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THE
WORLD-WIDE
GEOGRAPHIES

BY
JASPER · H · STEMBRIDGE



BOOK · I
SEEING · THE · WORLD

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The World-Wide Geographies

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PREFACE

THIS series of Geography Books owes its origin to a visit of some Staffordshire Headmasters to Denstone College, —a visit organised by Dr. A. Platts, M.A., one of His Majesty's Inspectors of Schools. Some of the visitors were interested in the Geography Room and in the School Geography Course, and they were kind enough to express a wish that I should expand my own Geography notes into a series of books covering the Junior School from seven to eleven and the Senior School from the latter age to fifteen.

Books I and II of the Junior Series tell in very simple language stories of other peoples and other lands. They describe the life led by folk who live under differing conditions in many parts of the world.

In addition to distinctive illustrations, photographs of simple models are given. These models were made originally by children working as a class, or in small groups, or as individuals.

In Book III the study of the British Isles starts with the home region. The making of relief maps, the use of

PREFACE

Ordnance maps, simple weather observations, etc., and a continuation of easy practical work, all contribute towards a sound geographical outlook. These principles are continued in Book IV, which describes the World.

The foundations having been laid in the Junior books, the World is treated in the Senior Series, Books V to VIII, on a systematic *Regional Basis*. Though no important area is neglected, yet special attention is paid to the British Empire and to its place in the World.

The present volume is the first book of the series. It is based on the stories used in the Denstone Preparatory School; and in its preparation I am indebted for valuable help given by Miss S. M. Clarke, late of the Preparatory School Staff. For the Handwork Exercises, in connection with the models, I owe a deep debt of gratitude to my friend Mr. A. S. Bright, His Majesty's Inspector for Handicraft, etc., for his valuable counsel and suggestions. R. Wellings-Thomas, a Denstone boy, has given me much assistance in designing the models.

J. H. S.

Denstone College
Staffordshire

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TO THE BOYS AND GIRLS WHO
READ THIS BOOK

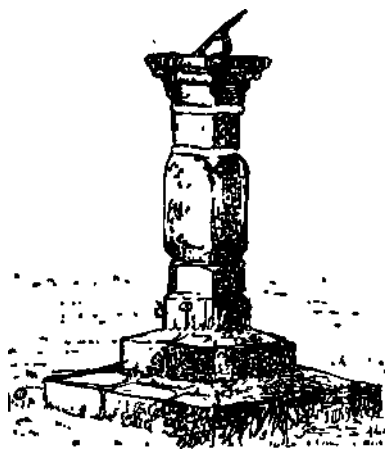
*You must first get to know David and the kind wise
Owl that took David on his travels to see the
world.*

A SMALL boy was lying full length on the grass under a very big cedar. His Manx cat, Billy Boy, who was sitting beside him, looked at him with big solemn eyes and began to purr.

INTRODUCTION

The small boy's name was David, and he lived with his mother in an old manor house near the sea. His father had died when he was very little, and he could only just remember a man with a nice kind smile, who would take him for rides on his shoulder.

The house was built of red sandstone that had been brought from a quarry close by. David's forefathers had been yeomen or well-to-do farmers. In the days of Good Queen Bess they had gone to sea in search of adventure, and there was a story that one of them had brought home a great treasure, and had hidden it somewhere near Midsummer Manor, as David's old house was called.



David's house stood in a beautiful old garden, and at the back there was a little stream, singing happily to itself as it wandered and trickled along over the pebbles, sparkling in the sunshine as it went. David would lie on the bank and watch

INTRODUCTION

it. What a lot of things the stream would tell him if it could only speak !

It would tell him how it began away up in the hills, and how it trickled down the side of the hill, finding its way round rocks and stones, washing away the soft soil and sand, and carrying it along through shady woods, and open fields where cows came down to drink, through David's garden, past farms and cottages, till it joined the big river, and so made its way to the sea !



In front of the house was a lawn. There was also a sundial, and—what David loved best—a bird bath, where he used to watch the birds splashing in the water, and drying themselves afterwards in the sun.

At the back of the garden was a wood where David was never tired of wandering. He loved all the flowers and animals, but above all he loved the birds* They were all his friends. He would watch the little mother birds sitting on their eggs

INTRODUCTION



in the nests, and sometimes he would reach up and stroke the little fluffy heads of the babies, while mother bird went off to find a nice fat juicy worm for supper.

Just up the hill at the back were the ruins of an old mona_s_tery. It had been built long, long ago, about the time that King John was reigning over England. It was then the home of some monks, who taught the boys and looked after the sick. Its walls, like those of the manor house, were made of sandstone. During the reign of Henry the Eighth, the monks were turned out and the place was left to crumble into ruins.

This, then, was David's old home.

It was getting dusk.

David rolled over on his back and, stretching out his arms, he gazed up into the tree. There was a slight movement in the branches.

David watched, and as his eyes became used to the shadows, he saw an old owl, whose home was in the tree, give herself a shake.

INTRODUCTION

She blinked. Then looking down at David, she blinked again.

" Oh! how I wish you could speak! " said David. " You are so very old. You must have seen such lots of things. Oh ! if you could only tell me something about them ! I should love to see the world! Still, you can't speak. So it's no use, I suppose."

" Tu-whit—tu-who! tu-whit—tu-who! I can speak," said a voice from the tree.

David gave a start.

He rubbed his eyes.
He must be dreaming.

" Tu - whit — tu - whoo !
tu-whit—tu-who ! " cried
the voice again.

No, he was awake, and
the voice really was that of
the owl.

" If you only knew what
I know, and if you'd only
seen what I've seen ! " said
the bird.

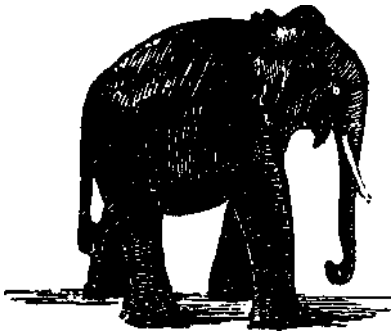
" Yes, that's just it,"



INTRODUCTION

said David. " That's exactly what I want to do. I want to see many other places. But Mother is too poor to take me. She says it is all she can do to go on living here, and she says I do wear out so many boots"—with a sad look at his feet.

" Humph ! " said the Owl. " Well, one [^]gpiid turn deserves another. Ever since you saved my baby when it fell out of the tree, I've been wondering what I could do for you. Would you like to visit some other countries ? If you would I will take you."



David jumped up so suddenly that he knocked poor Billy Boy over, and with a sad look at David the cat stalked off into the house.

" Will you really and truly ? But Mother will never let me go."

" I'll settle it all," said Mother Owl; " but now you run along like a good boy, have your supper and go to bed, and you shall see what you shall sec."

INTRODUCTION

" All right, good-night! " said David, and off he scampered into the house.

His supper was waiting for him, and after he had shared it with Billy Boy, he climbed up the old staircase to his own little room under the eaves,

^i'ts walls were green, and there was a little white bed in the, corner hear the window. The fireplace was of stone, and -on the mantelpiece was a black elephant which his father had brought him from far-off Burma. There was the figure of a dancing girl from India, a camel from Arabia and many other treasures.



He lay awake for some time, wondering what Mother Owl could have meant, and was still awake when his Mother came in to tuck him up and say good-night.

Presently the moon shone through the lattice window, across the floor, and on to the little white bed. How beautiful it looked! He grew more and more drowsy, and was just dropping off to sleep when he was startled by a tap-tap at

INTRODUCTION

the window. He sat up in bed, and there on the window-sill outside sat Mother Owl.

" Oh ! " cried David, jumping out of bed and running to the window. " Have you come to take me to see something ? "

" Why, yes," replied Mother Owl. " I thought we would begin at once. First you must drink this; it will make you *invisible*—so that no one can see you."

She handed David the cup of a flower, at the bottom of which was a small drop that looked like a dewdrop. David drank it, climbed up on to Mother Owl's back, and away they went.

EXERCISES

Write and learn—

India. Burma. Arabia.

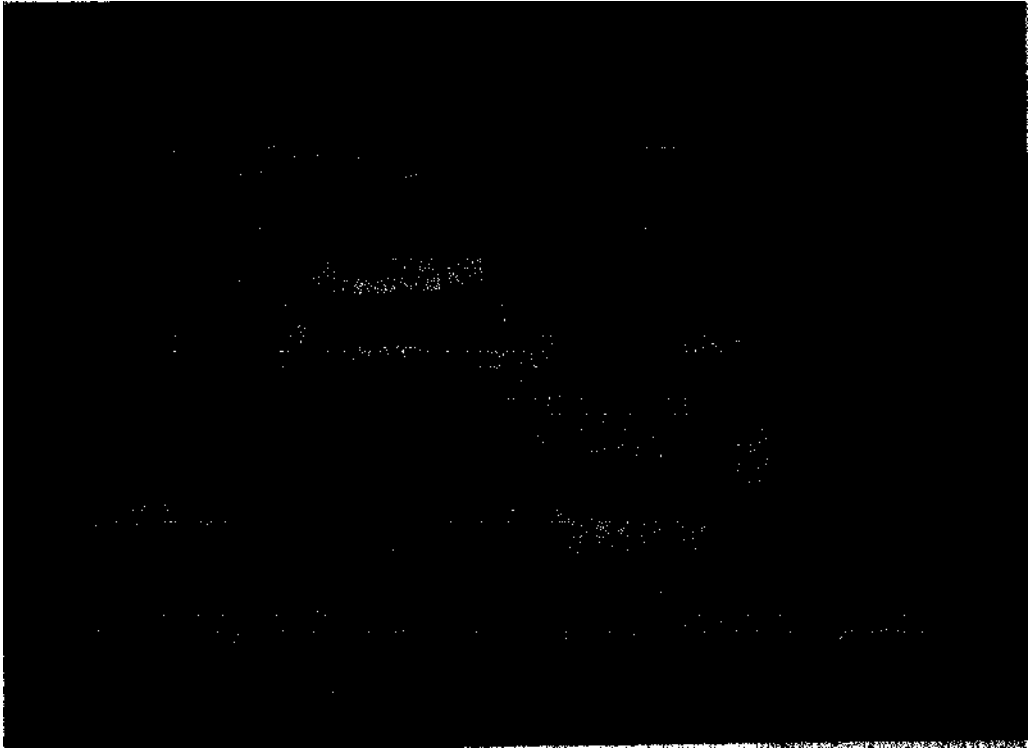
Tell—

What you can about the stream.

MODEL

DAVID'S MODEL OF HIS VILLAGE

David lives in the house on the left, which is very much the same now as it was when it was built all those long years ago. The house is still called the Manor House, just as it was when it was built and when its owner was



called the Lord of the Manor. He was the chief man in the village, and much of it belonged to him. The village is very different now, but this model tries to show what it looked like in earlier days.

Now make a model of your own village, or, if you live in a town, of some village that you know, or of this model.

Don't forget the dovecot, where the people kept pigeons to eat in the winter. The sheep are in white plasticine, and there are an old English sheep-dog and a couple of geese on the village green, as well as the Manx cat sitting in front of the house.

I. THE LAND OF THE RISING SUN

Japan

AT first David was rather afraid. He thought he might tumble'off Mother Owl, so he held on tightly to her feathery back. But soon he grew used to this new way of travelling, and began to look about him.

He was high up above everything. They flew over woods and fields, cities and rivers, and now the blue sea stretched out below. Then came more woods and country, and great mountain tops, some of them covered with snow;. then the sea again.

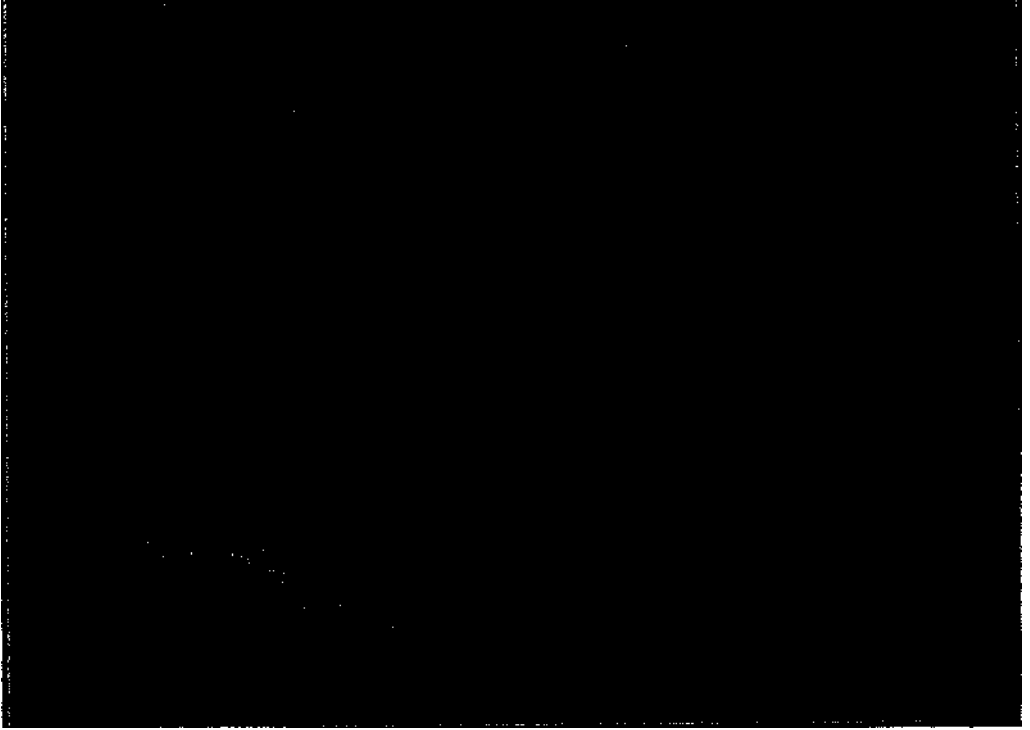
At last he saw land in the distance away on his left, and then the sea seemed to be coming up to meet him, for Mother Owl was flying lower and lower, till she just skimmed the water.

Then, as he looked ahead, he saw something begin to come out of the distance, something white and high and beautiful. "What's that?" he asked.

"That," replied Mother Owl, "is the holy mountain of *Japan*. We should call it a *volcano*, but here it is always called the * fire mountain.'

THE LAND OF THE RISING SUN

" I have been told that once it was flat land there, like the country around; but when the people



FUJIYAMA

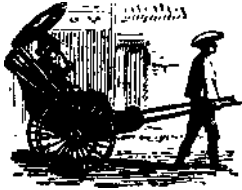
[Photograph by WM FJfayUu.

looked out one morning, there stood the great mountain, called by the pretty name of *Fujiyama*"

Then they flew over a harbour, where all was bustle and hurry; men were loading and unloading the great steamers along the quay.

THE LAND OF THE RISING SUN

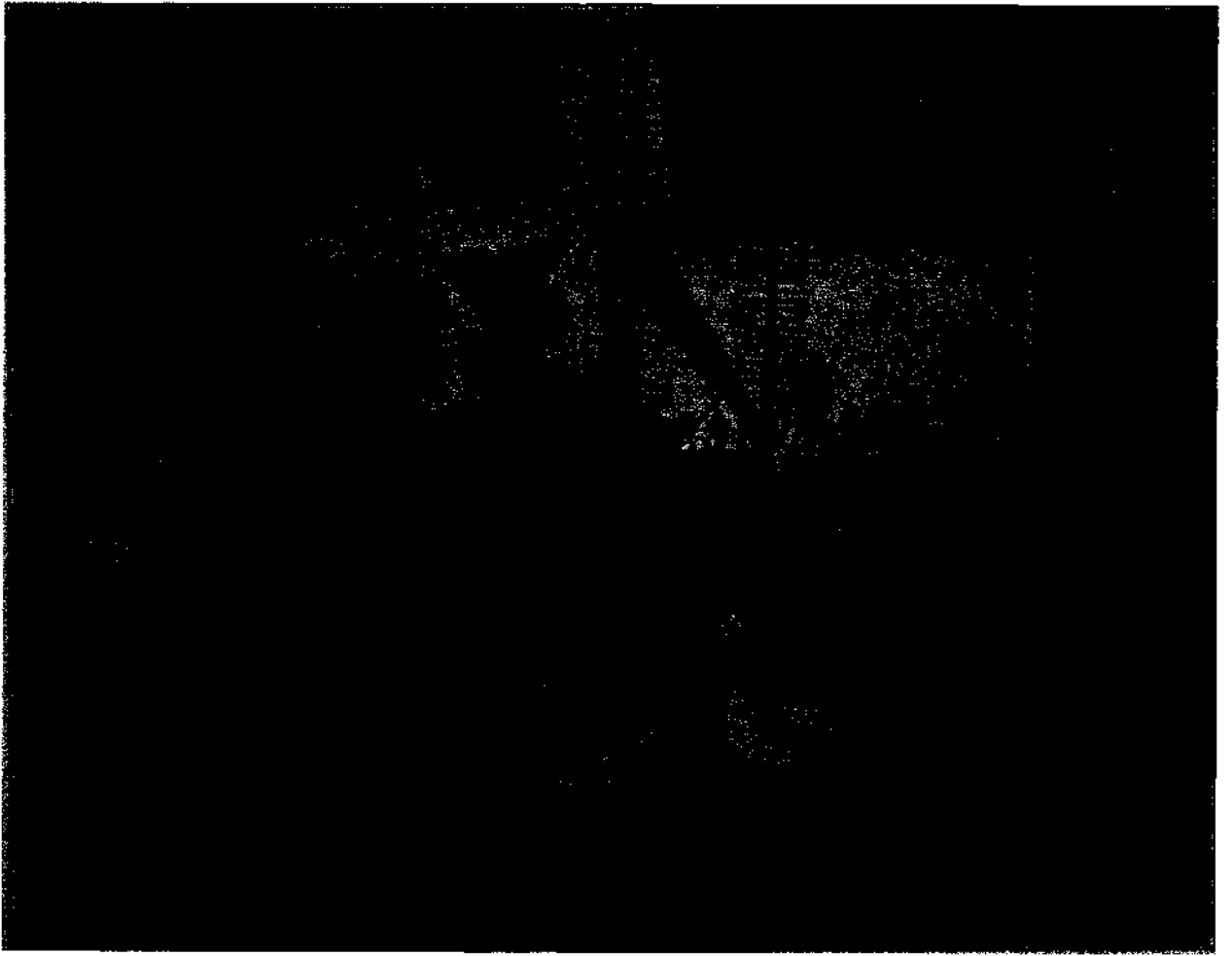
They flew on till they came to a very big city that Mother Owl called *Tokyo*. Looking down they saw the roofs of big factories where all kinds of things were made. Some of the streets were broad. They were lined with banks, offices and stores like those we see in our own towns. Crowds of people moved to and fro. Some were dressed in brightly-coloured robes, but many wore clothes



such as we wear. David was glad he was not cycling in these busy streets. A few people were riding in two-wheeled carts, called *jinrick-shaws*) drawn by men. Some were in taxis, but most travelled by

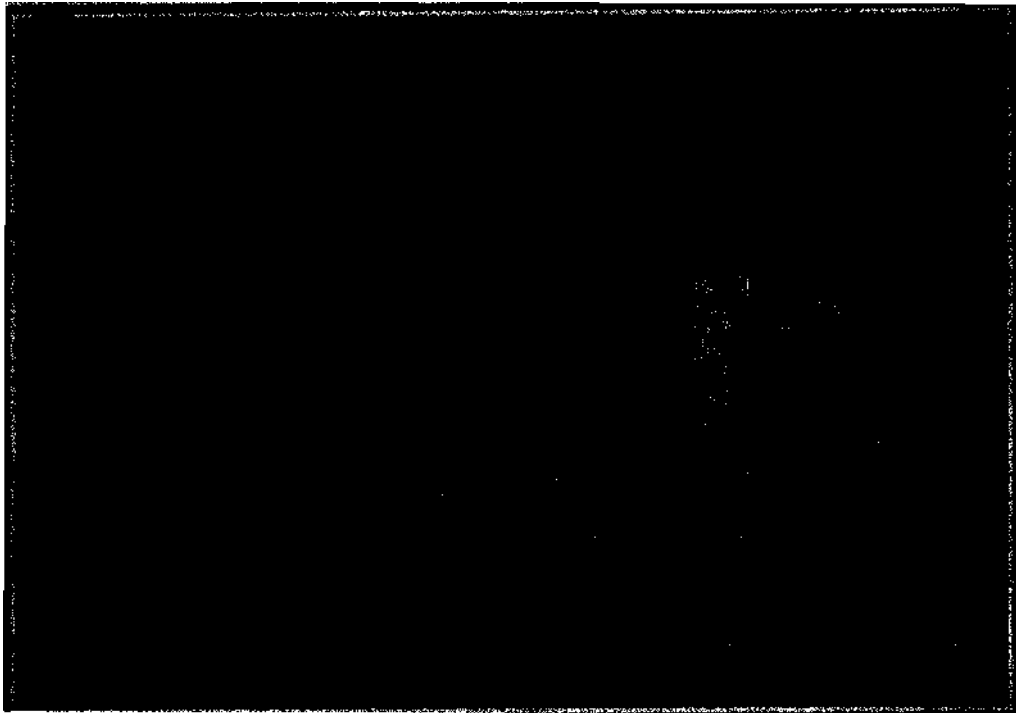
tram or motor bus.

David thought the narrower streets were most interesting. There were shops on each side that were open to the street. In them were fish, flowers, vegetables, rice, brooms and many other things. As David stopped outside a cinema to look at the posters, four little girls passed by, carrying their baby sisters on their backs. The Owl told him that Japanese girls are taught to help their mothers in this way.



A JAPANESE STREET

(Photograph by Will F. Taylor.)



[Photograph by courtesy of the Japan Society,

THE INSIDE OF A JAPANESE HOUSE

Farther on they came to some houses. " Why do they live in such funny houses ?" . asked David.

" They make their houses of light wood, or very strong paper, because there are so many *earthquakes* here. Low and light houses do not do so much damage, when they fall, as big stone or brick houses do, and they are more easily and quickly built up again. But very often there

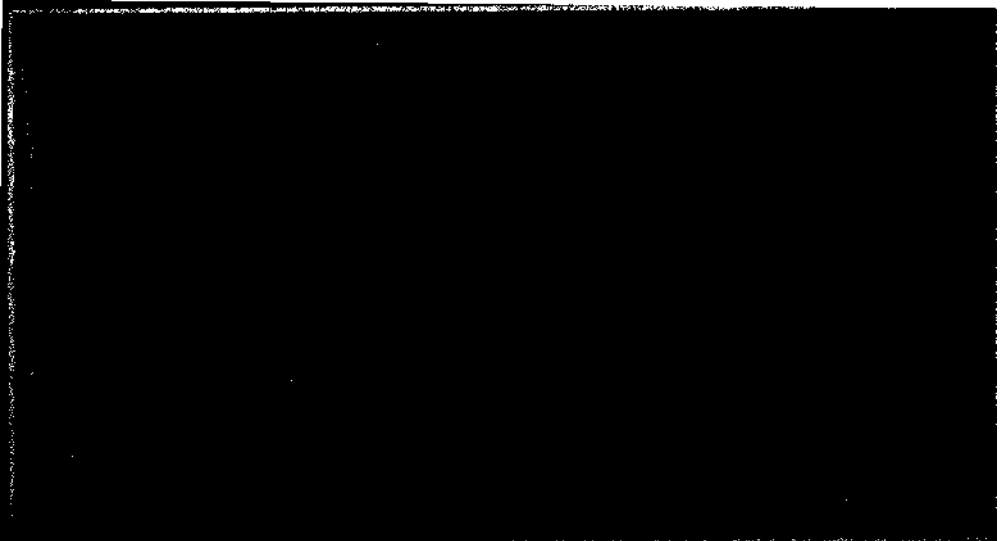
THE LAND OF THE RISING SUN

are fires, for when the houses are set alight they burn very quickly. Would you like to go inside and see what this house is like ? "

" Oh, yes, please," said David.

So they stopped in front of the house. There seemed to be nobody about, and the front part of the house was slid back like a sliding door, and they could walk straight into the room. There were no chairs or tables, but in one part of the room on the floor there was a teapot with some pretty cups and saucers.

"The Japanese always sit on the floor, even



[Pantograph by courtesy of the Jap in Society,

JAPANESE LADIES

THE LAND OF THE RISING SUN

when they have a party, and they are very fond of drinking tea. They grow a great deal of tea in Japan. When the leaves are ripe, they are picked off the tea-plant chiefly by children, and then left to dry in the sun."

The house was made with sliding doors, so that they could either have one big room or several smaller ones as they liked. It was very clean and neat, with brightly painted screens.

In one of the rooms David saw a lady taking an afternoon nap. She wore a pink gown or *kimono*, with a long black sash which was fastened at the back in a large bow. She was lying on the floor and resting her head on a little wooden stool.

"The Japanese ladies have their hair done only now and then, and when they do, it takes a long time," went on Mother Owl. "So they sleep with their heads on little wooden blocks to keep it tidy and prevent it from getting ruffled. But we must be getting along again."

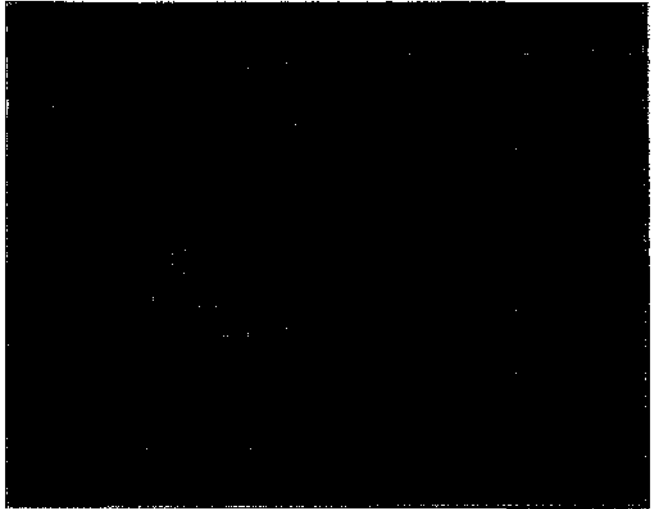
So David jumped on to Mother Owl's back and off they went.

THE LAND OF THE RISING SUN

§2

They left the town behind them and flew inland to where the mountains are. On the slopes of the mountains were many houses two storeys high, with strange-looking chimneys.

"This is where the *silk-worms* are reared," said Mother Owl. "There are very many families rearing silkworms in Japan. They always speak of the worms as the 'honourable little gentlemen.'



[Photograph by James's Press Agency.

A JAPANESE SILKWORM ROOM

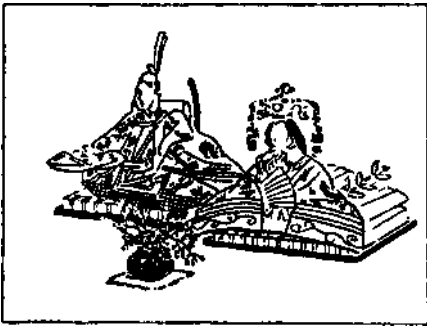
"The rooms have to be kept at a certain heat for the silkworms to live, and they need great care.

"When they are young they have to be fed seven or eight times a day, and in August their nurses get only three or four hours' rest in the twenty-four. At night, when the little silkworms are feeding, the nibbling sounds like thousands of

THE LAND OF THE RISING SUN

hens all scratching. The people believe that if they make a noise or behave badly in their presence, they will not produce good silk.

" In the winter a kind of Christmas tree is set up in the farmhouse in honour of these little friends, and it is decked with cakes. As the silkworm is precious to the Japanese, so too is the *mulberry* tree on which it feeds. In May the



people go to the village shrine to beg success for mulberry trees.

" The Japanese have many festivals during the year. They are really acts of worship. There

is the Feast of Flags for the boys—I wish you could see it. And there is the Peach Festival for the little girls, which is the festival of dolls; in every house there are dolls dressed up as the Emperor and Empress, and by them is placed a little vase of peach and cherry blossom.

" Some time I will bring you here again. Then we will visit factories where silk is woven, and cotton and woollen goods made. But now we

THE LAND OF THE RISING SUN

must say good-bye to Japan—one of the loveliest countries in the world."

" Why, David, what is the matter, have you been dreaming ? " said his mother.

David opened his eyes and found himself in his own bed, with his mother bending over him.

" Oh," said David, " I thought I was with the silkworms."

" Dear ! dear I " said his mother. " I think it is time you had a holiday; you have been dreaming about your lessons."

David said nothing, for how should his mother believe that he had been to Japan and seen such wonderful things !

EXERCISES

Find Japan on your map.

Collect pictures of Japan.

Write and learn—

Asia. Japan. Tokyo (town).

Volcano. Earthquake.

Jin-rickshaw. Taxi. Tram. Motor Bus.

Silkworm. Mulberry Tree. Silk Factory.

Flag and Peach Festivals.

THE LAND OF THE RISING SUN

Tell—

What David saw in Japan.

MODEL

This model was made by a class of boys. They had been reading about Japan and collecting pictures of it, and some of them made this model in their spare time.

First you must collect the different parts of the model. The trees at the back are little twigs pulled off a pine tree. The two houses with white roofs are made of cardboard with little sticks in front for pillars. The little lanterns hanging in front of the houses are made of coloured beads.

An easy way to make these houses is to get two of those yellow cigarette boxes which hold fifty cigarettes. If they are stood on end they are the right size, except that they are rather too tall. Mark, on the boxes, with a pencil, the correct slope for the roof. Then cut out the window and the door. Mark some black lines, as in the picture, so that the walls look like yellow bamboo stuck in between black posts. Then stick on the roofs and fix the posts.

The houses with the thatched roofs are made of brown plasticine walls and a roof of raffia. The little model house from which these were copied came from Japan. Get a bit of stick for the ridge and double the raffia over it. Open the raffia out and spread it out roof shape. Fix it and cut off the long edges. If you find this way of making the roof too hard, make it of plasticine and make marks down it like thatch.



On the left of the village across the stream is a temple. It is made of yellow plasticine. The gateway which leads to it is made of wood. The bar across the two posts is coloured red.

The bridge over the stream is made of bent twigs, old match sticks and some grey plasticine. (Save your old matches, they are useful in making models.)

The village has been laid out in a sand tray on some sand. The stream is made of powdered white chalk. The hollow for the stream was scratched with the end of a pencil, and the chalk was dusted into this hollow.

The figures are about an inch high (about half the length of your thumb). Copy them from the picture.

II. THE ROOF OF THE WORLD

Tibet

DAVID had had a very nice day. He had spent a happy afternoon on the shore poking about in the little pools to find shrimps and crabs. Then he had returned home to tea, and his mother had read to him, and he had gone to bed tired but happy, and was soon fast asleep.

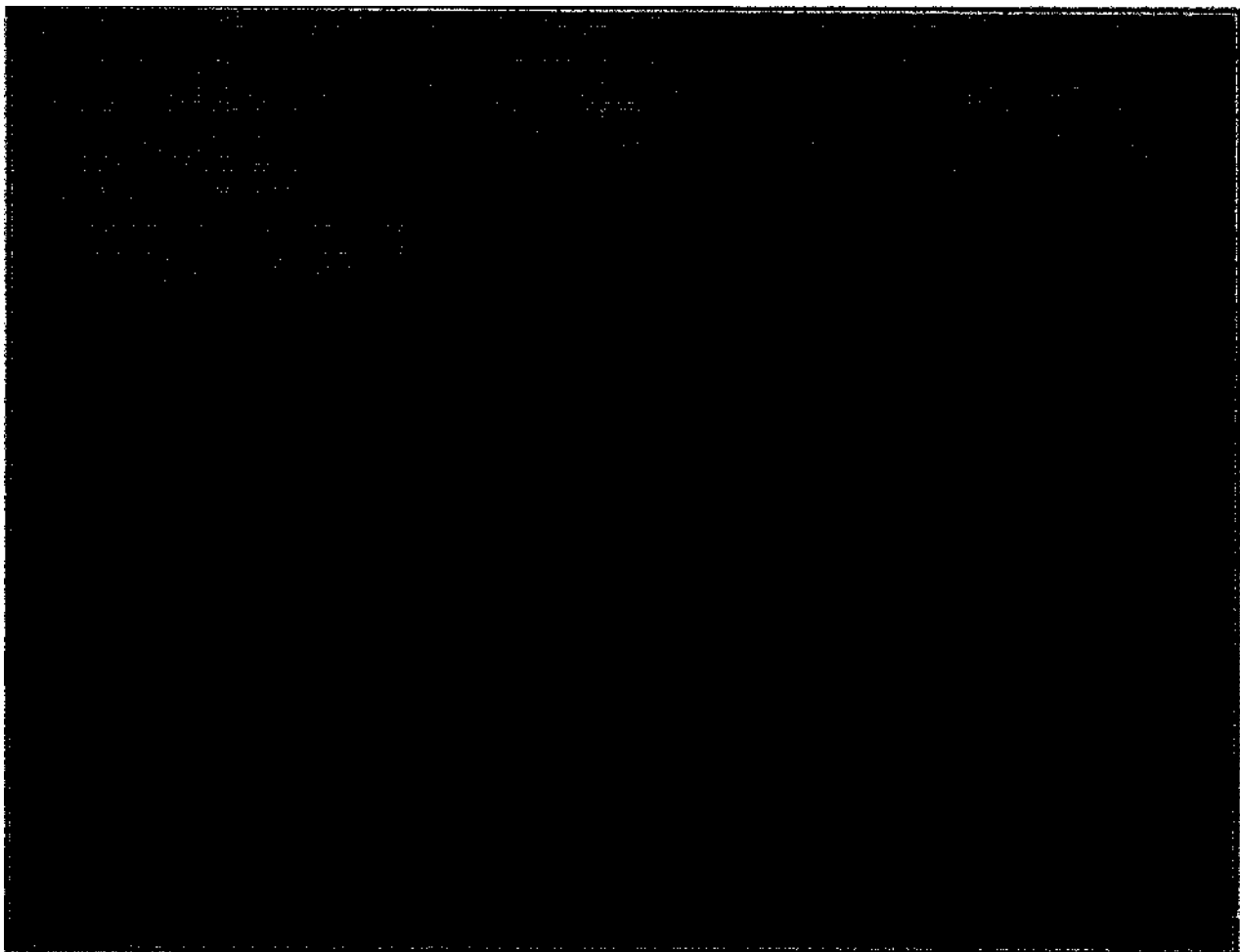


What was that? Something at the window—was it? Could it be? Why, yes, it was Mother Owl perched on the window-sill.

"Oh," cried David, jumping out of bed, "are you going to take me for another journey to-night?" and he began to climb out of the window.

"Steady then," said Mother Owl; "you have forgotten your little drink. Without that I could not possibly carry you, nor would you be able to go about among the people without being seen."

As soon as David had drunk the drop at the



A TIBETAN HILL TOWN

[Photograph by Will F. Taylor,

THE ROOF OF THE WORLD

The people looked rather like the Chinese, with long slanting eyes, half closed, and black coarse hair. They all looked very old and wrinkled, and their skin was like leather. Mother Owl told David that this was because of the bitter cold winds, and also because the light was so very strong when reflected by the snow.



A YAK

Yaks, goats, and even sheep are used for carrying the food and clothes, which have to be brought from India or one of the countries near by, for it is so cold in Tibet that very little will grow there.

Close by the city, perched on the top of a high rock, was a large monastery, where some of the monks of Tibet lived. These priests are called *Lamas*.

Mother Owl took David inside, and he saw rows and rows of coloured images round the walls. In front of them were little lamps, with wicks burning in butter, and hundreds of strips of coloured stuff hanging from the ceiling. They are offered by pilgrims as prayers. They believe

THE ROOF OF THE WORLD

that every flutter of the strip is as good as a prayer being said.

The Tibetans also have prayer-wheels. Instead of learning long prayers by heart, they just stuff the whole prayer-book into one of these wheels and turn it round. They must be turned from left to right if the prayer is to be of any use. Even little children learn to use a prayer-wheel.



A PRAYER-WHEEL

Next they visited a village in one of the sheltered valleys by the river.

"What a funny-looking tent!" cried David.

"Yes," said Mother Owl.

"In the winter the people live in stone houses, but when the summer comes they go higher up the valleys, and live in black tents like these."



David walked all round one of the tents, and had a good look at it. The two sides were separate, and along the top was an opening to act as ventilator

THE ROOF OF THE WORLD

and to let out the smoke, for the Tibetans light fires inside their tents. These tents are made of the hair of the yak and are quite water-proof.

The Tibetans seemed to have thrown all their rubbish just outside the tents.

" May I go inside ? " asked David.

" Oh, yes, if you like," said Mother Owl, " but I would rather stop outside. I will wait here for you."

David put his head inside, and if he had not been very much interested, he would have taken it out again very quickly, for there was the most dreadful smell !

There were mats and carpets on the floor, and a pile of cushions. A mud-stove stood in the middle, and on it was a brass cooking-dish. By the side was a woman who was making tea, to which she added some balls of butter and some salt. The tea had been squeezed into solid bricks in China, to make it easier for the coolies to carry it all the way to Tibet.

In another part of the tent a woman was plastering fat all over a baby, kneading it well in. All the Tibetans smear themselves with fat to try to protect their skins from the bitter cutting winds.

THE ROOF OF THE WORLD

As David turned towards the door to go out, the father of the family came in. He looked very fat, for he had on three thick coats, one on the top of another. He wore a belt rather low down, and round it he carried one or two wooden bowls and a prayer-wheel. He had on high-legged boots, with very thick rope soles to keep his feet warm and dry when out in the snow.

When David got outside again, he found Mother Owl getting anxious to begin the return journey. So up he climbed on to her back, and saying good-bye to the Roof of the World, flew home.

David began to get very drowsy and was nearly asleep by the time they reached his bedroom window. He slipped down on to the window-sill, said good-night to Mother Owl, and tumbling into his warm cosy bed, was fast asleep in a twinkling.

The next thing he knew was a wet tongue licking his face.

"That's right, Nigger," said his mother to David's dog; "tell him to get up, or he will be late for school."

THE ROOF OF THE WORLD

EXERCISES

Find Tibet on your map.

See if you can get some more pictures of Tibet, and put them in your book or in the Class Record Book.

Write and learn—

Tibet. India. Himalaya mountains.

Mountains. Glaciers. Roof of the World.

Yaks. Goats. Sheep.

Lamas (priests, monks). Prayer-wheels.

Tea. Coolies (labourers).

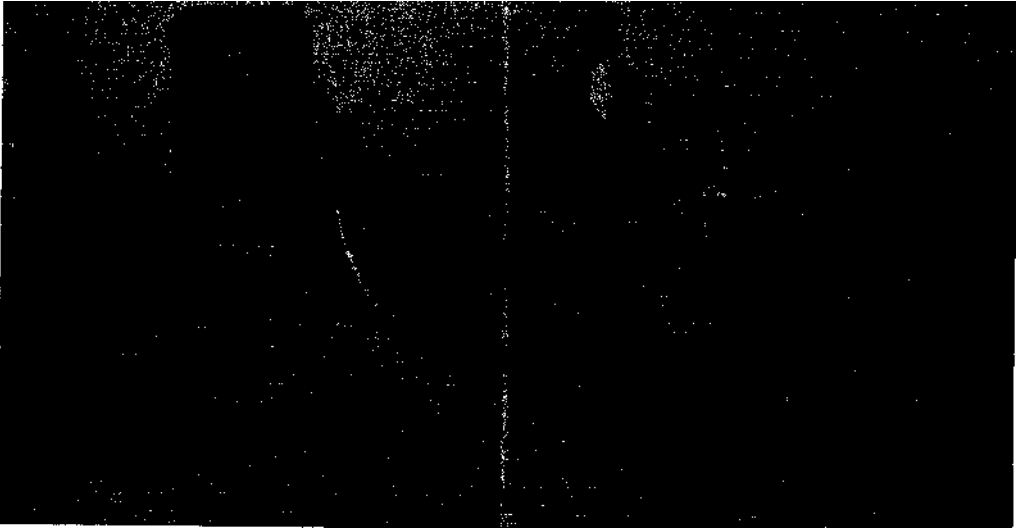
Tell—

What David saw in the Tibetan tent.

MODEL

These are some of the best models made by a class who were reading about Tibet. Which do you like best? Make a model of a Tibetan. You will find pictures of them in this book, and you may have other books which have pictures of them.

The models on the left are in a Temple. The altar is made of an ordinary lump of clay. The image on it belonged to a boy whose father brought it from India. The kneeling woman is made of grey plasticine. Her hair is made from bits of wool. Her train is made of blue plasticine, and it is ornamented with pieces of red and



spots of white plasticine. The priest has a red robe made of plasticine. His hair is closely cropped. In one hand he holds his prayer-wheel, and in the other he has a string of beads.

On the right are father and mother at home. Father looks rather cross. He is warmly dressed. His coat is made of brown plasticine and he has a white front. His boots are made of grey plasticine. Mother is making tea. She is first of all mixing the tea with butter and salt in the long churn. She works the handle up and down. Churns like this were used in our own islands less than a hundred years ago. Her hair and father's cap are made of little pieces of wool. On the block is a cooking bowl.

III. THE LAND OF THE PAGODAS

Burma

IT was the end of the summer holidays, which David had spent with his cousins near London.

It seemed a very long time since he had seen Mother Owl, and he was looking forward to some more travels.



^\$H\$fi£*

A PAGODA

The moon shone through the window, across the room, lighting up his little elephant on the mantelpiece.

He lay sleepily watching it. It looked very real, and once he was SURE HE ITS trunk move.

"How I wish you could talk; then you could tell me all about the country where elephants live," said David.

"Wouldn't it be better to go and see them?" asked Mother Owl, who was sitting on the window-sill.

"I wondered if you knew I was home again," cried David. "How good of you to come so soon! Will you take me out to-night?"

THE LAND OF THE PAGODAS

" Yes, come along," said Mother Owl; " we will go and see the Land of the Pagodas."

" Where ever is that ? " laughed David.

" It is called *Burma*," answered Mother Owl.

After they had been flying for some time, Mother Owl flew lower, and David could see the land below him quite plainly.

Now they were flying over some mountains, and now over a big river. There were dense jungles or forests, and little villages peeping out from among flowers and trees.

Most of the villages were built on the banks of the river, and had a stockade or fence round three sides to keep out the wild beasts.

" Can we go and look at a village ?" David asked.

" Yes, if you like," answered Mother Owl.

The houses were all made of wood and bamboo, and were perched up on legs, with ladders for staircases, and thatched roofs. They were built high up like this to make them safe against snakes, wild beasts, and floods.

There were flowers everywhere, creeping ovei the stockade and the houses, and there were palm trees and bananas.

THE LAND OF THE PAGODAS



A SCENE IN BURMA

Squatting on the ground, outside one of the houses, was a small naked infant, holding a coconut between his feet, and making a hole in it with a large chopping-knife. It looked very dangerous, and David wanted to go and take the knife away, but Mother Owl told him it was quite all right.

"Children learn to take care of themselves very early out here," Mother Owl said. "Chil-

dren of seven can turn a herd of great buffaloes by throwing stones at them, and can guide the herd the way it should go by lying full length on the back of the leader."

There were a good many people about the village, and they were all dressed in a kind of long straight skirt, tucked in at the waist, and a loose white jacket with wide sleeves. The men wore

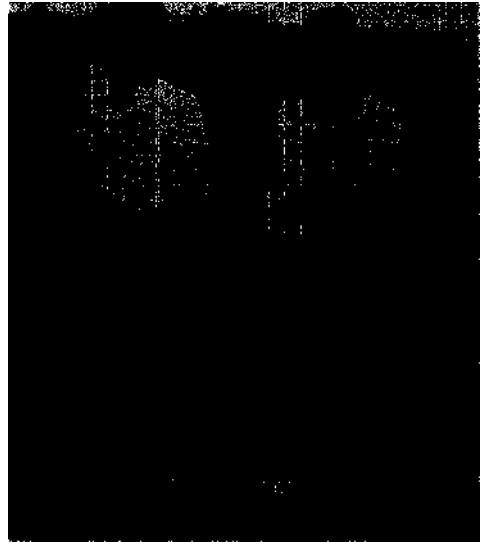
THE LAND OF THE PAGODAS

a gay silk handkerchief twisted round their heads; some of the women wore theirs over their shoulders.

As they had come along, David had noticed a great many strange-looking buildings dotted over the country, and now he saw one at the far end of the village.

" Those," Mother Owl told him, " are *Pagodas*, The Burman thinks that if he builds a Pagoda he will live happily for ever, and so the whole country is full of them, large and small, well built and badly built, some quite simple, and others very beautiful and covered with gold."

Of course David ran off at once to look at it. There was a terrace, a number of domes like bells, and a spire covered with rings. From each ring hung a bell that tinkled musically in the breeze. Inside there were altars on which to make Offerings.



[*Photograph by Jamesas Press Agency,*
BURMESE LADIES

THE LAND OF THE PAGODAS

Not far away David could see another large building, but not quite so beautiful as the Pagoda. This building was where the monks lived. It stood on wooden posts about ten feet high from the ground, and was only one storey high.

The inside was very bare. There was a verandah where the monks used to teach the children, and a hall where they slept and ate.

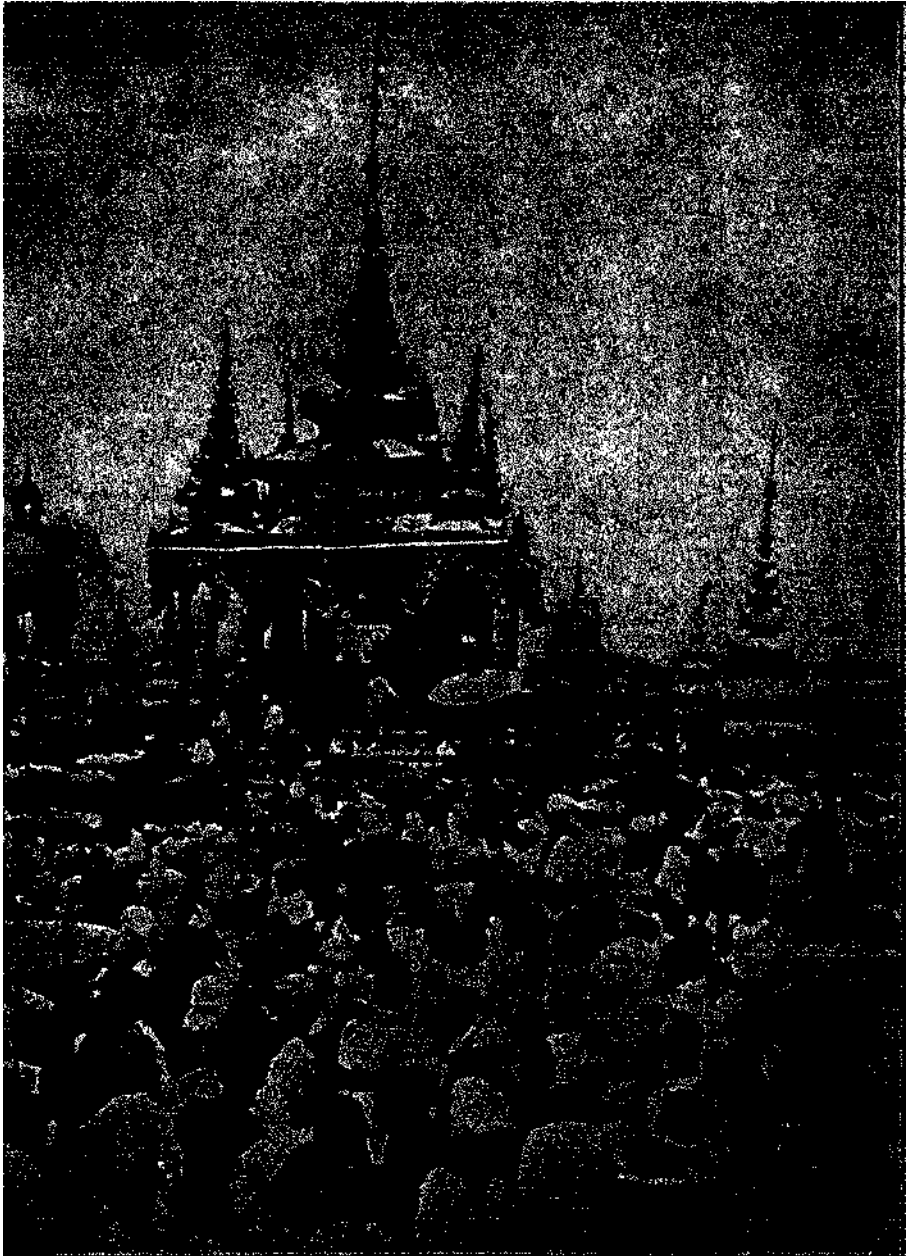
David had a good look at everything, and then turning to Mother Owl said, "I haven't seen any elephants yet."

"No, but you shall before very long," said Mother Owl. So away they flew, and were soon in the middle of a large timber yard by the side of a big river.

There were stacks and stacks of logs and huge tree trunks lying along the bank of the river.

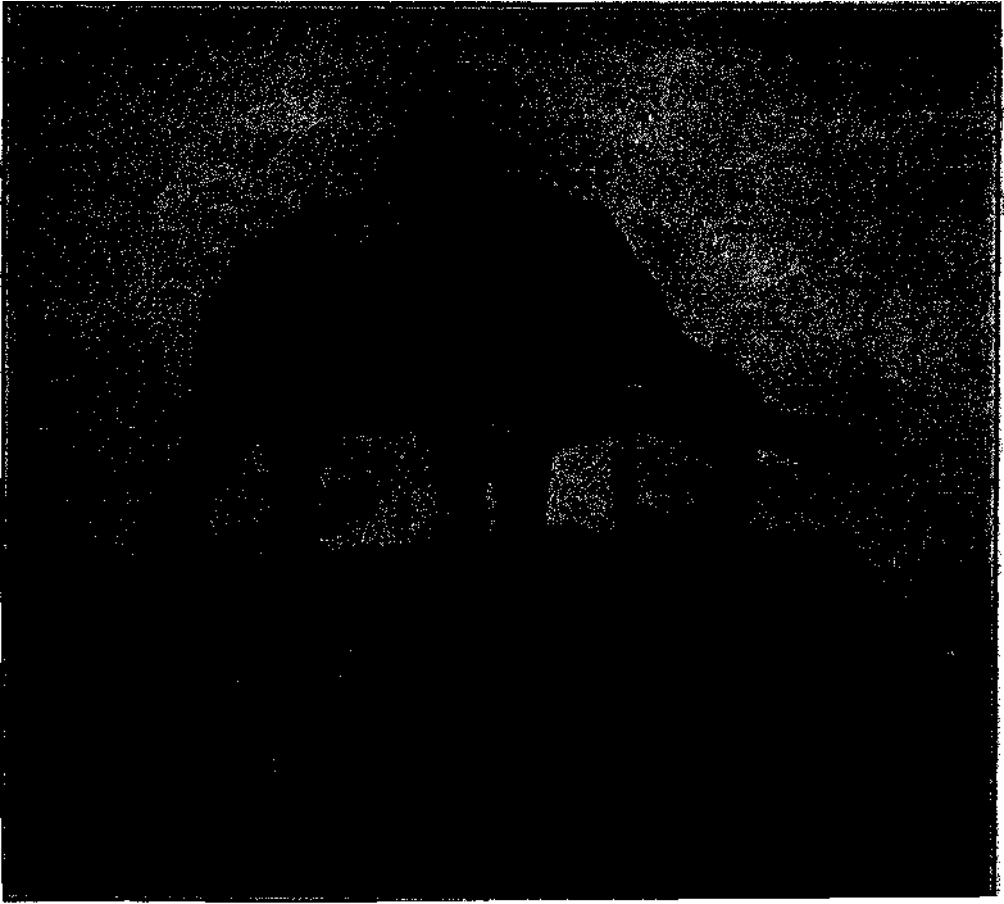
"Oh!" cried David, "where did all these logs come from?"

"Trees grow to a great size out here," said Mother Owl. "They are cut down away in the forests, and are taken to the river by elephants, and are floated down till they come to where they are wanted.



[Photograph by Will F Taylor.]

THE LAND OF THE PAGODAS



ELEPHANT LOADING TIMBER

{Photograph by Will F. Taylor.

" Most of the lumber, as the logs are called, is the wood of the teak tree. It is very hard and strong, and is very valuable."

David gave a cry of delight, for coming towards him were two elephants, carrying a huge log between them on their tusks, and steadying it with their trunks.

THE LAND OF THE PAGODAS

The men on their backs were guiding them down to the bank of the river by touching their heads and necks with a stick.

They went up to a pile of logs, each carefully placing his log along with the others.

Just then a gong sounded, and the elephants seemed to know just as well as the men that it was time to leave off work.

As the Owl and David flew away, the boy saw great fields of rice growing.

"Rice is the chief food of the Burmese," said Mother Owl. "They also send much to other countries. Those boats you can see down there are carrying it away—perhaps one is going to England."

"I should like to live in Burma," said David, as they flew home, "and I should like to ride on an elephant in a timber yard."

"Well, perhaps you will some day," said Mother Owl, "or perhaps you will come out and tame and train elephants. If you do, remember that if you are kind to an elephant you can do anything with it, but if you are unkind, it will never forget or forgive you."

"Good-night, Mother Owl," said David, as

THE LAND OF THE PAGODAS

he landed on his window-sill, "and thank you very much."

When David woke up the next morning, the first thing he saw was his little elephant on the mantelpiece, and he could have been quite certain that it winked its funny little eye at him.

EXERCISES

Write and Learn—

Burma—Land of the Pagodas (temples).

Mountains. Jungles. Forests of teak. Elephants.

Buffaloes. Coconut. Palm. Banana trees. Rice.

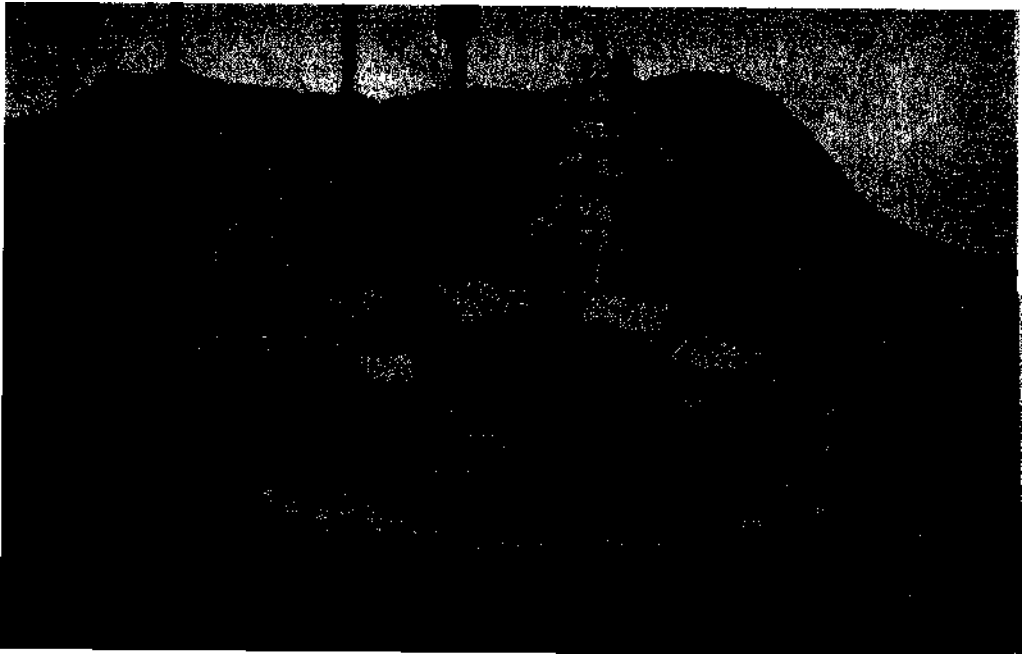
Tell-

What David saw in the Burmese village.

MODEL

The *houses* in the village all stand on wood posts clear of the ground, so that the people cannot easily be flooded out. The little houses can have a cardboard floor on four plasticine posts. The walls are plasticine, and so is the ladder up which the people have to climb to get indoors. The roof is made of a piece of stiff paper wound round with raffia and then folded so as to be roof-shaped. It is best to crease the paper before it is wound, so that it will fold easily in the right place.

The *fence* round the village can be made of split cane sewed together. The *elephants* are made of grey plasticine



with white tusks. The *logs* by the stream are supposed to be timber that the elephants have to move. The trees have grey or brown trunks and green leaves. Each leaf is separately stuck on. Can you see the monkey? He is made of white plasticine.

The *pagodas* or temples are built up of pieces of yellow plasticine one above the other. There is a centre piece to keep them the right distance apart. At the corners matches are used to make the little pinnacles, and they strengthen the building.

Arrange your sand in a sand tray and make a place for the river with your finger. The water is made of crushed white chalk dusted into the space.

IV. MEN OF THE DESERT

Arabia

£'

" I WONDER if Mother Owl will come to-night," thought David as he got into bed.

It was a lovely moonlight night, just the kind of night she liked to choose for her journeys. He could see the top of the cedar from his bed, and as he lay sleepily watching it, something dark flew out and came towards the window.



David darted out of bed and was at the window before Mother Owl.

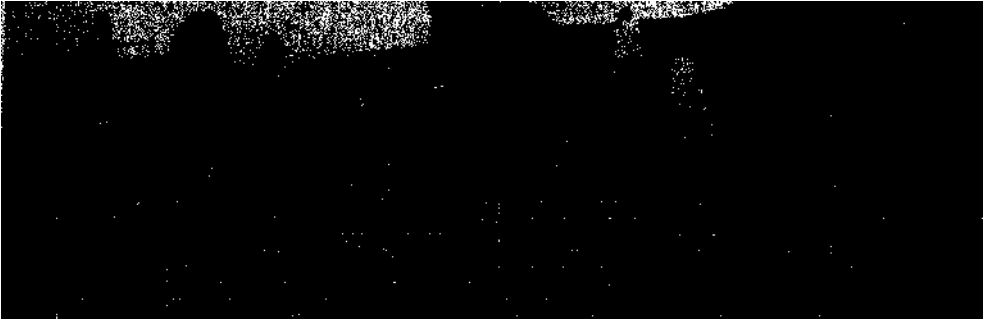
"So you are waiting to-night," said Mother Owl. " Well, come along. I am going to take you to quite a new kind of place this time—to a desert land."

David said nothing, but he felt rather sad, for he did not think a desert sounded very interesting.

They flew off a long way., and when they landed they were in the middle of the great *Desert*. There was nothing to be seen but sand whichever way one looked—a great sea of sand stretching



THE GREAT DESERT



CARAVAN SETTING OUT

away into the far distance, with hills of sand, and here and there dark rocks sticking up out of the sand.

" Good gracious," cried David, " I never knew there was so much sand in all the world, and oh I look over there/' he cried, dancing about wildly excited, " there are some camels."

True enough, there was a long line of camels coming towards them.

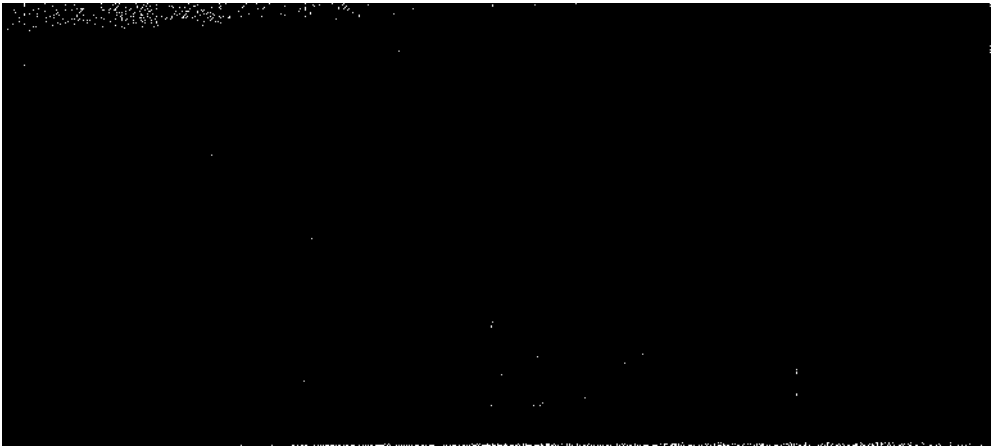
"That is what is called a *Caravan*,' Mother Owl told him. "There are tracks across the desert; you cannot see them because the sand covers them up, but the guides know where they are, and they can follow them because they have their own landmarks. The sun and the stars also help to guide them on their way.

So

MEN OF THE DESERT

" The camel is called the *Ship of the Desert*, and is used as a beast of burden. It can go without water or food much longer than any other animal can, because it can store up fat in its hump, and water in its stomach. It has a hard mouth and can eat the prickly plants that grow in the sand among the rocks, and it can close its nostrils when a sand-storm comes. It has long eyelids with which it can shelter its eyes from the sun."

By this time the caravan was passing just in front of them. Some of the camels were very heavily laden with cloth, arms, powder, sugar, tea, coffee, tobacco and salt.

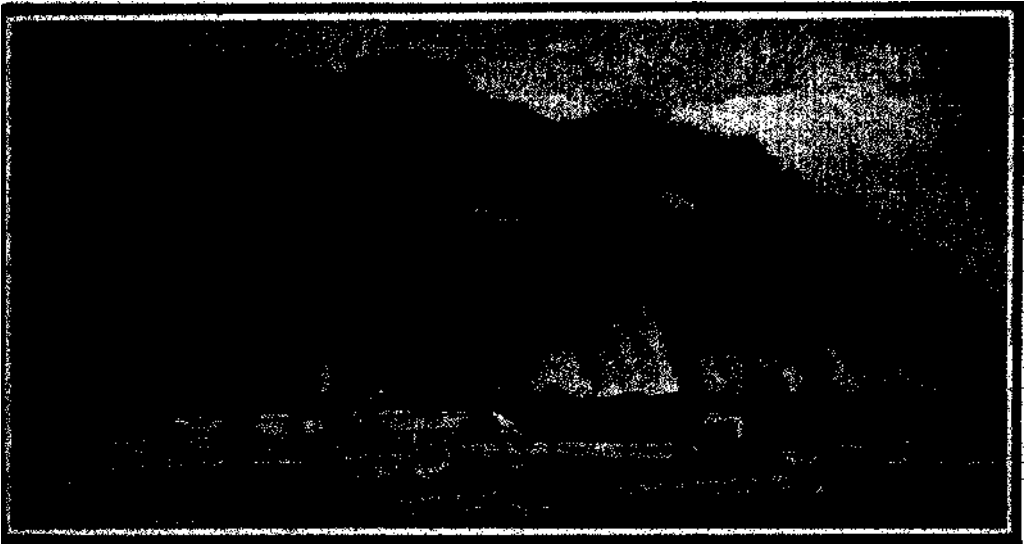


CARAVAN RETURNING

MEN OF THE DESERT

In front rode the Arab guide on horseback.

All this time David had been so busy looking at things that he did not notice that it was getting hotter and hotter, and that a wind had sprung up. Then he saw a great copper-coloured cloud coming



SAND-STORM APPROACHING A TOWN

[Photograph by Morhig.]

towards them. The Arabs saw it too, and a warning cry was passed down the caravan. The camels stopped, turned their backs to the wind, and kneeling down, buried their muzzles in the sand. The Arabs dismounted, wrapped their heads in their clothes, and lay flat on their faces, as close up to the camels as they could get.

MEN OF THE DESERT

" Quick ! " cried Mother Owl, " there is going to be a bad sand-storm."

David shivered. He crept close up to one of the Arabs, and hid his head under his cloak.

Then the storm came. The wind blew, and the sand beat against them, and it grew terribly hot. David was nearly stifled. All the time he could hear the Arab calling on Allah (his God) for help, for he seemed very much afraid.

After what seemed like hours, the wind went down and the storm was over. When David crawled out and looked about him, he saw that everything was covered with sand, and he had to shake himself well to get rid of it.

" Come along," said Mother Owl, " we will get away from here. I am sorry I landed you in for such a storm, but one never knows when a storm will come."

After flying some little distance, David could see trees ahead of them.

" I should never have thought trees could grow in all this sand," he said.

MEN OF THE DESERT



[Photograph by A. C. Collier.]

AN OASIS VILLAGE AND ITS GARDENS

" There are some places where water is found, and in such a place a little town grows up, with gardens and fields. These places are called Oa.es. People travel from one oasis to another. The houses are made of mud bricks that have been baked in the sun.

The big one over there is the school. You can go inside if you like," said Mother Owl.

Just outside the door were a lot of shoes, for the Arabs take off their shoes before going into a house, just as boys take off their caps in Britain. Inside David saw many little Arab boys all sitting on the floor, and making a dreadful noise. They all wore long white garments. They were singing their lessons all together.

David began to laugh, and went and looked over the shoulder of the nearest boy. He had the

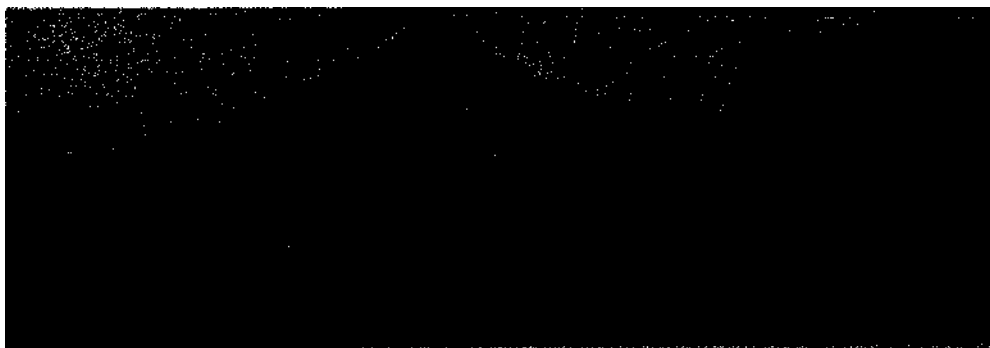
MEN OF THE DESERT

funniest-looking book you ever saw. It began at the last page and read backwards to the first—from the bottom of the page to the top, and from the right-hand side to the left.

As it was very hot inside, David did not stop, and he was very glad to get out again into the air.

There was quite a stir in the oasis, for a party of Arabs had just arrived, and David ran off to watch them. They were unloading their camels and putting up the tents. The tents were made of camel's or of goat's hair, and were kept in place by six or eight poles. The ends of the cloth were fastened into the ground with pegs.

As it was getting towards night, rugs and



[Photograph by courtesy of the Algerian Government,

MEN OF THE DESERT

carpets were put down on which to sleep. Outside the tents some women were grinding wheat between two large stones, while others were busy getting ready the evening meal, and David could smell coffee and baked bread.

While this was being done, some of the men went off to see to the animals. Some boys ran towards the *Date Palms*, and climbing up they rilled their mouths with the fruit. And some they threw down to the other boys, who collected them, for dates form the chief food of the Arabs.

Just then one of the women came to the door of a tent, calling "Hassan, Ali," and the two boys up the tree climbed down as quickly as they could and ran to see what was wanted. They were sent to carry water from the well.

Mother Owl told David that these travellers were Bedouin Arabs who wander about the desert with their flocks and herds. As there is so little grass and water, they have to be always on the move from one place to another, and the men often fight with each other for water at the wells.

The children of these wandering tribes do not

MEN OF THE DESERT

get the chance of going to school. The boys learn to throw spears and ride horses, and how to fight. They also learn the names of the stars. The girls help their mothers to take care of the tents, to cook, to look after the babies, and to make clothes out of camel hair.

"It's getting late," said Mother Owl at last; "we must fly home as quickly as we can."



[Photograph by Mr. R. Gorbold.]

A BEDOUIN ARAB

EXERCISES

Find Arabia on the map. Try and get some more pictures which tell you about life in the desert.

Write and Learn—

Arabia. Desert. Oasis (fertile spot where there is water).

Sand. Camel (ship of the desert). Caravan. Tent. Bedouin or wandering Arab.

Tell—

What David saw in the Desert of Arabia.



MODEL

This is quite an easy model to make, as the houses are so simple. They have flat roofs. In the hot season people often sleep on the roof. All the houses are white to keep them cool. Those in the model are of white plasticine.

You see the temple, or *mosque* as it is called. It has a dome on it and very small windows so that the inside may be kept cool from the hot sun. Behind it is a tower and a passage-way from the mosque to the tower.

The palm tree trunks are of brown plasticine. Each leaf was made separately from a rolled-out piece of green plasticine.

One of the camels was a toy sent from Arabia, and the other was made in school. Can you see which is which ?

V. THE PEOPLE OF THE COOL GRASS-LANDS

The Steppes of Asia

IT was quite a month before Mother Owl came again for David, and as they flew away he asked: "Where are we going to-night?"

"Far away," replied the Owl, "to see the shepherd peoples who live on the great grass-lands or *Steppes* of Asia."

On, on they sped over many lands. As they at last began to come down, David saw beneath him vast grass-lands which stretched away as far as the eye could see.

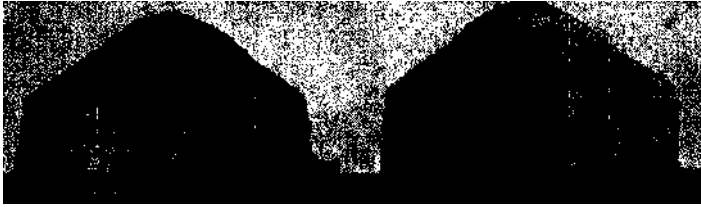


It was spring, and the green grass was brightened by wonderfully coloured tulips, lilies and many other flowers.

"Is it always like this?" asked David.

"No," said the Owl. "The flowers will fade and die away, and the grass will become dried up and brown. It is only after the spring and summer showers that everything is bright and green."

THE PEOPLE OF THE COOL GRASS-LANDS



[Photograph by Mr. L. H. Dudley Buxton, few small
TENTS ON THE STEPPES

There were scarcely any trees, though here and there a

willows marked the winding course of a stream as it flowed slowly over the plain.

They were coming near to a village which Mother Owl said was called an *aul* and it was made of tents. Around the aul were flocks of sheep with big fat tails, some goats and droves of small sturdy horses. There were also some camels, for this animal is as useful' to the Steppe folk as he is to the Desert folk.

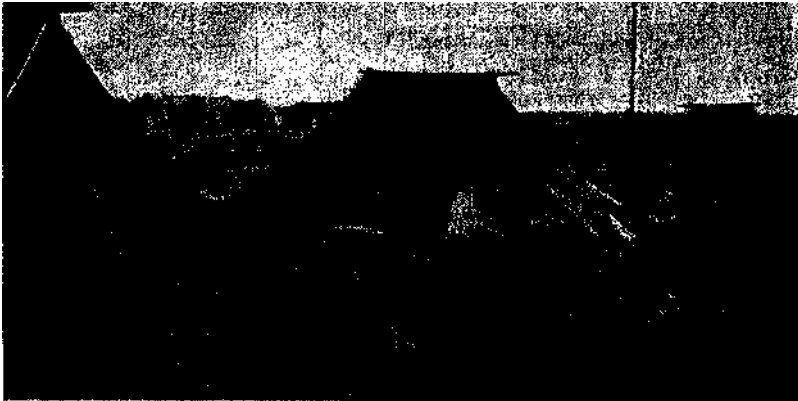
"Why do the people live in tents?" asked David.

"Because," replied the Owl, "when the flocks and herds have eaten up the grass in one place, the herdsmen must move on to another. So everything must be easily packed up."

As they entered the aul, David saw that the men wore long loose coats made of fur, felt or

THE PEOPLE OF THE COOL GRASS-LANDS

linen. Their high boots were made of soft leather and their caps of sheepskin. The dress of the women was very much like that of the men, but instead of the cap they wore a piece of white linen cloth wrapped around their heads. The girls were



[Photograph by Mr. L. H. Dudley Iuxton.]

A CAMP OR AUL ON THE STEPPES

dressed like their mothers, and while most of the older boys wore a shirt and baggy trousers, the younger ones had very few clothes on at all.

One or two of the chief men had their belts, bridles and saddles covered with silver.

There were dogs prowling around the tents or

THE PEOPLE OF THE COOL GRASS-LANDS

yurts, and David felt a tiny bit frightened as he entered one of them. The tent was made of a framework strapped together with ropes of camel hair and with thongs of hide. Over this there was a covering of felts, which were bound down with bands of goat's hair, and fastened with horsehair cords. The door was made of a piece of felt which could be easily rolled up.

In the centre of the tent was a bare patch on which a fire was burning. Above it there was a hole in the roof which allowed the smoke to escape. The rest of the floor was covered with carpets and rugs. Though some of these were very old indeed, yet many of them were extremely beautiful.

An old woman was stirring a pot over the fire. David looked over her shoulder and saw that in the pot there was a kind of porridge.

"What do they eat?" asked David.

"They live chiefly on mutton, which they get from their sheep; but they do not eat bread. They are very fond of tea, which they buy from traders in solid 'bricks.' They usually drink milk, but they can go for a whole day without drinking anything, and also for several days without eating.



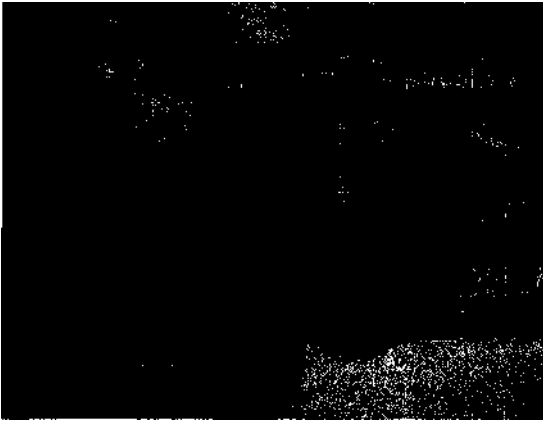
ACROSS THE STEPPES

[Photograph by Mr. L. H. Dudley Buxton.]

THE PEOPLE OF THE COOL GRASS-LANDS

"The Steppe people," continued Mother Owl, "count their riches by the size of their families and their flocks and herds. The more children and servants a man has, the more persons there are to look after the animals."

David looked away at the flocks and herds.



Closer to the aul, he saw a camel going down to a pool to drink. Before it bent its long neck to the water, it lifted its head and gazed around as if looking for someone.

"Why does it do that?" asked David.

¹ "Once upon a time," said the Owl, "there was a powerful god who wished to destroy all the people on the earth. He was not able to do this by himself, so out of a block of stone he made a

¹ Adapted from the French.

THE PEOPLE OF THE COOL GRASS-LANDS

terrible monster, the camel, with great horns, sharp teeth and broad feet.

" This creature went throughout the land striking the people with its horns, tearing some to pieces with its sharp teeth and trampling others under its feet. The wicked god was delighted.

" A kind god, however, felt sorry for the people. He fought with the fierce camel and defeated him.

"ⁱ In future,' said the god, ' you will not destroy the people, but you will work for them and be their servant and carry their burdens.'

" Thus it was that the camel became one of man's most useful friends.

" One day the camel was eating by the water when the vain stag came running along.

" ' Lend me your splendid horns,' said the stag, ' for I am going to a party, and I wish to look very smart. I will return them to you to-morrow.'

" The camel did as he was asked, and the stag went away with the horns.

" The camel waited in vain day after day, but the stag never returned. So every time he drinks, the patient camel lifts up his head and looks around, waiting for the stag to return with the stolen horns 1

THE PEOPLE OF THE COOL GRASS-LANDS

" The gods, however, punished the stag. Each year his horns die, in order to remind him that they really belong to the camel."

• • • • •
Night was coming on. Nearly all the grown-



SETTING OUT

up people slept outside their tents, but the boys and girls went to sleep beside the calves and lambs.

David fell asleep too.

When he awoke it was scarcely light, but the dull grey morning was a scene of bustle and noise. The Steppe folk were preparing to move away.

THE PEOPLE OF THE COOL GRASS-LANDS

The women and children were taking down the tents and were packing them on the backs of the camels. They seemed to be doing most of the work. At last most of the goods were placed on the animals' backs and the folk began to move off.

The older people and the young children were placed on the backs of the camels. Some of the men and boys rode on the sturdy horses; others, shouting, drove the herds along.

"Come, David," said a voice. As he sped away through the air he watched the Steppe folk, with their flocks and herds, growing smaller and smaller in the distance as they moved slowly over the plain.

EXERCISES

Find the Steppes on your map. Try and get some more pictures which show how people live on the cool grass-lands of Asia.

Write and Learn—

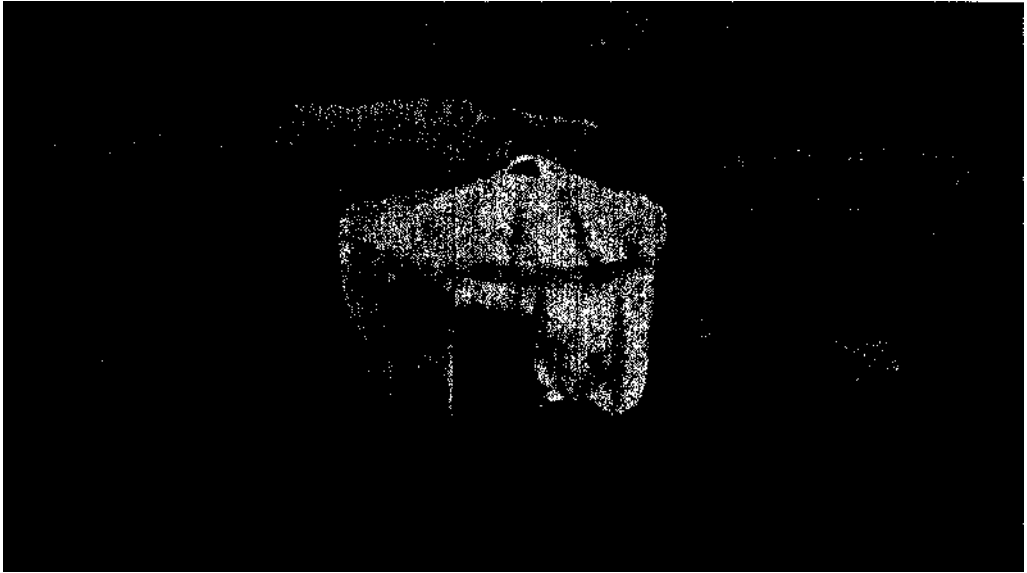
Asia. Steppes—that is, cool grass-lands.

Camels. Sheep. Goats. Horses.

Villages of tents.

Tell—

What you can about the *yurt* or tent.



MODEL

To make the *yurt* (tent) you should cut out a piece of round cardboard for a base, then when it is finished it can be moved on its base. The cardboard should be round and about as far across as this book is wide. If you have rulers to measure with you can make it six inches across. Model the yurt in white plasticine, and fix over the doorway a piece of soft cloth rolled on a little stick, so that the door can be open or shut. The hole in the roof covered by twigs is to let the smoke escape.

Copy the Steppe folk from any of the pictures in this book. They are made of brown plasticine. The sheep are made of white plasticine. Their noses and legs have been blacked with paint. The dog by the door of the tent is made of brown plasticine.

VI. THE LITTLE PEOPLES

DAVID lay in bed watching the queer shadows made by the firelight on the wall and ceiling. Sometimes they looked like curious animals, and sometimes David could almost imagine they were funny little men dancing about, and he laughed as he watched.

"What are you laughing at, David?" asked a well-known voice from the window.



"Oh, Mother Owl, is that you?" David cried. "I was laughing at the shadows the fire makes on the ceiling. Do come in, and you will see the funniest little men dancing about!"

Mother Owl flew in, and perched on the foot of David's bed.

"If you come with me, I will show you some real little men who look just as funny when they dance," said Mother Owl.

"Where do they live?" David asked as he **climbed** out of **bed** and went towards the window.

THE LITTLE PEOPLES

" Away in the hot wet forests of *Africa*" said Mother Owl as they flew away into the night.

" They are called *Pigmies*, or the Little Men," she went on to tell David. " They live in the hottest part of Africa, hidden away in the great forest that grows all around the big river *Congo*."

As they made their way into the forest between the huge trees, it grew darker and darker as the trees became thicker, until at last it was nearly dark.

Everything was wet, for it rains a great deal in this part of the world.

" Surely no one can live here," said David. " The sun can never shine through all these trees, and it is so damp and gloomy."



PIGMIES AND THEIR HUTS

Almost before he had stopped speaking, they found themselves in an open space where a few trees had been cut down. David stood still in surprise—and this is what he saw.

At the far side of the

THE LITTLE PEOPLES

open space were nine or ten huts. They were made of branches, cut from the trees, and bent over with each end stuck into the ground. These branches were covered with leaves to make a shelter.

In front were some tiny dark people only about four feet high, and they were strutting round in a circle, droning a queer sort of tune as they went, while some-one was beating on a drum.

It was quite too much for David, and he laughed till his sides ached.

"They are having a party," Mother Owl told him. "They always dance when they are glad about something, and they always dance in the order of their age. The oldest people lead and the youngest go last. They always pay great respect to their elders.

"The women make the huts. They cut down the branches and collect the leaves. They never stay very long in one place, for they do not go far



A PIGMY

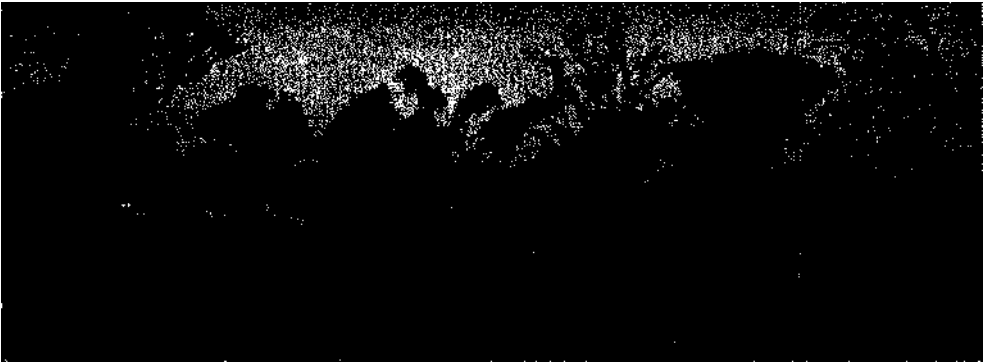
THE LITTLE PEOPLES

to hunt for food, and the birds soon get scared away, and the fruits and roots are soon eaten up. Then they wander on to find another place, where they make some new huts and settle down for a short time.

" They are so 'tiny that they leave no trail behind them, and they carry nothing about with them except their weapons. They always avoid the swamps and rivers, because they are so small that they cannot wade far into the water."

" How do they kill the birds ? " asked David.

" With bows and arrows," answered Mother Owl. " If they come across an elephant, they will follow it for days. They shoot at it with their arrows. Others go on ahead and place spears in the branches of the trees, so that the spears will stick into the animal as it passes beneath until at last it drops down dead. Then they swarm all over the huge body, and live on the elephant for a long time."



[Photograph by courtesy of Indian Government Railway.

ELEPHANTS ON THE MOVE

" I should never have thought these arrows would kill an elephant," said David, who had found one of them outside one of the huts, and was looking at it.

" Be careful," cried Mother Owl, " I should not play with it if I were you; it is quite likely to be poisoned."

David dropped it very quickly.

" When they want to kill a gazelle," went on Mother Owl, " they make nets out of vines and creepers fastened together. These they hide in the undergrowth, and then they sit down and wait for the gazelle with great patience. When it comes along, it gets its feet all tangled up in the net, and then the little people run out and kill it with their arrows.

THE LITTLE PEOPLES



A GAZELLE

" They are very fond of monkey flesh too, but they love honey above all things.

" They eat all kinds of fruits and berries, and mushrooms. But they seldom cook their food; they prefer it raw."

Just then the dancing came to an end, and the Pigmies wandered away, some to the huts, and some into the forest.

" I think it must be rather nice to be a Pigmy," said David, " only I should like some sunshine. I am sure I could never live in the twilight like this."

" I do not think you would like it very much," Mother Owl told him. " For much of the year it rains every day, and the forest is like a swamp. Then life is very hard for the little Pigmies, and they have to eat anything they can find—rats, mice and frogs. Many of them get bad colds and coughs and die. None of them live to be old.

THE LITTLE PEOPLES

" They have a curious way of doing their shopping. They steal out at night to the edge of the forest and tie raw meat and fruit to a tree. There it will be found by a friendly Negro tribe, who will take it, placing in return heads for the



A LITTLE AFRICAN MONKEY

darts, beads, salt and other things to be fetched by the Pigmies the next night."

" The shadows on the ceiling at home will seem very dull after seeing the Pigmies dancing," said David as they flew away.

When they reached home the fire was out;

THE LITTLE PEOPLES

and David climbed into bed., and was soon fast asleep. When his mother came in to call him next morning, he was dreaming that he was lying near an African hut, and that the Pigmies danced right over him as they went into the hut!

EXERCISES

Find on your map the place where the Pigmies live.

Write and learn—

Africa—a Continent. Congo—very big river.

Pigmies. Negroes. African huts.

Forests. Mountains. Swamps.

Elephants. Gazelles. Monkeys.

Bananas.

Tell-

How " The Little Men " kill an elephant.

MODEL

The *huts* of these little people are very small. They are about as wide as a matchbox. You can make them out of thin pieces of split cane or very thin bits of split bamboo. They should be made on a block of plasticine. The cane is bent into an arch and the ends are stuck in the plasticine.



Now roll out some green plasticine thinly and cut out of it some long and narrow leaves like the leaves on the trees. These leaves are used for the roof of the hut, and they are placed so that they slope down and let water run off. How do the little people make their huts ?

The *trees* have a tall straight stem or trunk like many of the trees in hot countries. On the stems you can see the leaves and the bunches of yellow bananas.

The little *man* is made of brown plasticine. He has a bow and arrow made from split cane, and the bow is kept tight by a piece of cotton.

VII. THE BLACK WOOLLY-HAIRED PEOPLES

Africa

t*

SOME time had passed before Mother Owl again visited David, and when she did come it was a beautiful moonlight night.

He could hear her calling from the cedar tree, and hoped she would come, and he was not disappointed.



She flew in through the open window and perched on the foot of his bed.

" I'm so glad you have come," said David. " Where are you going to take me to-night ? "

" Well," said Mother Owl, " I am going to take you back to *Africa*, to see some of the Negroes or Black People who live in the country that lies on each side of the great forest we visited last time."

" What a very interesting place *Africa* is," said David, as he drank the magic juice and



SAVANNA LANDSCAPE

climbed out of the window and on to Mother Owl's back.

In time they were flying over a great stretch of grass-land with trees here and there. It looked something like park land. In some parts the grass grew in tufts, and in other parts there were bare patches.

" This is called *Savanna Land*" Mother Owl told him. " It is always hot here, but it is not as wet as it is in the hot forests.

" Here the year is not divided into summer

THE BLACK WOOLLY-HAIRED PEOPLES

and winter, but into the wet and dry seasons. There are long *caravan routes* over the Savanna, and at places where they cross, a village or town may grow up, and trade be carried on."

A little way ahead, David could see a wall made of clay, and Mother Owl told him it was built around one of the villages.



A VILLAGE

There were gates in the wall, which were closed every night at sunset, and opened again at sunrise.

They passed through one of the gates; and David looked about him.

The houses were made of stakes driven into the ground, and covered all over with grass and the bark of trees, and fastened together with the ribs of palm leaves. They had two doors, but no windows, and it was dark inside.

When David got used to the darkness, he could just see that the hut was divided into two parts, one where the grown-up Negroes lived, and the other

THE BLACK WOOLLY-HAIRED PEOPLES

part at the back for the young children. The beds were made of stakes covered with matting.



There were weapons hung up on the walls and some baskets. On the floor was a large stone on which the corn was ground.

A woman was sweeping the floor with a bundle of twigs, while another was busy at the fire.

"She is making a kind of porridge," Mother Owl told him. "She fills the round pot with water, puts some flour into it, and stirs it till it boils. When it is done she turns it out, and it is about as thick as blancmange.*"

"It does not sound very nice," said David, making a face.

"You would not like it, perhaps, but they are very fond of it," went on Mother Owl.

They went outside again, and as they walked along David noticed that all the Negroes were very dark, with woolly hair, and broad flat noses, thick lips and very white teeth. He was not surprised that they wore very few clothes, for it was extremely hot.

THE BLACK WOOLLY-HAIRED PEOPLES

Around the village were great herds of cattle, horses, asses, goats and sheep. Some boys were watching them. Mother Owl told David that at night they would drive the animals into an enclosure with a high fence around it. This would keep them safe from the lions and other wild beasts, which would otherwise kill and eat them.

She added that the Negroes need not wander from place to place to find food for their cattle, and so they are able to build solid houses and to grow such crops as wheat, maize, rice and cotton. By now they had reached some of the fields, and David saw that here too were little boys. They had drums with them in order to frighten away the monkeys who would like to eat the crops.

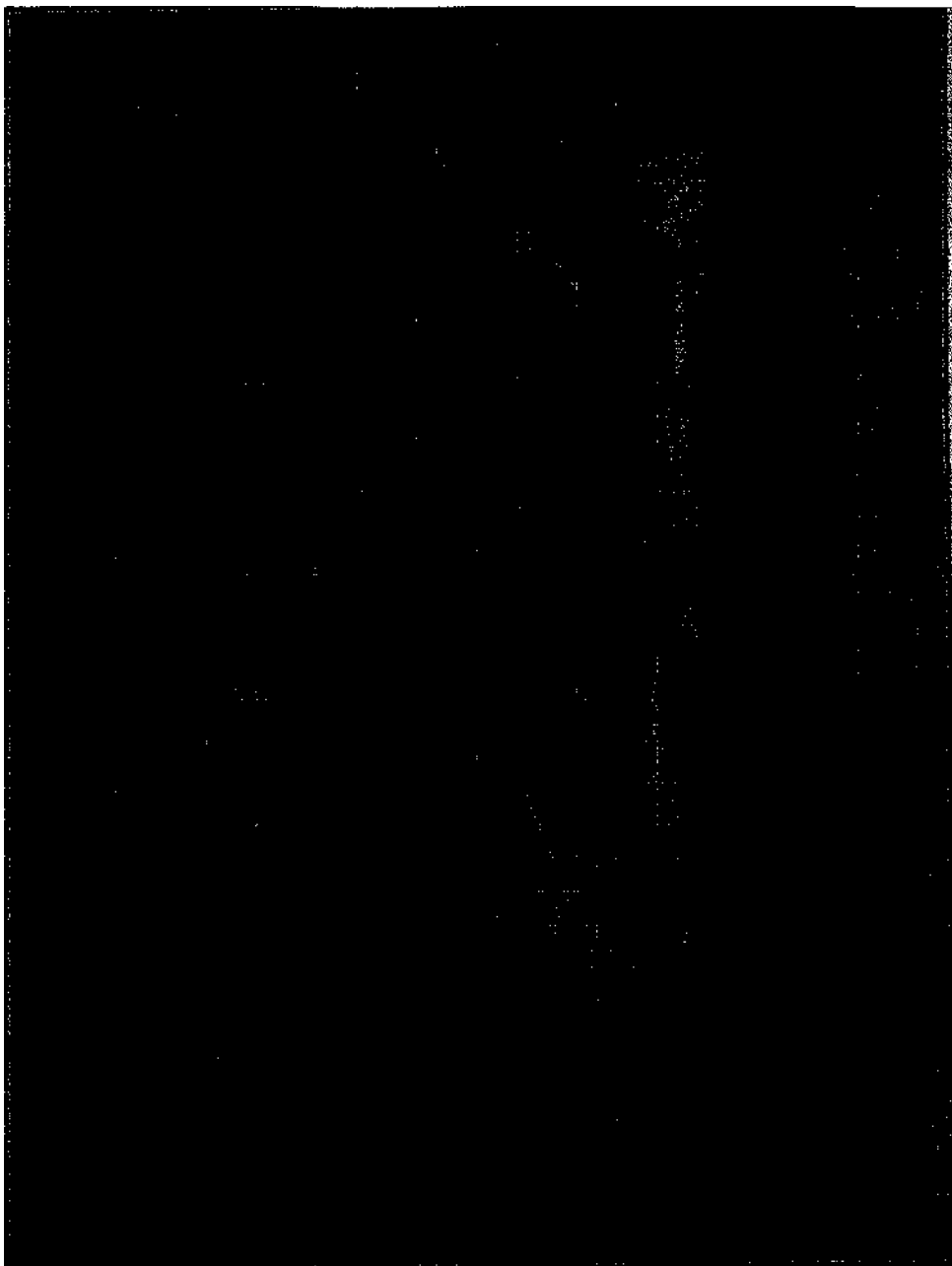


AFRICAN DRUM

Then David saw a group of people sitting round an old man.

"What are they doing?" he asked.

"The old man is telling them a story. Let us go and listen."



THE BLACK WOOLLY-HAIRED PEOPLES



So they joined the little group, and this is what David heard.

" Once upon a time a Monkey wandered farther away from home than usual into the forest, and he saw the tall trees tumbling down, but he could not find out the reason why. So he ran home to his brothers and said, 'I have seen terrible things in the forest, O my brothers. I saw the tall trees tumbling down, but I could not find out why.' "

(Here the listeners sang in a chorus.)

" The monkeys were all very puzzled, and went to see the sly old Jackal, and told him what Brother Monkey had seen. 'I will go and see,' said Jackal, and off he went. Soon he returned, and said, 'I have seen the tall trees tumbling down, but I could not find out why.' "

(The chorus followed as before, and this time David joined in.)

" So they went to the mighty Lion and told him all about it. Lion said, 'I will go and see,' and off he went. Soon he returned, and said, 'I

THE BLACK WOOLLY-HAIRED PEOPLES

saw the tall trees tumbling down, but I could not find out why.' "

(Once more the chorus was sung, and David began to feel quite one of the party as he swayed to and fro in time with the tune.)

" So they went and told the wise Elephant about it. Elephant is the wisest of all animals, and Elephant said, *I will go and see,' and off he went. Soon he returned. ' I have seen the tall trees tumbling down, but I could not tell why.' "

(Once more the chorus was sung.) Then the old man went on, " All the animals were very unhappy, for they thought the whole forest would tumble. Just then up walked Cat and said, ' I will go and see, and I shall find out the reason why.' Then all the animals laughed at Cat, for they said if they could not find out, how should Cat? But he did not mind being laughed at, and off he went.

" Soon Cat came back, and in his mouth was a rat. 'That is the reason why,' said Cat, as he walked away again into the forest. So Cat was the saviour of the forest, for no more trees were gnawed by the rats."

THE BLACK WOOLLY-HAIRED PEOPLES

The old man stopped speaking, and some of the Negroes got up and walked away.

" Oh ! I did like that," said David, getting up too. " You could not help singing and keeping time to the tune."

EXERCISES

Find on your map the hot grass-lands where the woolly-haired peoples live.

Collect some more pictures which tell you about Negroes.

Write and Learn—

Africa. Negroes or Black Men.

Savanna Land = hot plains of grass and trees.

Caravan routes.

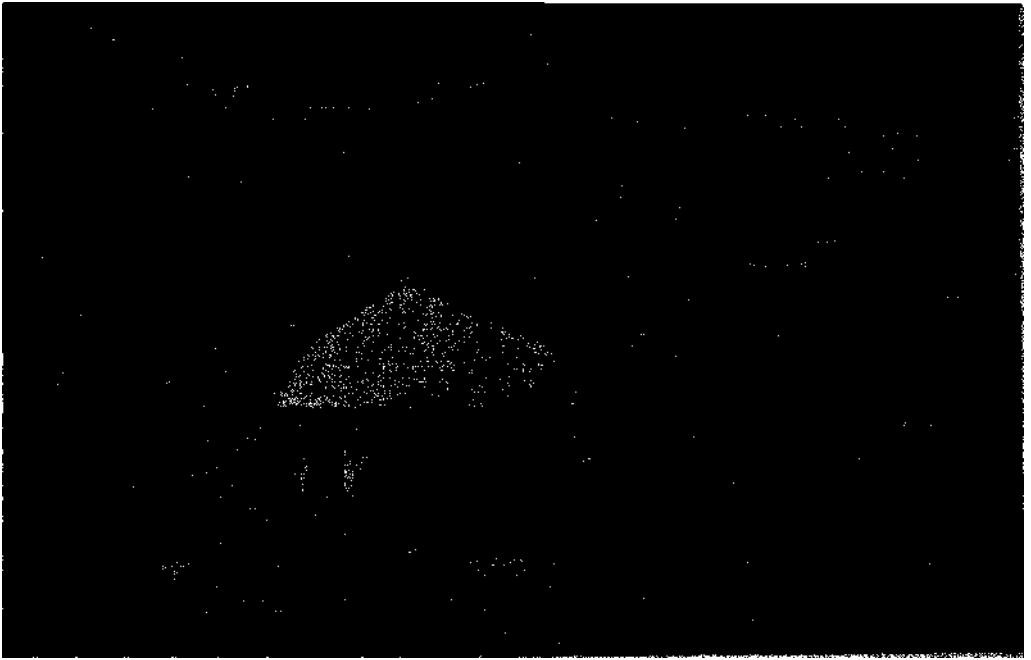
Lions. Camels. Jackals.

Tell-

About the African village which David saw.

MODEL

This hut would really be made of poles from the palm trees with a roof of reeds or long grass. Some of the side spaces would be filled with dried mud. Your model can be made on a base like the tent in No. V, and the same size. The sides can be made of sticks filled in with slabs of plasticine, or the poles can be of yellow plasticine too.



The roof can be of raffia. Get a bundle of raffia like a skein and tie it tightly round one end; this will be the middle tuft. Cut it off the right length and spread the raffia strands out into a roof shape, and fix it on.

What a fine fellow is standing outside the door of the hut! He has a skin wrapped round him. He is made of brown plasticine, and his spear is a piece of cane which has been well sharpened at one end. His children are playing in the sand outside his hut. Their hair can be made out of a piece of teased black wool.

The trees are made like those in the Oasis in the desert (see Story IV). The model is arranged in sand on a sand tray.

VIII. THE LAND OF KRAALS AND KAFFIRS

South Africa

THE next night Mother Owl came again for David.

"Are there any more interesting people to visit in Africa, I wonder?" said David.

"Yes," said Mother Owl; "I want to take you there once more, and I will take you to a very different kind of land."



A KAFFIR HUT

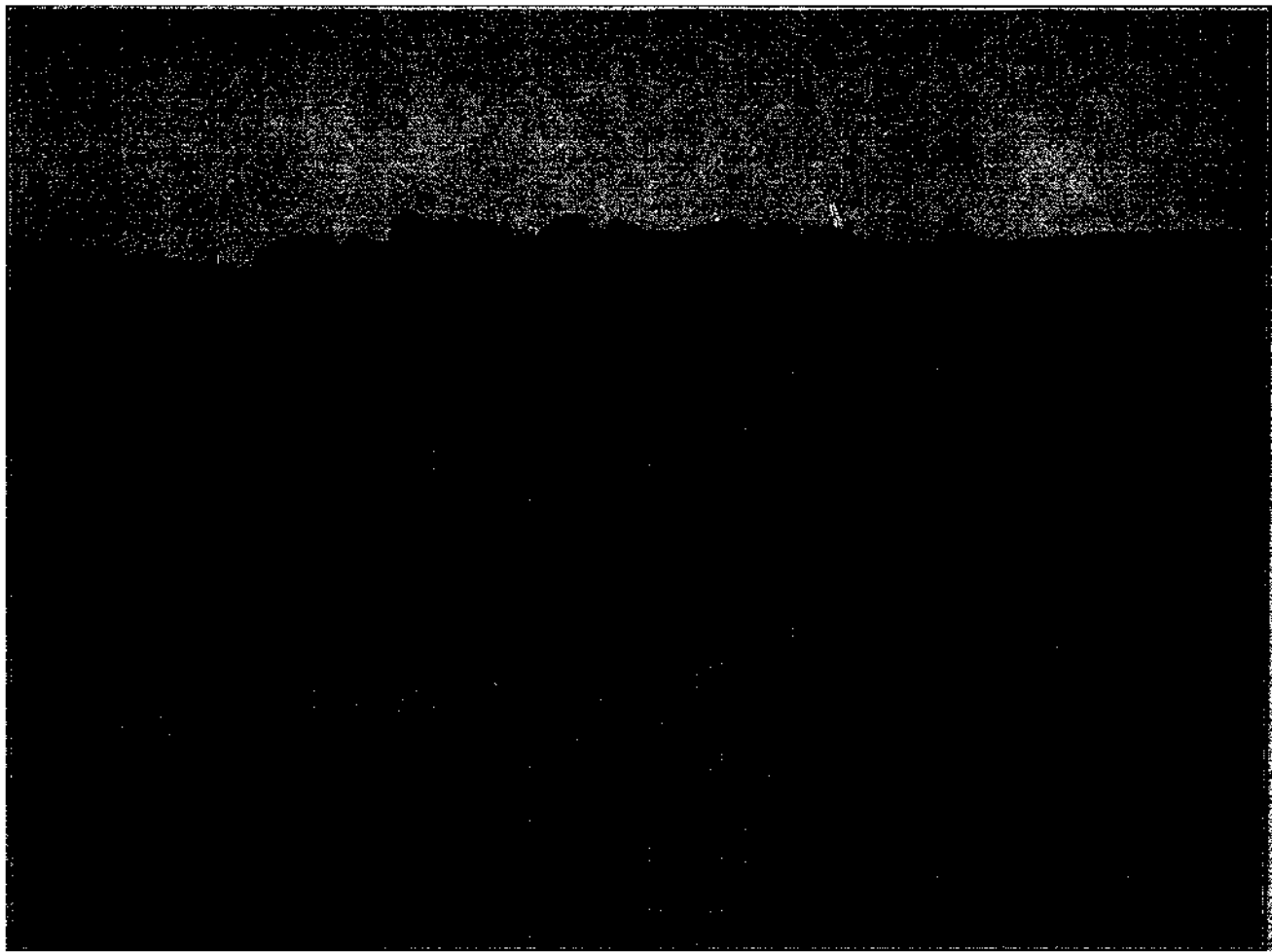
Away they went, and in time they were once again in Africa.

"We are farther south than we have been before," Mother Owl told him, "and we are going to visit the Kaffir peoples."

They were flying over a great plain, out of which rose hills, looking grey-blue in the distance.

"These hills are called *kopjes*" said Mother Owl. The air was so clear that the distant places seemed quite near.

Soon David saw some huts that looked like



A KRAAL

[Photograph by James's Press Agency,

THE LAND OF KRAALS AND KAFFIRS

mushrooms, enclosed in a stockade made of stakes driven into the ground, and built in a circle. This was a village, which the Kaffirs call a *kraal*. The huts were round, and arranged in a circle. In the middle was the cattle kraal, also made in a circle.

"It is easier to build in a circle than any other way," Mother Owl told him. "The children can draw perfect circles, and often in their games they draw kraals in the dust."

David put his head inside one of the huts, and was nearly stifled by the smoke coming from the fire that was burning in the middle. It was dark too, as there were no windows, but as soon as he became used to the darkness he saw that it was full of people.

On the left were some women and lots of children; some of them were roasting maize or mealies in the ashes of the fire. There were some babies, one of which was yelling loudly.

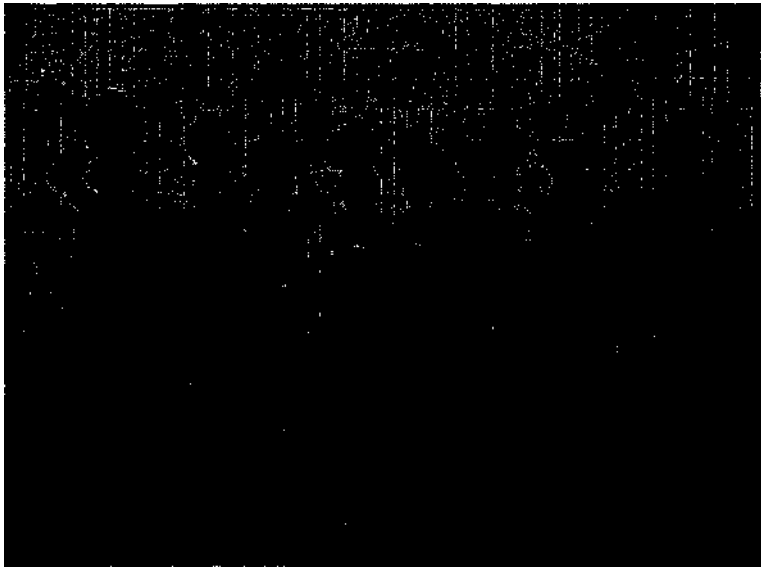
On the right-hand side were some men squatting on the floor. None were sitting with their backs to the fire, for they think if a person does so, he becomes like a monkey.

There were dogs and hens prowling about and

THE LAND OF KRAALS AND KAFFIRS

looking for food; a cat or two, some goats, and plenty of black beetles.

David noticed that the thatch was several feet thick, and into it were stuffed old baskets, dirty pots, and many other things.



KAFFIR WOMEN

The children wore no clothes. The women had a kind of petticoat made from ox-hide soaked in water, and rubbed soft and limp. The men wore a blanket thrown around them.

The Owl told David that the women made mats out of grass, and huge earthen pots from clay. When they had made the pots they baked

THE LAND OF KRAALS AND KAFFIRS

them in hot earth. The men carved milk-pails and make dishes out of blocks of wood.

§2

"I wish someone would tell a story, I liked the Negro's story so much," said David, as they strolled along.

At last they came to a very old woman, who had a crowd of children gathered round her, and David ran up and sat down close to her and listened.

She was just beginning to tell about the clever tortoise, and this is what she told.

"Once upon a time there was a great drought in the land and the animals had no water. So the lion ordered all the animals to scratch a big hole to catch the first rain that should come.

"They all started to work, the leopards, hares, hyenas, baboons and the tortoise, but the jackal said he would not dirty his nails by scratching in the earth.

"Presently, when the rain came, all the animals went to drink, and with them came the

THE LAND OF KRAALS AND KAFFIRS

jackal, who not only drank the water, but bathed in it too, making it all dirty and muddy. The other animals were very angry, and the lion set the baboon to watch for the jackal next time he should come, to beat him with a stick.

" The jackal, however, found out and made up his mind to punish the baboon. He knew all baboons were very fond of honey, so he walked up and down by the pool, dipping his finger into an empty pot that he carried, saying as the honey was so good he did not need the water.

" This was too much for the baboon, who came out and asked for some honey.

" The jackal said he would find him some if the baboon would give him the stick. This the silly animal did, and at once the jackal dropped the empty pot and began to beat the baboon.

" When the animals came, they were very angry with him and began to beat him too.

" Many of the animals tried to catch the jackal, but they all failed.

" At last the tortoise hit on a plan which the animals thought was very silly, but they let

THE LAND OF KRAALS AND KAFFIRS

him try it. He went down to the pool, covered his back with some very sticky stuff found on beehives, and hid near the pool in the mud, looking just like a stone.

" When the jackal came down to drink, he thought the animals had put the stone for him to stand upon. He stepped on to it with his front legs, which of course stuck fast. He was very angry and said he would stamp on the tortoise with his hind legs, which he did, and of course they also stuck fast.

" Then he began to bite the tortoise, and his nose stuck fast too. Then the tortoise walked up the bank with the jackal on his back.

" The lion ordered the hyena to kill the jackal, but the jackal asked one last favour—that his tail might be shaved and greased, and that the hyena should dash his (the jackal's) head against a stone. This was done, but of course the slippery tail slipped out of the hyena's hand, and away ran the jackal, with all the other animals after him!

" At last he came to a steep place, and on his hind legs he pretended to prop up a rock that was falling. He called to the lion to help him,

THE LAND OF KRAALS AND KAFFIRS

as the rock would fall and kill them both. The lion put his back against the rock and pushed his hardest.

"At last the jackal said he would get a stick to prop up the rock. He crept away, leaving the lion holding up the rock until he was starved to death."

The children all laughed and clapped their hands, and David laughed too.

"It was a splendid idea of the tortoise," said David as they flew away.



EXERCISES

Find the place on your map where the Kaffirs live.

Write and Learn—

Kaffirs. Kraals (or huts like mushrooms).

Kopjes or hills.

Maize or mealies.

Hyenas. Baboons. Leopards. Tortoises.

Tell-

(i) All about how the Kaffirs live,

(ii) The old Kaffir woman's story that David heard.



MODEL

The four huts are simply made of yellow plasticine or clay. The stockade round the kraal is made of split cane, or split wood, or old match sticks, woven together with raffia. Or they can be made by getting a narrow strip of paper about half the width of the split cane or matches and then sticking the cane or wood all along it.

The little man and his wife are made of brown plasticine. They have raffia "kilts." The woman can be leaning forward grinding corn in a hollow stone. You can use an acorn cup for this. Bury its sides in the sand. Then arrange your models in the sand.

IX. RED INDIANS AND WIGWAMS

North America

" TU-WHIT — tu-whooh 1 tu-whit — tu-whooh ! shall we go out to-night ? " asked Mother Owl from her perch on the window-sill.

" Oh, I'm so glad you have come," said David. " Everybody and everything has gone wrong to-day."

" Come along then, and we will go and hunt for *Red Indians*" said Mother Owl.

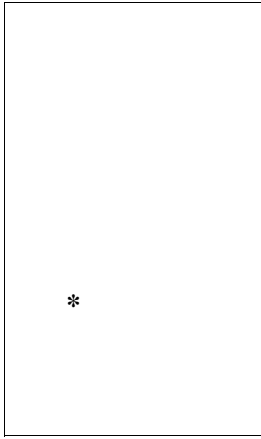
" What fun !" cried David ; " and I know where they live; in *North America*, don't they ? "

" Yes, quite right," said Mother Owl.

It was not long before they came to earth, in front of several *wigwams*, as the Red Indians' tents are called. There was a group of trees close by where they were standing, and not far away was a river.



RED INDIANS AND WIGWAMS



A WIGWAM

The wigwams were round, each coming to a point at the top, and sticking out of the top were the ends of the sticks which kept them in shape. The sides were painted with all kinds of strange people and animals, telling the story of the deeds of the man who owned it.

As David was walking towards the nearest wigwam, there was a cry from just behind him. He jumped, and looking round, saw a baby safely fastened into a cradle which was hung up on a tree.

"What a funny place to keep a baby!" said David.

"The Red Indians always hang up their babies like that when they are busy," replied Mother Owl. "You see, they are quite safe up there, and nothing can get at them."

A canoe was just pulling into the bank of the river, and David ran off to watch.

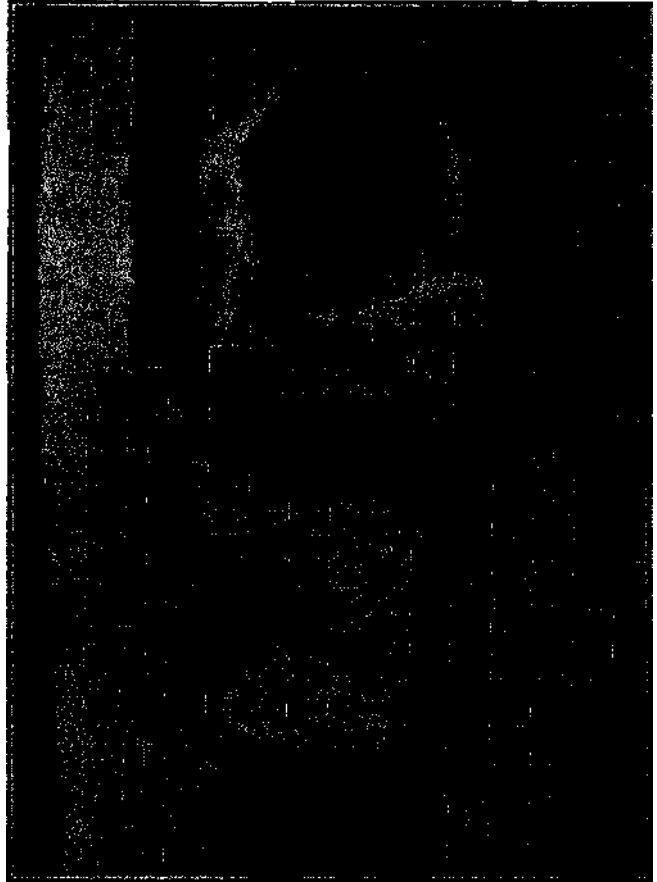
Red Indian canoes are made from the bark of the birch tree, and are so light that they can be carried where necessary.

RED INDIANS AND WIGWAMS

A man and a boy were getting out. They were both a reddish-brown colour, and had long, black, straight hair. The man wore boots and leggings of soft leather made in one piece. The boy was carrying the fish that they had just caught.

"The boys," Mother Owl told David, "spend their time shooting or hunting, or making canoes, and the girls look after the cows, cook the food, make the clothes out of skins and make baskets and mats.

"There are not very many real Red Indians left to-day. Only a few lead the old life now. Most



[Photograph by Will F. Taylor.]

A TREE CRADLE

RED INDIANS AND WIGWAMS

of them are skilful farmers or horse-breeders. Some go out with traps to catch animals for their fur. They exchange the fur for beads, knives and food."

Just then an arrow whizzed past David's head, then another and another. Some boys had come out to practise shooting with bows and arrows,



and were aiming at a mark on a tree close by where David was standing. He got behind a tree for shelter.

"Well," said Mother Owl, "have you seen enough of the Red Indians?"

"Yes, thank you," whispered David. "I think we might be getting home again, don't you?"

"Up you get then," said Mother Owl.

It seemed only a few minutes before he was on his own window-sill again, saying good-night to Mother Owl.

He was soon asleep and dreaming that he was being hunted by a big warrior who was chasing



[Photograph by Will F. Taylor.

INDIANS ASSEMBLED FOR BUFFALO HUNT

RED INDIANS AND WIGWAMS



AN INDIAN
WARRIOR

him through the forest—and oh, horrors! a big hand stretched out and caught his arm. He twisted and tried to get away, but the warrior held on tightly.

" You will tumble out of bed in a moment, David, if you go on like that."

He opened his eyes and found it was his mother, and not a Red Indian, who was holding his arm. " Oh, it's you, mother," said David, sitting up. " Is it time to get up ? "

" Yes," said his mother, laughing, " I should think it is."

EXERCISES

Find on your map the home of the Red Indians.
Get some more pictures and stick them in your book.

Write and Learn—

North America. (Find it on the Map of the World.)

Red Indians.

Wigwams (tents).

Canoes. Warriors. Arrows. Forests.

RED INDIANS AND WIGWAMS

Tell-

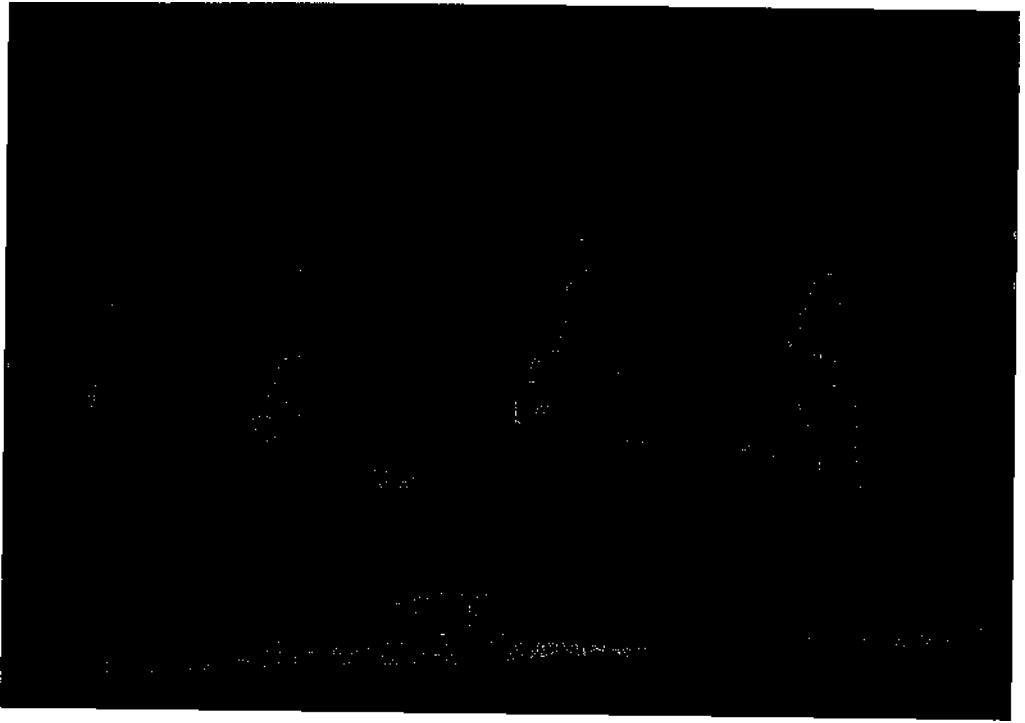
Of the life of the Red Indians.

MODEL

Make four tents or *wigwams*. The Indian wigwams are made of brown skins, often bison skins. The bison is a kind of wild bull or buffalo with a large hump and shaggy hair. First get the sticks for the tent-poles. Twigs, reeds, or meat skewers will do, or you can split thin pieces of wood off the end of a sweet box. The poles are about six inches long. Tie four or five sticks together near one end and spread them out at the other so that they will stand up. Now the cover must go on. It can be made of brown paper or sacking. That in the picture is, however, made of plasticine. Plasticine will stick on, but paper or sacking is sewn. Each tent has pictures on it so that its owner will know it. One tent can be the buffalo tent; one the horse tent; one the bow-and-arrow tent; and one can have the picture of its master on it.

The trees are made of little pieces pulled off a pine tree. The horse has a Red Indian on him. The horse is taken from a toy set of farm animals belonging to one of the boys, but the Indian on his back is made of plasticine.

The canoes are made of brown paper. The real ones are made from the bark of the birch tree. Cut out the paper and either sew it round the ends or stick it with gum. Then spread out the boat to the proper shape when it is dry and fix in little



pieces of wood or cardboard for the seats. One canoe is four inches long and the other is three inches long. If you prefer it you can make the canoes of plasticine. Put the owners' marks on the fronts of the canoes.

The water is made of tinfoil out of cigarette packets. Now, with some sand, make the scene and arrange the wigwams and figures as in the picture.

X. THE PEOPLE OF THE FROZEN NORTH: THE ESKIMOS

"I DO like the snow," thought David, as he lay warmly tucked up in his little bed.

It was the end of the Christmas holidays, and he had spent the day in making a snow house on the lawn. This was big enough for him to crawl inside, and he was looking forward to having lots of fun the next day.

"You have been very busy to-day," said Mother Owl from the window. "I have come to take you to where the people live in houses made of ice and snow."



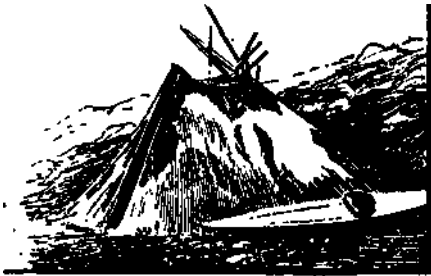
"Who are these people?" asked David.

"The Eskimos," replied Mother Owl. "They live in Greenland and along the north coast of *North America*"

Soon they were flying over a great frozen desert. Whichever way David looked, he could see nothing but snow and ice. There were no trees—only a very few low bushes.

THE PEOPLE OF THE FROZEN NORTH

" This is not always covered with ice and snow as you see it now," said Mother Owl. " In spring the snow melts in the lower parts along the coasts. Then the ground is covered with a carpet of beautiful flowers and mosses and lichens.



" During the short summer which follows, the *Eskimos* live in tents which they make from the skins of reindeer or seals. These tents are called 'toupigs.'

" For four months of the year it is almost dark all the time, with only a greenish sort of light at noon."

David shivered.

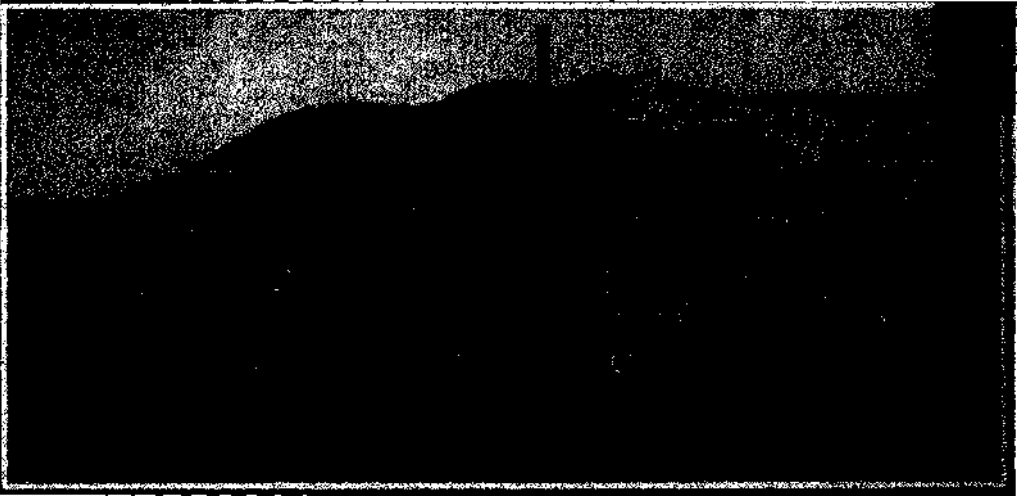
" At night silence reigns. There is no sign of life except a few seals, walruses or white foxes. Polar bears prowl about, and you may hear them calling in the silence of the night."

" Oh ! look over there," cried David in wild excitement. " There are some houses like the one I made in the garden—only much bigger; and look! there are some people."

THE PEOPLE OF THE FROZEN NORTH

They stopped in front of one of the houses, and David walked all round it.

It was like a great big basin turned upside down, and it was made of blocks of ice like large bricks. In front there was a tunnel with a very low entrance at the one end.



[Photograph by courtesy of the Government of Demind
ESKIMO FAMILY OUTSIDE IGL.OO

" Why do they have a tunnel like that ?" asked David, peering through on his knees.

" To be safe from bears. They block up the doorway at night with blocks of ice. These houses are called 'igloos.'"

David crawled in on all-fours, and found himself

THE PEOPLE OF THE FROZEN NORTH

in quite a large room. The walls were lined with the summer tent, and all around them was a bench made of snow and ice. On this were placed the skins on which the Eskimos lie down when sleeping. There was no fire, but it was very hot, and looking about David saw that the heat came from a stone lamp.

"In the lamps they burn oil that they get from the seal," Mother Owl told him, "and they make the wick out of moss. They do what little cooking they need with these lamps, and dry their clothes over them. Most of their food they eat raw. The word Eskimo means 'the man who eats raw flesh.' They eat fish and the, fat of seals and whales, and drink the warm bipod of any animal they kill."

"Ugh!" cried David. "How horrid I"

In these frozen lands it is much too cold for grain to be grown and so the Eskimo has no bread. The reindeer too has not been tamed, and so there is no milk, butter or cheese.

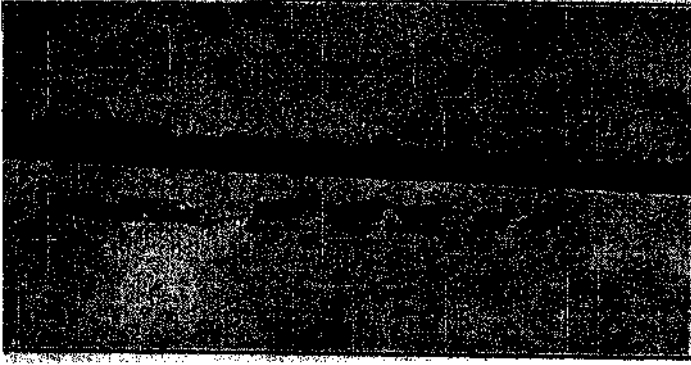
David crawled out again through the tunnel, and gave a shout of delight, and ran off as fast



[Photograph by Topical Press Agency.

ESKIMO FAMILY INSIDE THE IGLOO OR HOUSE

THE PEOPLE OF THE FROZEN NORTH

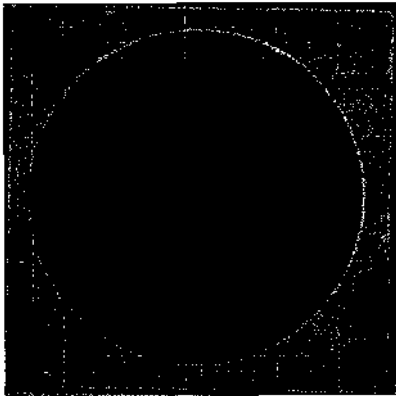


A SLEDGE

as he could. He had caught sight of a sledge drawn by eight large dogs. They had long wavy tails, and

Mother Owl told him that sometimes they get savage and will fight the man who drives them. The harness and the whip that the driver holds are made of seal hide.

There were two men, and one was unloading the sledge. They had been out hunting and had caught a big seal.



ESKIMO DOG

The men were short and yellowish-brown in colour, with slanting eyes and high cheek-bones. They were dressed in thick coats made of seal-skin, with fur hoods drawn tightly round their faces, and they wore long fur gloves. As one of the men threw back

no

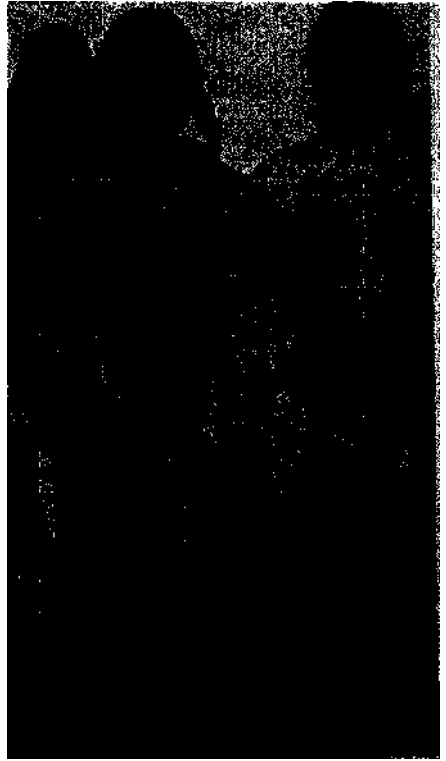
THE PEOPLE OF THE FROZEN NORTH

his hood, David saw that he had long, straight, black hair.

A woman was walking along towards them, and she was dressed very like the men, only her hood was much bigger, and in it she carried a baby. Such a funny little thing it was, with its flat nose and fat cheeks.

"When the Eskimos want to kill a seal," said Mother Owl, "they make a round hole in the ice, and lie down to wait till a seal comes up for some air. Then they spear it. The tips of the spears," she added, "are made of stone or bone.

"They use bows and arrows for shooting the cariboo or reindeer. The bow is made of wood and the point of the arrow of bone. As there are not many trees, they have to depend on



[Photograph by Will F. Taylor.]

ESKIMO GIRLS

THE PEOPLE OF THE FROZEN NORTH

the wood that gets washed up along the shore."

By one of the igloos David saw a canoe. Mother Owl told him it was called a kayak, and that it was made of light wood or whalebone and covered with skins. In the middle was a hole just big enough for a man to sit in.



[Photograph by courtesy of the Government of Denmark.]

CANOES OR KAYAKS

"It doesn't look very safe," said David; "it looks as if it would easily tip over."

"It probably would if you tried to row in it," said Mother Owl, "but the Eskimos are used to it from childhood and are quite safe in it."

"It is very cold in the land of the Eskimos," said David, as he climbed up on to Mother Owl's back to go home.

The next day he made a seat all round his igloo, and a tunnel like the ones he had seen.

THE PEOPLE OF THE FROZEN NORTH

EXERCISES

Find on your map the home of the Eskimos.

Can you get some more pictures which tell you about the Eskimo folk?

Write and Learn—

North America. Greenland. Eskimos.

Polar bears. Seals. Whales. Reindeer.

Houses of ice, or igloos. Canoes or Kayaks.

Tell-

What you can about the igloo.

MODEL

First make the *sledge*. Get the inside of a matchbox and use it upside down. Cut the runners out of cardboard and stick them along the sides. They are longer than the matchbox, so that they stick out in front. Then stick on the back guard as in the picture to prevent the little people falling off if the dogs start too soon, cover the sledge seat with paper, and make some bundles to go on it.

Now make the *igloo* or house. It is as big as a small pudding-basin and a little smaller than Mary's hat. Make white plasticine bricks and build the igloo up out of these. We cannot make it out of real snow like the real ones. Carefully smooth off the outside and then make the little tunnel-like doorway out of the outside of the matchbox cut up **and** covered with plasticine,



Make the *dogs* of brown plasticine. If you like you can make a dog shape out of a cork and four match sticks, and then cover him with plasticine to make him look all right. The little *people* should be made of plasticine, brown or white. The dog harness is black cotton.

Now get a large board and a sheet of newspaper. Put it on the board, crumple up the back bit to make a hill behind, and arrange your figures like those in the picture. Now get some washing soda. This looks like ice and snow, and if you leave it in the air the icy bits go white and look more like real ice. Spread the soda round and make it all look as real as the picture.

XI. THE ISLE OF DELIGHT

The South Seas

V

" TU-WHIT—tu-whooh ! Tu-whit—tu-whooh ! "

David stirred restlessly in his bed. The moon shone in at the half-open window and lighted up the old oak rafters and the stone fireplace. On the mantelshelf stood the little gardener from Burma, the carved elephant from Africa and the brass figure of the dancing girl from India.



" Tu - whit—tu-whooh ! Tu-whit—tu-whooh ! " David turned over and threw out his arm. He rubbed his eyes and sat up and listened. "Tu-whit—tu-whooh!" Yes, that was his old friend calling. A soft tap on the window. David looked up and Mother Owl made a sign.

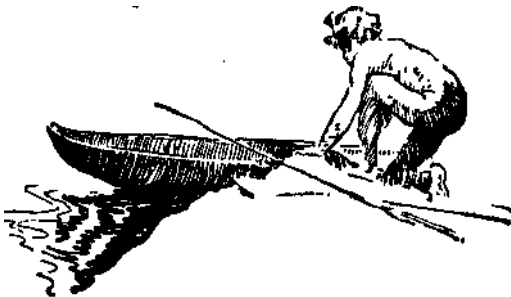
The boy walked to the window and put out his arms to the Owl, and then flew off into the moonlight night to visit the far-off South Seas, an *Isle of Delight* in the distant *Pacific Ocean*,

THE ISLE OF DELIGHT

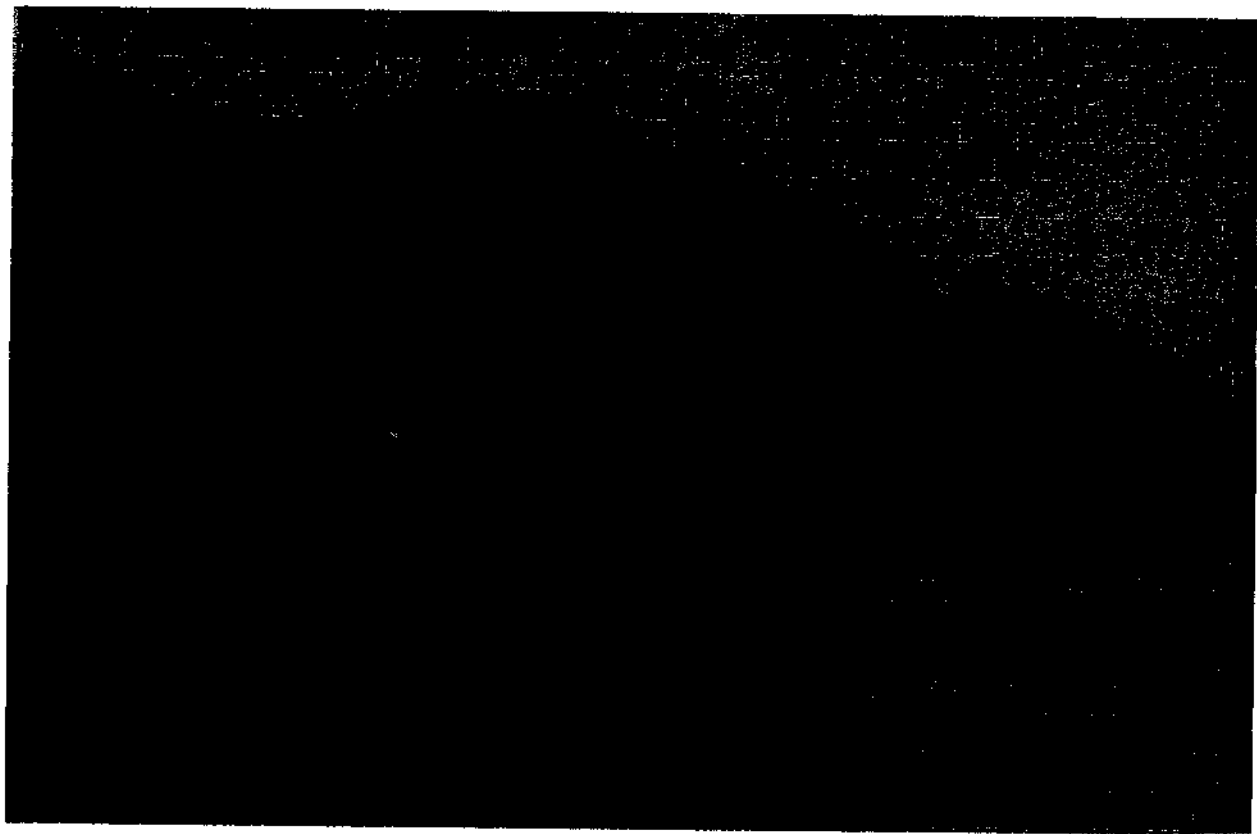
In time he came to a *high* island, whose cliffs were fringed with banana, coconut, and other trees. The high island rose up steeply from a lagoon. Its quiet waters were bordered with *low* coral islands. The blue waves rolled lazily up the yellow sands, which were fringed with palm trees. All was bathed in golden sunshine. Here and there in the coast of the high island were tiny bays. Against its purple rocks the little waves danced gaily, and threw up flecks of white foam that gleamed in the sun.

On the lagoon some men and boys were hoisting the large brown sail of a big canoe, moving slowly over the greenish blue waters.

Under the clear water were many fish of all shapes and sizes and colours, darting to and fro through the seaweed, or making a sudden twist till they were lost to view under a lovely piece of



branching coral. The men pulled shoals of fish out of the water, keeping only those good to eat. After a short time their boat



SPEARING FISH

THE ISLE OF DELIGHT

was full of fish, and the men made for the shore.

Into the rippling sea plunged laughing boys and girls, and their copper-coloured bodies sparkled as they shook themselves in the water. How well they could all swim ! How they raced along and laughed, and, turning on their backs, floated in to the shore on a big wave !

David raced and laughed too as he jumped about in the water. He had found it hard to swim at home, but now he went along boldly with the rest.

Soon he was lying in front of one of the little huts, thatched with big broad leaves. He watched men and boys climb up the smooth trunks of tall coconut trees with crowns of yellow and green leaves, below which hung branches of coconuts.

§2.

David jumped, climbed up one of the trees and threw down to the men below some big nuts, covered in hard, fibrous cases.

" What do they do with all these nuts ?" asked David of the Mother Owl.

" Lots and lots of things," replied the wise

THE ISLE OF DELIGHT

old bird. " The white flesh is used for food, and the juice makes a lovely drink. The fibres are made into nets and ropes and cloth, and the shells into cups and basins and many other things.

" This hut is thatched with the leaves of the coconuts. The oil from the nuts is used for lighting and cooking."

" I've seen a cup made from a coconut shell," said David. " We have one at home, which Mother says my father brought with him from abroad."



All this time David had sat in the coconut tree, but he now climbed down and thought he would try some of the things Mother Owl had told him.

He took a coconut and, making two holes in it, he drank the milk from the inside and found it as good as the Owl had said. Then for his dinner he had some of the flesh from the coconut, and a young banana which he plucked from a tree close by.

It was very hot, and David lay down by his little brown friends in the shadow of a rock near the blue

THE ISLE OF DELIGHT



PALM TREES ON BEACH

waters of the lagoon. Not far away, across the water, he could see a fringe of smaller islands, with graceful palm trees, standing out

above the surface of the lagoon.

The sun began to go down—and suddenly it seemed to drop quite out of sight: everything was dark. Soon the moon rose slowly into the sky and the island was full of a silver light.

A little wind stirred the trees and made tiny waves on the lagoon.

The wind got stronger; huge clouds rushed over the sky.

Suddenly a blinding flash of lightning lit up the whole sky, a peal of thunder rent the air, and down came the rain in a torrent.

THE ISLE OF DELIGHT

David crept into the hut. A voice whispered in his ear, "It's time we left."

It had been a jolly day, but David thought his own room would be very nice, possibly better even than the Isle of Delight.

"David, David, get up, you lazy boy!" Someone was shaking him. Why, it was Mother! He looked round—there was no hut or little brown boys. But he thought that perhaps it would be nicer to have an *egg* than a coconut for his breakfast after all.

EXERCISES

Find the Pacific Ocean on your map. It is the biggest ocean in the world.

Do you think that you could make a cup out of the two halves of a coconut shell?

Write and Learn—

South Seas. Pacific Ocean.

Lagoon. Coral island. Yellow sands. Palm trees.

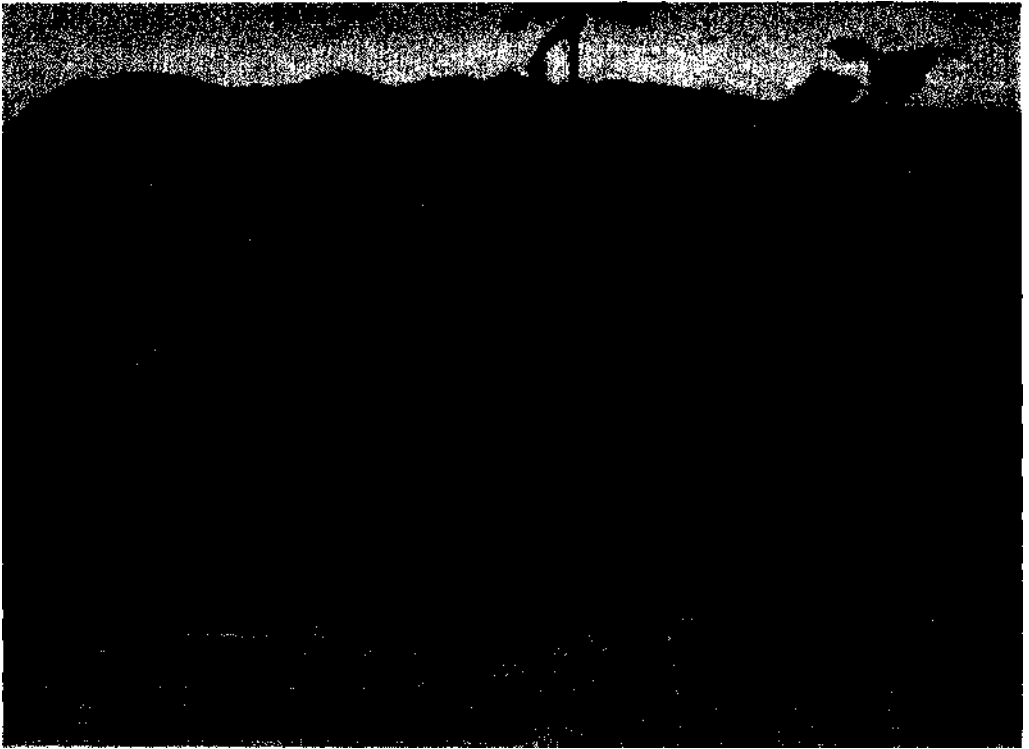
Canoes. Shoals of fish.

Coconut trees.

Boys and girls with copper-coloured bodies.

Tell—

What you might see if you went to an island in the South Seas.



MODEL

Take a sand tray and heap the sand up in order to make the steep sides of the island.

The trunks of the trees are made out of spools of twisted brown paper. Their leaves have been cut from green paper.

The people are made of brown plasticine. The two in the middle have hair which you can make of some little pieces of black wool.

The canoe is cut out of a piece of wood, the water can be made of crinkled-up paper, or some paper can be spread out under a sheet of glass.

XII. THE AUSTRALIAN "BLACK-FELLOW "

THE pale beams of the moon, shining in through the open window, lit up David's room.

Tap! Tap!

David turned over in his little bed.

Tap! Tap!

David half sat up. Why, there was Mother Owl!



"Come," said she.

David drank the magic juice and then climbed on her back, and off they set through the starlight night.

Over countless seas and lands flew Mother Owl, but David slept.

When he woke he saw that he was lying on the edge of a wood. In front of him there stretched a sandy plain, part of which was covered with poor-looking grass; here and there were a few trees or a clump of bushes.

Not far from David were a number of low huts, which were made of branches covered with grass and leaves and pieces of bark. They

THE AUSTRALIAN "BLACKFELLOW"



NATIVE HUTS OF AUSTRALIA

certainly did not look very strong; but these huts were, so Mother Owl said, the homes of the *Australian blackfellows*.

These folk often move from one place to another, so they do not need very strong houses.

As David walked towards the huts he saw that the people were not really black, but were rather of a dark copper colour.

Mother Owl told him that this camp was the home of a tribe or *totem* called the "kangaroos," for the natives call all their tribes by the names of animals or plants or birds.



KANGAROO

Like nearly all the other totems, she added, the "kangaroos" were skilful

THE AUSTRALIAN "BLACKFELLOW"

hunters, and could read tracks left by animals and people as easily as David could read a book. They grew no crops, but lived almost entirely on the flesh of animals and on the wild fruits which they were able to gather.

David wandered down to a stream which ran through the wood. On the bank, looking into the water, stood a native who was holding a long wooden spear.

David watched him.

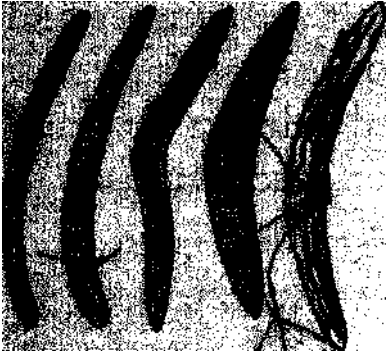


AN AUSTRALIAN WARRIOR WITH SPEAR,
SHIELD, GOURD, ETC.

Suddenly he struck with his spear at a large fish that was swimming along close to the bank. So clever was his aim that the fish was killed at one blow.

Mother Owl told David that the natives use several kinds of spears as well as boomerangs and clubs. The boomerang is formed of a curved

THE AUSTRALIAN "BLACKFELLOW"



BOOMERANGS

piece of wood, and is used for hunting and fighting and also for amusement. The ordinary boomerangs will not come back, but the "return" ones will return to the thrower after they have been thrown.

David went back to the camp and lay¹down near one of the huts. Outside it sat a man with frizzy hair, overhanging eyebrows and thick lips. David thought that he was very ugly .indeed.

The man was getting ready to light a fire. He had just cut a groove in a hard flat piece of wood, and now he was sharpening one end of a stick which had been cut from the wood of a softer tree.

He laid the flat piece of wood on the ground and put some dry grass on it. Then he placed the pointed end of the stick in the groove and



AN AUSTRALIAN NATIVE

THE AUSTRALIAN "BLACKFELLOW"

twirled it round and round at great speed between the palms of his hands—in less than a minute the grass had burst into flame.

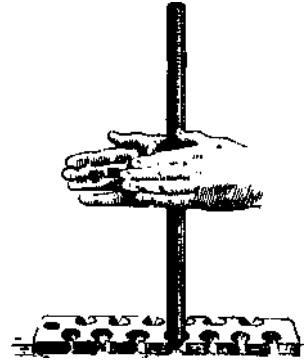
"I wish I could do that," said David to himself.

"I'm afraid that that is a very difficult thing to do," replied a voice behind him.

David started, for he had forgotten old Mother Owl.

"But come," said she, "for we have far to go."

David climbed on to his feathery perch, and soon they were speeding on their way—Homeward bound.



FIRE-MAKING

EXERCISES

Find the home of the Blackfellows on your map of the world.

Write and Learn—

Australia. Desert. Woodlands.

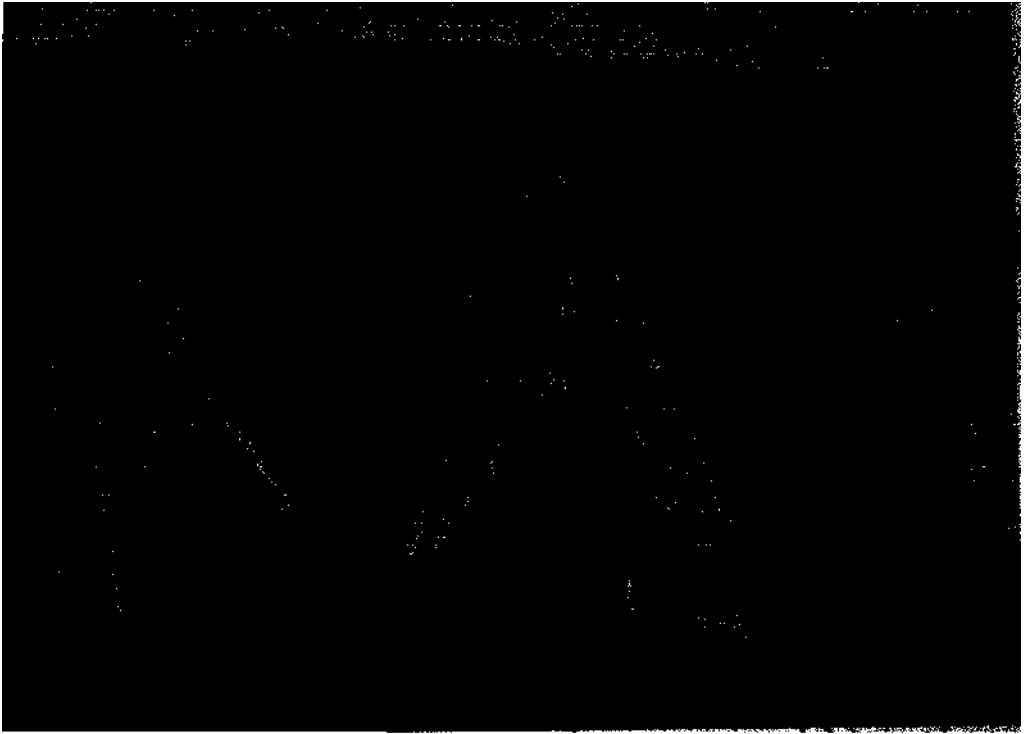
Kangaroo. Totem or tribe.

Spears. Clubs. Boomerangs.

Tell-

How the "Blackfellow" lit his fire.

What is the boomerang and what are its uses?



MODEL

This camp was on the edge of the desert. The sand was piled up behind the huts and a few twigs were stuck in it to represent trees.

In order to make the huts, a framework of bamboo was first made. This was then covered with some old straws. The huts were not meant to look tidy, for the Blackfellows do not take much trouble in building their huts.

The man in the front is just making a fire. His stick is made from a little piece split off a bamboo. He is made of brown plasticine, and he is sitting on a stone. Can you see the *totem* mark on his shoulder ?

