

**EXTRACTS FROM VIRGIL:
AND FROM THE
FASTI OF OVID: WITH
NOTES ON THE LATTER**

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Extracts from Virgil: And from the Fasti of Ovid: With Notes on the Latter by Various

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VARIOUS

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PREFACE.

THE former Edition of this Manual contained only the extracts from Ovid, and the Notes which are appended. In reprinting them, it has been considered expedient to add a similar selection of passages from Virgil. The learner will thus have at one view a course of reading in Heroic, as well as Elegiac verse. The addition of Notes upon the latter would have inconveniently increased the size of the Work, and therefore they have been omitted. Professor Anthon's edition will amply supply the explanations and illustrations which may be required.

The following observations were prefixed to the original edition :—

The Extracts from Ovid are taken from the Books of the *Fasti*, the most unexceptionable, and by many considered the best written, of the works of that poet. They certainly contain subjects of more varied interest, and of a more pure and manly character, than the *Epistles*, and therefore are better suited for the tuition

of youth. The word *Fasti* originally signified the *Days* on which the law-courts were open, and ordinary business was transacted ; next, the *Tables* in which such days were noted ; in Ovid, the meaning is extended to the origin of religious rites and ceremonies, festivals and sacrifices ; the dedications of temples, and other memorable events indicated in the Calendar of the Roman year ; connected also with the sun's course in the zodiac, and with the rising and setting of the stars ; a design which he has thus compendiously expressed in the opening lines of the Poem :—

“Tempora cum causis Latium digesta per annum,
Lapsaque sub terras ortaque signa cano.”

The Poet has interspersed these dry details with beautiful descriptions of nature, of rural scenery, and of primitive simplicity ; with poetical fictions, mythological fables, and historical traditions. The selection now made from this source will, it is presumed, serve as a pleasing variety in the early stage of Latin reading, and furnish a suitable model for the first efforts in Elegiac verse. A few brief and explanatory notes have been subjoined ; but the learner has been directed to consult his Classical Dictionary for information connected with proper names.

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