

**AN ITALIAN CONVERSATION GRAMMAR:  
COMPRISING THE MOST IMPORTANT RULES  
OF ITALIAN GRAMMAR, WITH NUMEROUS  
EXAMPLES AND EXERCISES THEREON;  
EXTRACTS IN ITALIAN PROSE AND POETRY;  
AND EXTRACTS IN ENGLISH PROSE FOR  
TRANSLATION INTO ITALIAN, WITH NOTES**

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An Italian Conversation Grammar: Comprising the Most Important Rules of Italian Grammar, with Numerous Examples and Exercises Thereon; Extracts in Italian Prose and Poetry; And Extracts in English Prose for Translation into Italian, with Notes by N. Perini

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**N. PERINI**

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ENGLISH PROSE FOR TRANSLATION  
INTO ITALIAN, WITH NOTES.

ALSO AN ITALIAN-ENGLISH AND ENGLISH-ITALIAN VOCABULARY.

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and Italian Examiner to the Staff College, the Royal Military Academy,  
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D.C.L., F.R.S., &c.





## P R E F A C E.

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"GOOD wine needs no bush," and a good book requires no preface; its value will soon be discovered and appreciated. But in bringing before the public this grammar, which is arranged in a way different from that generally adopted, I feel it incumbent on me to offer a few words of explanation.

I have throughout adhered to the deductive method, that is, I do not set any exercise before the student, except on points previously explained. I have always regarded as mischievous the system of setting exercises beyond the knowledge of the student, and in which one-half of the words are translated; these may be called exercises in writing, rather than exercises on grammar, and in doing them the student often loses sight of the very points the grammarian wishes to elucidate.

I have made the verb the framework of the whole grammar, as it is impossible to form a sentence without it. I have also discarded the usual method of separating *Accidence* from *Syntax*, for it seems to me that such a separation has no existence in reality; I have combined the two parts, and gradually introduced the *Syntax* as I thought its knowledge would be required by the student.

Being convinced, as most people now are, that the best way of learning a foreign language is to translate into it from one's own language, I have added to the grammar a few pages of English prose extracts, with notes to facilitate their translation

into Italian. I have also given some extracts in Italian Prose and Poetry, the former with notes so that the student may, at an early stage, be enabled to translate Italian into English and the latter that he may commit to memory some of the finest verses in the Italian language, and thus acquire a correct Italian accent. I have supplemented the whole with Vocabularies, which will enable the student to dispense with any other book for at least the first ten lessons.

With regard to the letters in darker type, which will be found in many Italian words throughout the book, their purpose is fully explained on page 8, to which the student is desired to refer.

In conclusion I hope my effort may win the favour of my colleagues; for any corrections and suggestions I shall be grateful.

N. PERINI.

KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON,  
*February 14th, 1884.*

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