

---

# **Stories of Discovery Told by Discovers...**

**Hale E E**

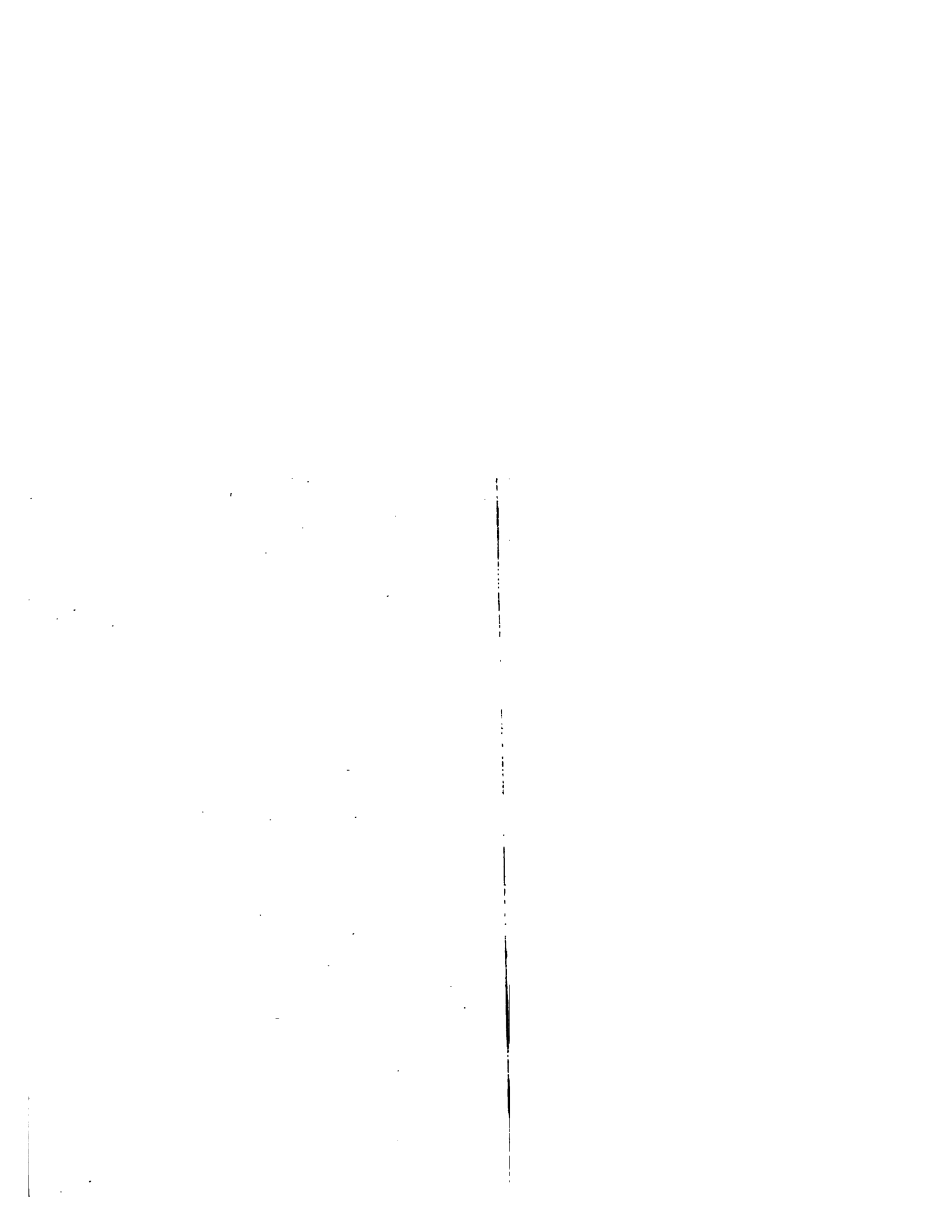
---

**Title: Stories of Discovery Told by Discovers...**

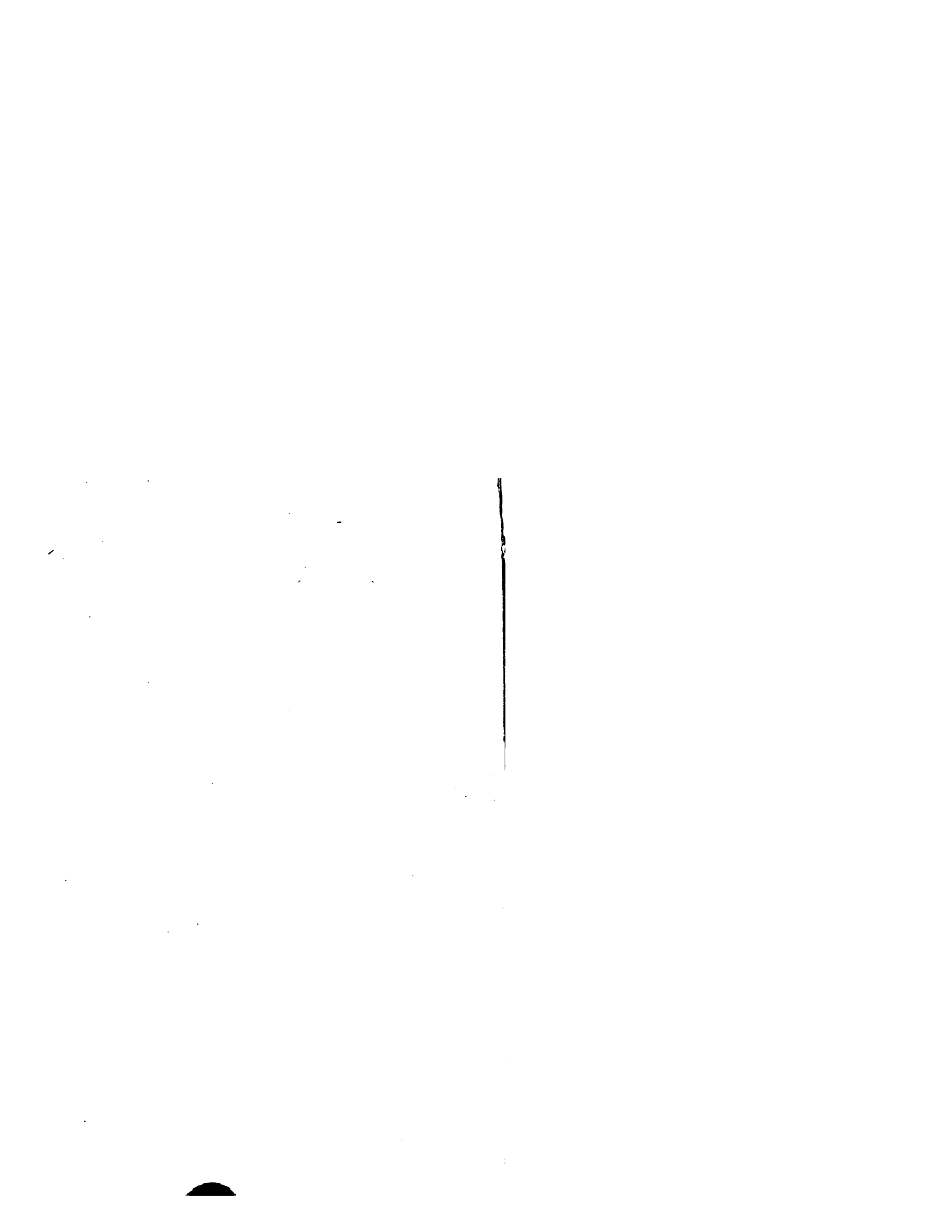
**Author: Hale E E**

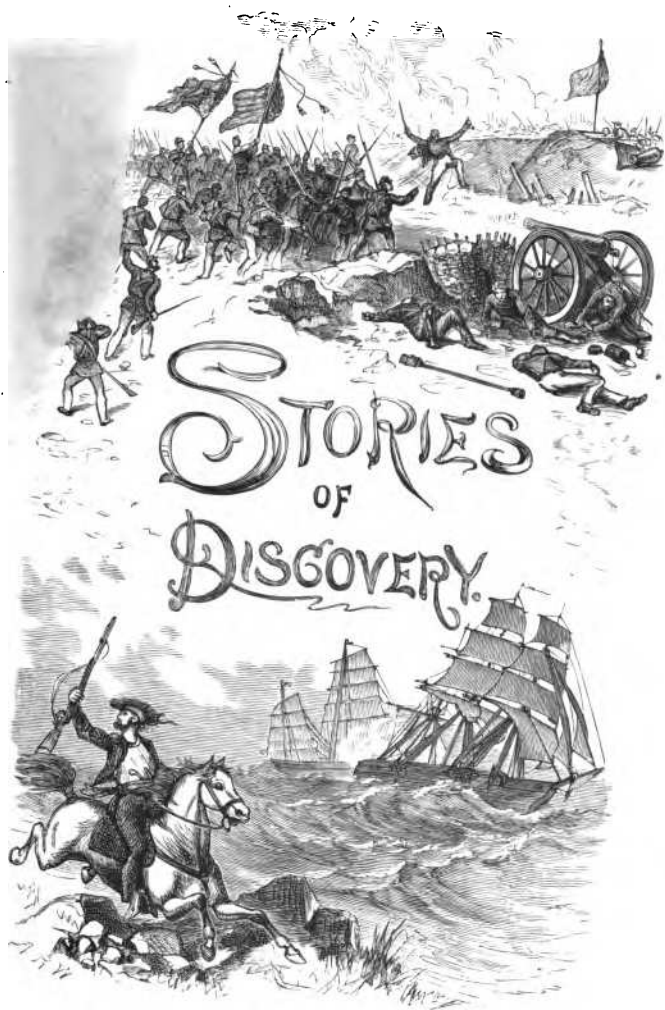
**This is an exact replica of a book. The book reprint was manually improved by a team of professionals, as opposed to automatic/OCR processes used by some companies. However, the book may still have imperfections such as missing pages, poor pictures, errant marks, etc. that were a part of the original text. We appreciate your understanding of the imperfections which can not be improved, and hope you will enjoy reading this book.**



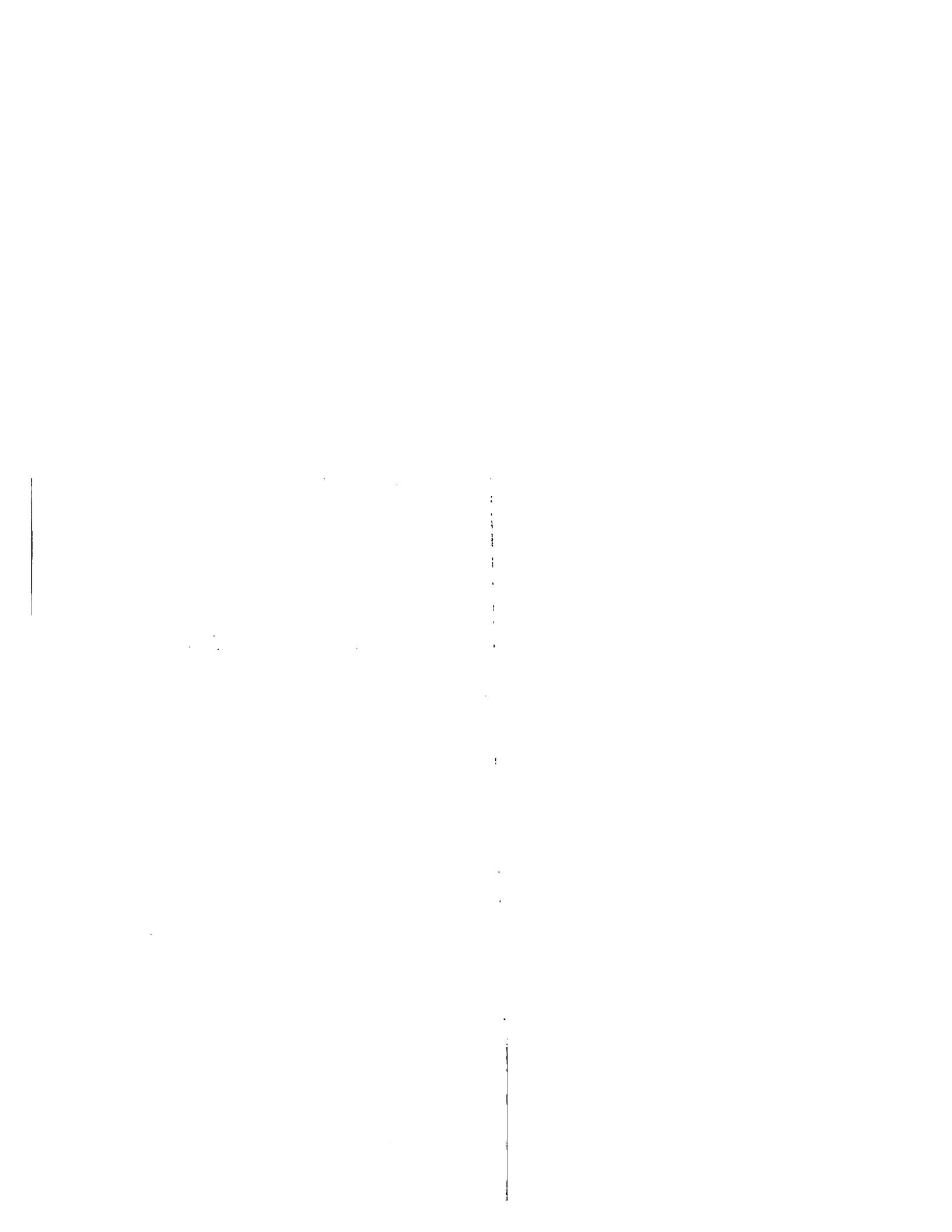


G  
175  
.H16





STORIES  
OF  
DISCOVERY.



# STORIES OF DISCOVERY

*TOLD BY DISCOVERERS.*

By EDWARD E. HALE.



BOSTON:  
ROBERTS BROTHERS.

1893.



*Copyright, 1882,*  
**BY ROBERTS BROTHERS.**

**UNIVERSITY PRESS:**  
**JOHN WILSON AND SON, CAMBRIDGE.**

## P R E F A C E.

---

IN the summer of 1879 a convention of librarians was held in Boston. The subject of the reading most in the hands of young people was discussed, in the most practical way, by many of those persons who see, face to face, the young readers who come to Public Libraries, and who have to give to them the books they ask for.

The judgment of these gentlemen and ladies, who have every opportunity of forming a true opinion, is unanimous on one point. Boys and girls, of average intelligence, can be made to take a real interest in the reading of the best books, if those books are entertaining, and if the way be made easy. But we ask too much of the librarian, who is, perhaps, overseeing the delivery of one book every ten seconds, if we expect him to do everything in guiding the taste of the young readers who apply for another book, interesting and new.

In this discussion I suggested the preparation of books for young people which should show the

148175

“plums” in the standard volumes. The word “plums” hardly needs explanation. Readers of half a century ago will remember Lucy’s view of “plums.”

“But his mother managed their pleasures so that they not only lasted the longer, but were relished the more keenly, not swallowed without being tasted. Lucy had this art yet to learn.

“‘Mother,’ said she, ‘I think you are too careful not to tire him with reading; I think he cannot have too much entertainment. It is only the stupid parts of books that tire one. All that is necessary is to pick out the plums, and to have a variety.’

“‘He would, I think, be soon tired of plums, my dear,’ said her mother, ‘and a great variety would weary him still more.’

“‘Well, mother,’ whispered Lucy, ‘will you let us try the experiment? I should like to see whether he could be tired of plums. I will pick out what I know he likes best, and never give him too much of one thing at a time. You will see, mother.’

“‘Try, my dear, and you will see,’ said her mother.”

I was met, courteously, with the statement that if I thought this thing ought to be done, I had better do it myself, — a statement frequently, and perhaps fairly, made to people who offer advice. I have attempted to show that some such thing is possible as I suggested, by preparing the series of which this volume makes the fourth. It consists of “STORIES OF WAR,” “STORIES OF THE SEA,” “STORIES OF ADVENTURE,” “STORIES OF

*PREFACE.*

v

DISCOVERY." In every instance the narrative is at first hand, or nearly so. And in every instance the effort has been made to throw the reader back to the volumes, now generally accessible in Public Libraries, where he can learn more.

With many thanks to kind advisers who express the wish that I had written all the stories myself, I have only to say that the precise object of the series would thus have been avoided. The object is to arouse in young readers an interest in the wide range of narrative literature open to them in their own language, for the centuries since that language was born.

EDWARD E. HALE.

ROXBURY, Nov. 1, 1882.