

NEW CENTURY CATHOLIC SERIES

FIRST  
 READER



BENZIGER · BROTHERS
NEW YORK · CINCINNATI · CHICAGO



THE GUARDIAN ANGEL. See page 98

THE NEW CENTURY CATHOLIC SERIES.

THE FIRST READER.



NEW YORK, CINCINNATI, CHICAGO

BENZIGER BROTHERS

PRINTERS TO THE
HOLY APOSTOLIC SEE

PUBLISHERS OF
BENZIGER'S MAGAZINE

INTRODUCTION.

THE lessons of this FIRST READER are simple and easy in thought and language, such as may be readily understood by the little ones, and it is hoped that the book will prove interesting and acceptable.

The words used are those with which children are familiar; each word as it is introduced appears at the head of the lesson and is thus available for the word-method or as an exercise in spelling and pronunciation. Following the method approved in our best schools, script is introduced from the very beginning.

The respelling for pronunciation of such words as *busy*, *iron*, *says*, etc., is not followed in this book, as experience teaches that this dual spelling tends to confuse the child. The pronunciation of such words is left altogether to the teacher.

While the mechanical excellence of this book speaks for itself, the publishers beg leave to call attention to the illustrations. These, produced at a great expense, are fine examples of art, with which no similar work can compare. They have been made with the feeling that nothing is too good for Catholic schools, and it is hoped and believed that they will please the most critical.

The other mechanical features of the book—the type, the paper, the press-work—are of the same degree of excellence as the illustrations.

With these few words the book is sent forth, in the hope that it will find a lasting place in the Catholic schools of the country, and become dear to the hearts of the children for whom it is made.

THE PUBLISHERS.