A FIRST LATIN BOOK, INTRODUCTORY TO CÆSAR'S COMMENTARIES ON THE GALLIC WAR

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FIRST LATIN BOOK,

INTRODUCTORY TO

CÆSAR'S COMMENTARIES ON THE GALLIC WAR.

For use with Harkness', Andrews and Stoddard's, Bullions and Morris', and Allen's Grammars.

BY

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STEREOTYPED AND PRINTED BY
H. O. HOUGHTON AND COMPANY.

To

D. D. GORHAM,

NORTHAMPTON, MASS.

MY INSTRUCTOR IN THE RUDIMENTS OF THE
LATIN LANGUAGE,

This Book

IS RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED.

PREFACE.

ANDREWS and Stoddard's, Harkness', Bullions and Morris', and Allen's are the standard manual Latin Grammars in use in different parts of the country. It is believed that the grammar which is to be the student's main authority until he enters college, at least, should in its full form be his constant companion from the beginning of his study. The general principles of grammar are universal; and the particular text-books above mentioned differ mainly in their arrangement of details and their modes of expression. Accordingly, if a philosophical method of study can be devised, there is no reason why it may not apply equally well to different grammatical text-books. To construct such a method which may be made available for the works specified, is the aim of this book.

The principles upon which we have proceeded are mainly these: —

First. That the learner should commence his study of Latin grammar with the verb, in order that he may be introduced to sentences as speedily as possible.

Second. That only so much of the grammar be learned at first as will give the general form of the language, leaving the particulars to be afterward filled in.

Third. That drill-exercises on the varieties of inflection are necessary in addition to the examples of the grammar, to fix the latter definitely in mind.

Fourth. That in close connection with the study of the grammar and the drill-exercises, there should be carried on a con-

tinual application of the laws learned, to the language itself, in progressive sentences taken from some one classical Latin author.

Attention is called to some of the details of the plan.

After a few preliminary lessons, the verb is commenced, by tenses. The present, imperfect, and future tenses of the indicative mode are taken, each by itself, through the four conjugations in both voices. The form of each conjugation is thus made apparent and the differences noticed. For convenience in carrying out this idea, Tables I. and II. are added, supplementary to the grammar used. Upon learning thus enough of the verb to insure a successful study of sentences, the noun, adjective, pronoun, and adverb succeed in regular order, and the remainder of Part I. is devoted to the completion of verbs. Drill-exercises, English and Latin, complementary to each other, accompany each topic of the grammar, with vocabularies for the earlier lessons. Attending each subject also, are exercises in syntax, drawn mainly from Cæsar's Commentaries on the Gallic war, increasing in difficulty and finally superseding the exercises on the inflections after the completion of regular verbs.

Part II. presents entire the first twenty-nine sections of the Commentaries, together with grammar lessons, reviewing and enlarging upon subjects previously studied, paying special attention to analysis of sentences and words, and to the syntax of modes and tenses. On the text of the Cæsar the best authorities have been consulted. Kraner in the Tauchnitz edition has been very generally followed.

The Tables in the main explain themselves. It has been thought best to give an opportunity for the pursuit of what we may perhaps designate as the *Stem Method*. Tables II. and IV. are based upon Madvig, with some slight variation and carry out the analysis according to the method by him used somewhat beyond Bullions and Morris' Grammar. For the benefit of those instructors who wish at the outset to teach the

classification of nouns and verbs by means of the stems, references and directions are inclosed in brackets. The whole subject is taken up again near the end of Part II.

Much repetition both of grammatical references and sentences will be discovered. In Part II. the learner will meet with most of the sentences of Part I. It is thought that the references in the notes and at the head of the lessons indicate all that should be made a subject of study at this early stage. By one recitation daily, allowing for the usual holidays and vacations, the book will probably be completed in about one year. The student will then be prepared to pursue the Commentaries, into which he will have advanced some distance, or to read some other classical author.

Throughout the work we have sought to impress the idea that a thorough study of the grammatical laws of the language is the only path to success in learning to translate. To this end we have endeavored to present each subject distinctly, as a whole embracing its parts, so that the beginner shall recognize the connection and inter-dependence of those parts, without being blinded and bewildered by a multitude of facts destitute of system and order.

From Richard's Latin Lessons was derived the idea of the treatment of the verb in the incomplete tenses, and from Bullions and Morris' Grammar the plan of a part of Tables IV. and VI. Valuable assistance has been obtained from Allen's Latin Lessons, Harkness' Introductory Latin Book; Crosby's, Whiton's, and Boise's Greek Lessons, Andrews', Harkness', Brooks', and Chase and Stuart's Cæsars; and from Madvig's and Zumpt's Grammars. Our great indebtedness to the friends who have aided us by revising manuscript and proof is also acknowledged.

SPRINGFIELD, MASS., *March* 1, 1872.