

**INTRODUCTION TO LATIN
COMPOSITION; REVISED AND
ENLARGED WITH INTRODUCTORY
EXERCISES ON ELEMENTARY
CONSTRUCTIONS**

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Introduction to Latin Composition; Revised and Enlarged with Introductory Exercises on Elementary Constructions by William F. Allen

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WILLIAM F. ALLEN

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*WITH INTRODUCTORY EXERCISES ON ELE-
MENTARY CONSTRUCTIONS*

BY
WILLIAM F. ALLEN
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PROFESSOR IN THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

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PREFACE TO FIRST EDITION.

THESE exercises are primarily designed as a training in Latin Syntax. It is taken for granted that the pupil has gone thoroughly through the Latin Lessons, or some other method of equal scope. No pains are taken, therefore, to illustrate the common rules of agreement and government. On the other hand, I have not aimed to introduce rare constructions and mere idiomatic expressions. It has seemed to me that the regular principles of prose construction should be the only object of attention at this stage of advancement; and that the rarer idioms will be acquired with little effort by those who follow out an extended course of Latin reading.

Nearly all the sentences in the written Exercises are taken, without change, from classic authors. These sentences are translated as literally as practicable; still, it has been impossible to avoid a considerable variety of expression, so that the Vocabulary will be found to contain quite a wide range of words and meanings, considering the whole number of sentences. I have thought it best not to provide special vocabularies for the several Lessons, nor many explanatory notes: it has been my desire to have the student acquire the habit of referring to grammar and vocabulary for general principles in the choice of words and constructions, rather than depend upon special directions in each case.

It is believed that these exercises can be taken up by any scholar who has gone thoroughly through any of the usual courses of Latin Lessons. Still, except in the case of mature or unusually capable pupils, I should advise that some time should first be devoted to mere translation. The familiarity with vocabulary and constructions thus acquired will be the best preparation for writing. I should let a class go through portions of Cæsar, and perhaps of other authors, as rapidly as is consistent with accuracy, and with very little parsing. Then I should take up parsing again, and introduce the writing of exercises. However, all such rules must vary with different classes and teachers.

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN,
MADISON, WISCONSIN, JUNE, 1870.

NOTE TO REVISED EDITION.

AFTER the present revised edition of this book was announced last summer, and when a part of it was already in type, it was decided to prefix to the original Lessons an introductory portion, to include the more elementary constructions of Latin syntax. This portion (Part I.), with the revision of the entire book consequent upon the change of plan, has been executed by my brother, Rev. J. H. ALLEN, of Cambridge, Mass.,* with the valuable co-operation of Mr. JOHN TETLOW, Master of the Girls' Latin School in Boston; aided by the skilful and acute criticism of Prof. Peck of Cornell University. Especial pains have been taken to facilitate the work of the earlier Lessons by a copious use of Oral Exercises (interlined); and very full references have been given throughout to the three Latin Grammars most in use. The experiment has also been tried of marking the *long vowels* in the Latin words employed, including those known to be long "by nature," and those understood to be lengthened in practice before the combinations *nf*, *ns*, and *gn*. Some changes of arrangement in Part II., with the condensation or transposition of several topics, have resulted from the change of plan above-mentioned; but these will not, in general, prevent the use of the two editions together where desired. Considerable additions have been made to the Vocabulary, which includes a few scores of familiar words not employed in the exercises, in order to facilitate such additional practice as teachers may find advisable.

W. F. A.

MADISON, Wis., June, 1886.

* Lecturer on Ecclesiastical History in Harvard University.

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