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SIMPLE TALES.



“Fie! for shame, big dog; you surely would not take the meat from the poor woman at Christmas time!”—Page 79.

SIMPLE TALES: Ä

A READING BOOK

U $\frac{210}{90}$ FOR

LITTLE FOLKS.

BY MARY ANN PIETZKER,

AUTHOR OF "THE PICTURE BOOK," AND "STORIES FROM THE HISTORY
OF RUSSIA."

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THE READING BOOK.

THE TWO FRIENDS.

ARTHUR and Hector were two friends, two such friends as are seldom seen. Hector had been given to Arthur on his fifth birth-day ; and I can assure you that the little boy was not a little proud of having some living thing that he could play with and talk to, that would follow him about and obey him, and understand what he said to him ; for he really did understand him, and did all but answer him. In fact, he sometimes did answer him, and converse with him in his own doggish language, which Arthur began in time to comprehend, and at last he understood his dog almost as well as his dog understood him.

For one whole year Arthur and Hector ran about in the open air, worked in the garden, basked together in