A COMPENDIOUS GRAMMAR OF THE EGYPTIAN LANGUAGE AS CONTAINED IN THE COPTIC, SAHIDIC, AND BASHMURIC DIALECTS; TOGETHER WITH ALPHABETS AND NUMERALS IN THE HIEROGLYPHIC AND ENCHORIAL CHARACTERS

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649454211

A Compendious Grammar of the Egyptian Language as Contained in the Coptic, Sahidic, and Bashmuric Dialects; Together with Alphabets and Numerals in the Hieroglyphic and Enchorial Characters by Henry Tattam

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HENRY TATTAM

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Quiequid practipies esto brevis: ut rito dicta Percipiant animi dociles, teneantque fideles, De Art. Poet. III. 55.

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BY THE

REV. HENRY TATTAM. LL. D., D. D., F. R. S. Retter of Stanford Rivers.

SECOND EDITION

REVISED AND IMPROVED



WILLIAMS & NORGATE:

 HENRIETTA STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON, AND
20, SOUTH FREDERICK STREET, EDINBURGH.

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AN F. LL. GRIFFITH ASH ¢ ET N.C.C. GRIFFITH 1937 Z FOR

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IN THE PROSECUTION OF

HIS EGYPTIAN STUDIES

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PREFACE.

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Egyptian Literature has of late years attracted particular attention. All that has come down to us of the Language and Literature of ancient Egypt is contained in the Coptic, Sahidic, and Bashmuric Dialects; and in the Enchorial, Hieratic, and Hieroglyphic Inscriptions, and Manuscripts.

Without attempting to trace the origin of the Egyptian Language, we may just remark that the learned Rossius in his "Etymologiæ Ægyptiacæ," has shown the affinity of a number of Coptic and Sahidic words to the Oriental Languages; which affinity to a certain extent, it must be admitted, does exist.*)

^{•)} In Rawlinson's Herodotus are the following observations. "The Egyptian Language might, from its grammer, appear to claim a Semitic origin, but it is not really one of that family, like the Arabic, Hebrew,