GRADATIM: AN EASY LATIN TRANSLATION BOOK FOR BEGINNERS

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Gradatim: An Easy Latin Translation Book for Beginners by H. R. Heatley & H. N. Kingdon

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H. R. HEATLEY & H. N. KINGDON

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BY

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PREFACE

Most practical teachers, who have abandoned the old "Delectus" system on account of its dulness, must feel that unless they are prepared to devote an unreasonably long period to Grammar before beginning Translation at all, their pupils have to face difficulties of Accidence and Syntax for which they are quite unprepared. On the other hand, no boy believes he is learning a language until he has begun Translation, and experience has shown, that though he has learned Latin for only a few days, he may attempt Translation with success, if it is specially prepared for him. In the early part of this book an attempt has been made to string together easy sentences so as to form connected stories, and at the same time to introduce gradually, and after due explanation, such grammatical points as are best adapted for beginners.

The writing of the early stories has not been an easy task; but the writers hope that, while often forced to sacrifice style to considerations of practical utility, they have avoided using words and constructions which have not the sanction of classical authority.

As an additional help to Translation the experiment has been tried of at first writing the Latin in English order, but this arrangement has been abandoned as soon as possible.

Grammatical rules and explanations in a very simple form have been interspersed among the stories.

The writers have to thank friends, both in Rugby and elsewhere, for many useful hints and corrections.

HILLBROW, RUGBY, October 1880.

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