

**THE TRUE THEORY
OF THE GREEK
NEGATIVE**

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The True Theory of the Greek Negative by Gavin Hamilton

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GAVIN HAMILTON

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BY

GAVIN HAMILTON,

OF THE ELGIN ACADEMY,

AUTHOR OF "THE FUNCTIONS OF SI AND QUI," "THE TRUE THEORY OF THE
LATIN SUBJUNCTIVE, OR THE LOGIC OF THE LATIN LANGUAGE."

"Ἐχρη ἡ Δίκη μέγα σθένος."

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TO
THE REV. R. PAYNE SMITH, D.D.,

CANON OF CHRIST CHURCH,
PROFESSOR OF DIVINITY IN THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD.

MY DEAR DR SMITH,

To you I dedicate this work, in admiration of your profound Biblical learning, in appreciation of your genuine interest in the logical exposition of the Greek and Latin languages, and in acknowledgment of a faithful friendship which has existed between us for many years.

With the strongest sentiments of consideration and regard,

Ever,

Most truly thine,

GAVIN HAMILTON.



INTRODUCTION.

WITHIN a date not very distant from the present day, in the British House of Commons,—where the opinions of the cultivated classes, if not of the masses, are faithfully represented,—the state of philological law, as well as social and ecclesiastical law, in England has been discussed with special reference to certain countries in Europe. The difference between these subjects is not greater than between the spirit in which they were discussed. When a Roman Pontiff presumed to portion out English territory into ecclesiastical hierarchies, the British Lion, with thunder in his throat, returned a response, which served at once as redress for the past and a remedy for the future. The same stubborn resistance was offered to Popish Rome which, in days of old, was offered to Pagan Rome. England, in a manner not to be mistaken, declined to be a vassal of the Vatican. When the Emperor of the French presumed to dictate to the Government of Queen Victoria the alteration of social law, the House of Commons, displeased at the affront offered, and still more displeased at the affront suffered, gave effective expression to its indignant voice, by a vote which drove from power