the last day, Jesus will come with all his holy angels to judge the world.
actor      fatal      keeper
action     fable      kindle
Bible      godly      lady
baker      glory      labour
cellar     holy       maker
crier      happy      music
dial       image      nation
dollar     jury       nature

Little George loves to read his Bible. He learns a few verses in it every day, and repeats them to his father. I know that it shall be well with them that fear God.
IDOL WORSHIP.

There are many people in the world that do not know the true God, nor his Son Jesus Christ. We call them heathen.

They make images of wood and stone, and call them gods, and bow down and worship them. Poor blind people! how we should pity them, and pray that God will send his ministers to teach them the gospel.

abate  
admire  
below  
content  
deny  
engage  
forget  

obtain  
pursue  
undo  
define  
contract  
incline  
remind  

dismay  
mistake  
repay  
compare  
recall  
repent  
redeem  


SPELLING LESSONS IN THREE SYLLABLES.

abatement  enticement
confinement  enjoyment
refinement  employment
retirement  contentment

PAPER is made of old rags, washed clean, and ground in a mill.
GLASS is made of sand and potash melted together in a furnace.
LEATHER is made of the hides of animals by tanning.
CLOTH is made of cotton, or wool.
HOUSES are built of wood, stone, or brick.
SHIPS are built of wood and iron.

perfect  perfection
invent  invention
object  objection
select  selection
adopt  adoption
SPELLING IN TWO AND THREE SYLLABLES.

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Oh that it were my chief delight
To do the things I ought;
Then let me try with all my might,
To mind what I am taught.

For God looks down from heaven on high,
Our actions to behold,
And he is pleased when children try
To do as they are told.

delegate    absolute    animal
elevate     attribute    admiral
penetrate   amplitude    capital
perpetrate  aptitude    nominal
renovate    gratitude    annual
desolate    attitude    manual
perforate   latitude    gradual
The farmer ploughs the land to prepare it for the seed. After ploughing, the large clods are broken with a harrow. When the seed is cast on the land, the soil is covered over it with a harrow, or shovel-plough. Then God sends snow, and rain, and sunshine, which make the seed grow. At first it looks bright and green.
like a beautiful carpet. In a few weeks after the heads form on the stem, the colour turns to a light yellow, richer than gold.

When the wheat is cut, the grains are threshed out, and some are saved for seed, and some are taken to the mill to be ground into flour to make bread. Thus doth God give bread to the eater, and seed to the sower.

SPELLING AND READING LESSONS.

afford  begone  repine  arose
behold  beyond  define  oppose
control  remind  resign  compose
comport  desire  confine  impose
import  provide  domain  dispose
support  subside  proclaim  expose
report  confide  ordain  suppose
invoke  decide  detain  propose

TEA is the dried leaves of a plant, which grows in China and Japan.

COFFEE is the fruit of a plant which grows in Turkey and Arabia.

SUGAR is made by boiling the juice of a plant called sugar-cane. It grows in the West Indies, and in other warm countries.
LEADING THE BLIND.

little mountains beautiful
eyesight distress enlightened
flowers goodness understanding

See this poor old blind man! He cannot see. He cannot look upon the beautiful sky, nor view the mountains, nor admire the green fields, and the gay flowers. He knows his friends only by the sound of the voice; he cannot see their faces. How very kind is this little boy to lead the poor blind man! If he should walk by him-
self, he might fall and be hurt. But this good little boy will lead him safely wherever he wishes to go. We should always be kind to the aged, the poor, the blind, the lame, and all that are in distress. But though the blind cannot see, yet they may praise God for all his goodness, and pray for his Holy Spirit to open the eyes of their understanding. And we should thank God for our eyesight, and pray to be enlightened by his grace.

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**SPELLING IN THREE AND FOUR SYLLABLES.**

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CHILDREN, LOVE ONE ANOTHER.

Two little girls, who were cousins, being at play, began to quarrel. But very soon, one of them said to her cousin: "Do we not know that Jesus Christ died for us? Why then should we be angry with each other?" Then they ceased quarrelling, and loved each other again, when they thought how great was the love of Christ for them.

abdication  complication  adoration
application  combination  imitation
admiration  nomination  inclination
habitation  provocation  meditation
navigation  consolation  dedication
palpitation  termination  revelation
gravitation  animation  consecration

A man may see the figures upon a dial, but he cannot tell how the day goes unless the sun shines we may read many truths in the Bible, but we cannot know them savingly till God by his Spirit shines upon our soul.
INDUSTRY.

shining  honey  flower  opening
account  gather  mischief  skilfully
improve  labour  healthful  every

How doth the little busy bee
Improve each shining hour,
And gather honey all the day
From every opening flower!

How skilfully she builds her cell!
How neat she spreads the wax!
And labours hard to store it well
With the sweet food she makes.
In works of labour, or of skill,
I would be busy too;
For Satan finds some mischief still
For idle hands to do.

In books, or work, or healthful play,
Let my first years be past,
That I may give for every day
Some good account at last.
A little girl was once passing by a garden in which were some pretty flowers. She wished very much to have some of them. She could have put her hand through the fence, and taken some of them, but she knew this would be very wicked; it would be stealing.

So she would not take them, but went to the lady who owned the garden, and asked her very politely to give her some of the pretty flowers. The kind lady told her, she did right not to take them without asking for them, and then showed her all the beautiful flowers in the garden, and gave her a fine large nosegay.
If this little girl had taken the flowers without leave, and had been asked how she got them, she would most likely have told a lie to hide her first fault. And then she would have committed two great sins, stealing and lying. And then, when she went on her knees to pray at night, how very unhappy she would have been, thinking that although no one else knew her sin, yet the great God her heavenly Father knew it, and would be much displeased with her. God sees all we do. He loves us when we do right; but he does not love us when we disobey him.

1. How many days are there in a week?
   Answer. Seven.

2. What are their names?
   Ans. Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday.

3. What is Sunday called in the Bible?
   Ans. The Sabbath day, or the Lord’s day.

4. How should we keep the Lord’s day?
   Ans. We should remember it to keep it holy.
A little boy about seven years old, was on a visit to a lady, who was very fond of him.

One day, at breakfast there was some hot bread upon the table, and it was handed to him; but he would not take it. "Do you not like hot bread?" asked the lady. "Yes," said he, "I like it very much, ma'am." "Then, my dear, why do you not take some?" "Because," said he, "my father does not wish me to eat hot bread." "But your father is a great way off," said the lady, "and will not know whether you eat it or not. You may take it for once: there will be no harm in that." "No, ma'am, I will not disobey my father and mother. I must do what they have told me to do, although they are a great way off. I would not touch it, if I were sure nobody would see me. I myself should know it, and that would be enough to make me unhappy."

This little boy would not disobey his parents, although they were absent and might never know it. He was a noble boy. But if this was right, how very careful should we be not to disobey our heavenly Father, who is ever present with us, and whose eye beholds us at all times!
FIGURES, COUNTING, &c.

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1. How many months are there in the year?
   Answer. Twelve.

2. What are their names?
   Ans. January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, December.

3. How many days are there in each month?
   Ans. Thirty days hath September,
        April, June, and November.
        All the rest have thirty-one,
        Excepting February alone,
        Which has but twenty-eight in fine,
        Till leap year gives it twenty-nine.
PRAYER.

Good children will pray to God at least every morning and evening. We should thank God for his constant goodness; and ask him for his mercy and love.

Our Lord has taught us to pray, saying:

Our Father, which art in heaven! Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.
PRAYERS IN VERSE.—MORNING PRAYER.

Now I awake and see the light,
'Tis God that kept me through the night.
To him I lift my voice and pray,
That he would keep me through the day;
If I should die before 'tis done,
O God! accept me through thy Son. Amen

PRAYER ON GOING TO BED.

Now I lay me down to sleep,
I pray the Lord my soul to keep;
If I should die before I wake,
I pray the Lord my soul to take;
And this I ask for Jesus' sake. Amen.

FIGURES, COUNTING, &C.

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DIVISIONS OF TIME.

1. How many seasons are there in the year?
   Answer. Four; namely, Spring, Summer, Autumn, and Winter.

2. Which are the Spring months?
   Ans. March, April, and May.

3. Which are the Summer months?
   Ans. June, July, and August.

4. Which are the Autumn months?
   Ans. September, October, and November.

5. Which are the Winter months?
   Ans. December, January, and February.

6. How many hours are there in a day?
   Ans. Twenty-four.

7. How many minutes in an hour?
   Ans. Sixty.

8. How many seconds in a minute?
   Ans. Sixty.

9. How many days in a month?
   Ans. In some thirty, in some thirty-one.

10. How many months in a year?
    Ans. Twelve.

11. How many years in a century?
    Ans. One hundred.
EASY SCRIPTURE QUESTIONS.

1. Who was the first man?
   Answer. Adam.
2. Who was the first woman?
   Ans. Eve.
3. Who was the first murderer?
   Ans. Cain.
4. Who was the first martyr?
   Ans. Abel.
5. Who was the oldest man?
   Ans. Methuselah.
6. Who built the ark?
   Ans. Noah.
7. Who was the most faithful man?
   Ans. Abraham.
8. Who was Abraham's child of promise?
   Ans. Isaac.
9. Who was the meekest man?
   Ans. Moses.
10. Who was the most patient man?
    Ans. Job.
11. Who wrestled with the angel?
    Ans. Jacob.
12. Who led Israel into Canaan?
    Ans. Joshua.
13. Who was the strongest man?
Ans. Sampson.
14. Who killed Goliath?
Ans. David.
15. Who was the wisest man?
Ans. Solomon.
16. Who was cast into the lions' den?
Ans. Daniel.
17. Who died to redeem us?
Ans. The Lord Jesus Christ.
18. Who is Jesus Christ?
Ans. The eternal Son of God.
19. Who was the mother of Christ?
Ans. The Virgin Mary.
20. Who was the beloved disciple?
Ans. John.
21. Who betrayed his master Christ?
Ans. Judas.
22. Who denied his Lord and Saviour?
Ans. Peter.
23. Who were struck dead for lying?
Ans. Ananias and Sapphira.
24. Who was the first Christian martyr?
Ans. Stephen.
25. Who was the chief apostle to the Gentiles?
Ans. Paul.
26. Who were the four evangelists?
Ans. Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John
DUTY TO GOD AND OUR NEIGHBOUR.

Love God with all your soul and strength,
With all your heart and mind,
And love your neighbour as yourself:
Be faithful, just, and kind.

KEEP THE SABBATH HOLY.

A Sabbath well spent,
Brings a week of content,
And strength for the toils of the morrow,
But a Sabbath profaned,
Whatsoever is gained,
Is a certain forerunner of sorrow.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS IN VERSE.

1. Have thou no other gods but me:
2. Before no idol bend the knee.
3. Take not the name of God in vain:
4. Dare not the Sabbath day profane.
5. Give friends and parents honour due:
6. Take heed, that thou no murder do.
7. Abstain from words and deeds unclean:
8. Steal not, though thou be poor and mean.
9. Make not a wilful lie, nor love it:
10. What is thy neighbour's do not covet.
FIRST QUESTIONS IN RELIGION.

1. Who made you?
   Ans. God.

2. Who redeemed you?
   Ans. Christ.

3. Who sanctifies you?
   Ans. The Holy Ghost.

4. Of what were you made?
   Ans. Of dust.

5. What doth that teach you?
   Ans. To be humble and mindful of death.

6. For what end were you made?
   Ans. To serve God.

7. How should you serve God?
   Ans. By believing on his Son, praying to him, and obeying his commands.

8. To whom are you to pray?
   Ans. To God only.

9. For what things are you to pray to God?
   Ans. That he would bring me to Christ, renew my heart, forgive my sin, and keep me from evil.
10. What will become of you, if you die without seeking and obtaining these blessings?

Ans. I shall be banished from God with the wicked, and be shut up in hell.

11. What kind of a place is hell?

Ans. A place of endless torment.

12. Where shall you go at death, if God brings you to Christ?

Ans. I shall go to heaven, a holy and happy place, where I shall dwell for ever with God, and Christ, and all holy beings.

13. What is God's promise to the young?

Ans. "They that seek me early shall find me."

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PAUSES AND POINTS IN READING.

, Comma. - Hyphen.
;
Semicolon. "" Accents.
:
Colon. — Dash.
.
Period. ? Note of interrogation.
( ) Parenthesis. ! Note of exclamation.
CHRIST ON THE CROSS.

PIERCED and bleeding, lo! I see
One twixt earth and heaven depending,
Fainting in death's agony,
While his blood in streams descending
Tells me that the hour is nigh,—
Christ the Lord submits to die.

Sinless Lamb of God! For me,
Guilty cause of all thy anguish,
Didst thou hang upon the tree,
And in mortal torture languish?
Dearest Friend and King divine,
Ne'er was pain or love like thine!

I have but one offering,
One alone that I can tender,
To the cross my heart I bring,
All I have to thee surrender;
Living, dying, thou wast mine,
Living, dying, I am thine.

"It is better to get wisdom than gold." Gold
is another's, wisdom is our own; gold is for the
body and time, wisdom is for the soul and eternity. Let that which is most precious in God's
account be so in ours.
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