

# **A COUNTRY READER, I**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649257805

A country reader, I by H. B. M. Buchanan

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**H. B. M. BUCHANAN**

**A COUNTRY  
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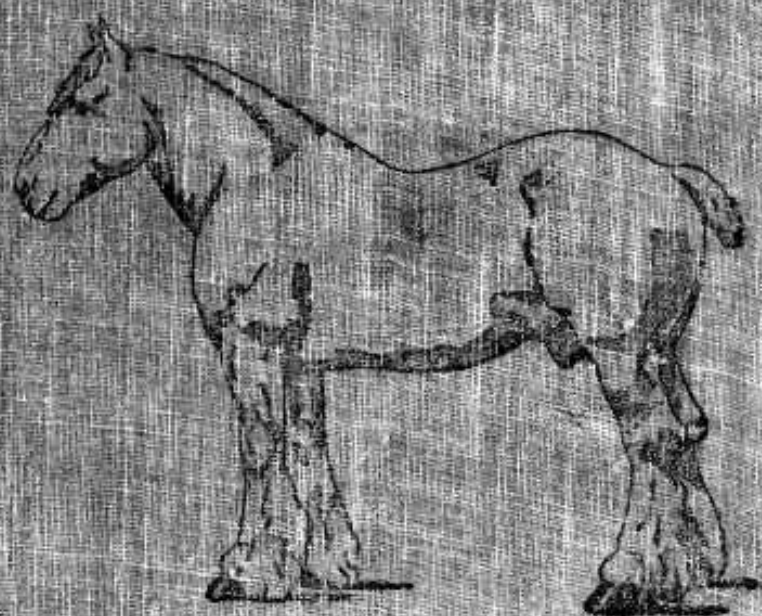
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L. B. M. BUCHANAN



A COUNTRY READER



# A COUNTRY READER

I.

BY

H. B. M. BUCHANAN, B.A. (Cantab.)

MEMBER OF THE CENTRAL CHAMBER OF AGRICULTURE

*WITH SIXTY-SEVEN ILLUSTRATIONS.*

"To make two blades of grass grow,  
where one grew before,  
is noble work."

15573

London

MACMILLAN AND CO., LIMITED.

NEW YORK: THE MACMILLAN COMPANY

1903

15573

1907



First Edition 1901.  
Reprinted 1902. Revised 1903.

GLASGOW: PRINTED AT THE UNIVERSITY PRESS  
BY ROBERT MACLEHOSE AND CO.

S495  
B85c

## PREFACE.

THIS Country Reader is not meant for the very young children, but for the elder children of our village schools—children who are supposed to read with ease, and who are expected to know the meaning of ordinary English words.

I have striven to use the shortest words and simplest sentences at my command, and to make my meaning as plain as possible.

I should like to remind my readers that this little work is a Reader and not a text-book; and so, while endeavouring that it should contain accurate modern knowledge, I have tried with my whole heart to make it live with interest.

To arouse the observation of the children, and so excite an interest in, and fondness for, the varied life and work that lies around them, has been my supreme object.

I am indebted to the following works, which I have freely consulted: "Elementary Text-Book for use in Irish National Schools," by Thomas

Carroll; "Agriculture for use in the Public, Separate and High Schools of Ontario," by C. C. James; "Cable Series of Agricultural Text-Books," by Wrightson and Munro; "Elements of Agriculture," by W. Fream; "Wild Traits in Tame Animals," by Louis Robinson; Agricultural Zoology, by Dr. T. Ritzema Bos.

I am, however, specially indebted to the respected tenants, small-holders, cottagers, and agent of my estate, who have most generously, and I believe with truthfulness, placed at my disposal the results of their lengthened and varied experiences. Many a pleasant and most profitable hour have I passed in their company, listening, I am sure they would say, with respectful sympathy to their reasons for doing this and doing that.

During the time that I have been able to reside on my property and amongst my people, I have attended the village school, where for half an hour or so most mornings I have talked to the children on the matters mentioned in this book.

I have been struck with and gratified by the interest that the children have shown, and the amount of real useful knowledge they have picked up, with little effort to themselves, and with delight and comfort to their teacher.