

### **Our Native Trees and How to Identify Them: A Popular Study of Their Habits and Peculiarities**

Harriet L Keeler



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#### A facsimile reproduction of the original 1900 edition

Educator, author, and naturalist Harriet L. Keeler (1844–1921) was a prominent figure in her time. With this facsimile reprint of her first book written for a national audience, she once again is brought to the public's attention.

An 1870 graduate of Oberlin College, Keeler devoted her career to service as a teacher and administrator in the Cleveland public schools. She was active in Cleveland civic life as well and was a prominent champion of women's rights. But it was as a naturalist that she did her most distinctive work, preparing authoritative and literate field guides to native flora.

*Our Native Trees and How to Identify Them*, first published by Charles Scriber's Sons in 1900, was warmly received at a time when America was rapidly urbanizing and public interest in conservation and the establishment of parks was growing. In her preface, Keeler explained that "the trees described . . . are those indigenous to the region ex-tending from the Atlantic Ocean to the Rocky Mountains and from Canada to the northern boundaries of the southern states; together with a few well-known and naturalized foreign trees." Profusely illustrated and with a biographical introduction by Carol Poh Miller that illuminates Keeler's life and accomplishments, this edition of *Our Native Trees and How to Identify Them* will aid a new generation eager to identify and thus better appreciate what they observe outdoors.

"The *New York Times* [in June 1900] pronounced it 'well-written and thoroughly interesting' . . . The reviewer concludes: 'The book . . . should add new interest to the coming summer for many to whom Nature is practically a sealed book, as well as heighten the pleasure of others to whom she has long been dear.'"?from the Introduction

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