



J. League.

ORIGINAL FABLES



PUBLISHED BY THE
AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY.

FABLES

FOR THE YOUNG FOLKS.

BY MRS. PROSSER.

"Ask now the beasts, and they shall teach thee."—Job xii. 7.



BOSTON:
THE AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY,

INSTITUTED 1814.

DEPOSITORY, 28 CORNHILL, BOSTON; AND 13 BIBLE
HOUSE, ASTOR PLACE, NEW YORK.



REPRINTED FROM THE LONDON RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY.



GEO. C. RAND & AVERY,
STEREOTYPERS AND PRINTERS.

PREFACE BY THE AMERICAN PUBLISHERS.



MANY a profitable lesson in morals is best taught indirectly. A foolish act or speech will appear in its real light when attributed to one of the inferior animals, and a child may receive the instruction when he might be unmoved by direct admonition. Nor need it be feared that the true character of the fable will be mistaken; that what is the mere *vehicle* of truth will be literally received as the *truth* itself.

“ I shall not ask J. J. Rousseau
If birds confabulate, or no :
'Tis clear that they were always able
To hold discourse, at least in fable ;
And e'en the child, that knows no better
Than to interpret by the letter
A story of a cock or bull,
Must have a most uncommon skull.”

COWPER.



CONTENTS.

	PAGE
EVERY ONE IN HIS OWN WAY	7
TWO SIDES TO A TALE	8
WHO'D BE A DONKEY?	11
LOOK AT HOME	15
JUMPING TO CONCLUSIONS	16
THE OAK AND THE IVY	19
THE CROWING COCK	20
THE PANIC; OR, WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?	23
THE OWL THAT THOUGHT HE COULD SING	28
THE COMPLAINT OF THE EAST WIND	31
THE REFLECTIONS OF A PEACOCK	33
RUBY AND DROVER	35
BUSINESS FIRST, AND PLEASURE AFTERWARD	39
THE LEMONS AND THE SODA	42
THE BIRD WHO LOVED THE SUN	43
CIRCUMSTANCES ALTER CASES	44
THE MILL-HORSE AND THE RACER	47
DROVER AND THE TINKER'S DOG	49
MORE WINTER BEFORE SPRING	54
HEART'S-EASE	57
OUR LOTS ARE EVEN	60
SNARLER AND DROVER	62
EFFECT FOR CAUSE	64
THE SWALLOWS	67
THE SNOW AND THE FLOWERS	69
THE DONKEY AND THE PACK-HORSE	71
THE DUCKLING AND THE WATER-HEN	72
THE VICAR'S PEAS	75
THINK OF OTHERS	79
LITTLE AND GOOD	81
LOOK IN THE GLASS	82
THE SQUIRREL AND THE MASTIFF	83
TRUTH NOT ALWAYS PLEASANT	85
THE DONKEY PHILOSOPHER	87
A WORD TO THE CURIOUS	90

	PAGE
THE WORLD CAN GO ON WITHOUT US	92
THE FURNACE FOR GOLD	93
TRIFLES, TRIFLES, TRIFLES	94
NO ROOM FOR PRIDE	96
OLD DOGS AND YOUNG	97
DOCTORS SELDOM LIKE THEIR OWN PHYSIC	100
LINKS IN THE CHAIN	103
WHERE THE FAULT LIES	105
A NEW LIGHT ON THINGS	106
LIVE AND LET LIVE	107
GIVE AND TAKE	108
NOT QUITE SO BAD AS REPORTED	111
MAKE THE BEST OF IT	115
PREACHING AND PRACTICING	117
ABOVE THE CLOUD	118
THE OWL THAT WROTE A BOOK	119
HOW DROVER GOT A DINNER	121
THE THRUSH AND THE CATERPILLAR	127
NOT A PIN TO CHOOSE	129
KNOW YOUR FRIENDS	130
HOW TO KNOW A GOOSE	131
THE THREE COLORS	132
SOMETHING FOR BOTH SIDES	133
"MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING"	134
"WHAT'S LAW FOR THEE IS LAW FOR ME"	136
THE BROOK	138
AN AWKWARD QUESTION	140
THE WORTH OF OPINION	143
"HOME, SWEET HOME!"	144
BAD TILLAGE	147
NOT THE FAULT OF THE TRUMPET	147
A LIVING DOG BETTER THAN A DEAD LION	148
BWARE OF THE FOWLER	149
THE WILLOW-STUMP AND THE FINGER-POST	152
THE WAY TO CONQUER	154
BUTTERCUPS AND DAISIES	155
HOW CAN THE BLIND SEE?	156
WHERE TO BEG AND PROSPER	158