A COMPLETE THEORETICAL AND PRACTICAL GRAMMAR OF THE SPANISH LANGUAGE, IN A SERIES OF LECTURES, WITH EXERCISES AND KEY

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A Complete Theoretical and Practical Grammar of the Spanish Language, in a Series of Lectures, with Exercises and Key by Emanuel Del Mar

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EMANUEL DEL MAR

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A COMPLETE

THEORETICAL AND PRACTICAL GRAMMAR

OF THE

SPANISH LANGUAGE,

IN A SERIES OF LECTURES, WITH EXERCISES AND KEY.

BY

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A MANUAL OF SPAN, AND ENG. CONVERBATIONAL DIALOGUES;
A TREATISE ON ENGLISH PRONUNCIATION
FOR THE USE OF SPANIARDS;
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PREFACE.

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THE favourable reception experienced by the former Editions of this Anglo-Spanish Grammar has induced the Author to offer to the Public this New Edition, in which he has embodied such improvements and additions as time and reflection have suggested.

In the arrangement of the work it has been the Author's aim to endeavour, as far as possible, to overcome every obstacle that the Spanish Language presented to the Student, and to make every difficulty subordinate to rule; thus rendering the acquisition of this rich, expressive, and manly Language a pleasing task to those desirous of acquiring it: and it is hoped, that while the following pages consult the wants of the beginner, they will be found to contain all that the more advanced pupil could desire in an elementary work.

The principles of the Spanish Language will be found in this Grammar clearly expounded in a Series of Lectures, and each Rule and Observation accompanied by appropriate Examples; the greater part of those intended to elucidate the peculiar construction and genius of the Spanish Language have been selected from the works of the best Castilian writers. The Lectures are accompanied by appropriate Exercises for the pupil to practice the Rules upon, and a Ker is added for the convenience of those who have not the assistance of a master.

The latest alterations of the Spanish Royal Academy with respect to the New Oberhodeaper have been adopted in this Grammar, carefully pointing out wherein the new differs from the old, in order that the learner, in reading Spanish works not printed with the new orthography, should know in what the difference consists.

In describing, by English characters, the peculiar sound and power of each of the letters of the Spanish Alphabet, the Author has bestowed the utmost care in giving as comparative sounds such combinations as could best convey the nicest distinctions of sound of Spanish letters.

The Rules explained in the Grammar are not intended to be learnt by heart; it is the sense of them that the pupil should endeavour to make himself perfectly acquainted with. The Lectures, therefore, are so worded as to address themselves to the understanding of the learner, and not to task his memory.

The third Edition of this work was abridged from the second; the present one is enlarged and improved upon both. The second Edition, however, was in some parts more voluminous than necessary, inasmuch as a great portion of it was taken up with the Definitions of General Grammar; but subsequent experience has convinced the Author that the embodying of them in the text of a Treatise intended to explain the Principles of any particular Language, only tended to withdraw the attention of the pupil from what exclusively belongs to that Language. To those acquainted with the Principles of Grammar they would be useless; and to those who are not, they would be insufficient. No one, however, should attempt to study a foreign Language without first possessing a competent knowledge of the General Principles of Grammar. For the use, therefore, of those who are deficient in this indispensable requisite, the Author has published a Grammar of the English Language—a small Manual written expressly for those who learn foreign Languages, and which, even without the assistance of a master will, in a very short time, render them sufficiently able to attempt the learning of Spanish Grammar with ease and advantage.

When the pupil has made himself acquainted with the Elements of the Spanish Language, and should desire to attain a more profound knowledge of its origin, extent, strength, and elegance, he is recommended to consult the works of Caphany, Aldrete, Nebrija, Hurra, and others. As works from which to glean the beauties of Spanish Literature, he has a wide field to select from; he may, however, peruse the following Authors with advantage:—

In History, Solis, Mariana, Capmany, Mendoza, Llorente, &c. &c.

In Novels and other works of Fiction, Cervantes, Father Isla, Mateo Aleman, Gubvara, Quevedo, Zolórzano, &c. &c.

In Sacred, Moral, and Ecclesiastical Writings, Grana-DA, LEON, CLEMENT, NIEREMBERG, CARVAJAL, &c. &c.

In Drama, Calderon, Lope de Vega, Cervantes, Jovellanos, Cienfuegos, Montalban, Quintana, Moratin, Zárate, &c. &c.

In Epistles, Works of Criticism, and Miscellanies, CADALSO, IRIARTE, GRACIAN, CAMPONANES, SAAVEDRA FAJARDO, SAMANIEGO, &c. &c.

In Poetry, the field is still more extensive; a list of the bare names of Spanish Poets of merit would fill a large pamphlet. The student may, however, select from the following:—Caldenon, Cervantes, Lope de Vega, Jauregui, Argénsola, Quevedo, Garcilaso de la Vega, Herrera, Ercilla, Luzan, Iglesias, Meléndez, Mendoza, Leon, &c. &c.

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