A Little Pretty Pocket-Book

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Author
Newbery, John
Thwaite, M. F

Date
1744. Harcourt Brace & World, NY.

Category
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Remark:
This beautiful little book is the first American edition of a facsimile done in Great Britain in 1966 from the 11th edition of 1767. An extensive introduction stresses that Newbury was following Locke's revolutionary philosophy. One result was that amusement was announced as a (new) goal for this piece of children's literature. Traces Newbury's fascinating life and career as a publisher. Aesop's Fables books around his time came from Croxall and Richardson; Newbury himself also did a book of fables by Abraham Aesop, Esq. (145), which is mentioned in the final section made up of ads for Newbury's other books (141ff.). Simple woodcuts throughout; introduction points out that Bewick will soon revolutionize book illustration. The pages move through Great A to Little a and so on. At Great X we get four fables: The Wolf and the Kid, The Husbandman and the Stork, BW, and Mercury and the Woodman (with only 2 hatchets involved). After each there is a nice little letter of application from Jack the Giant Killer. Good proverbs on 137-40.

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