

**DRURY'S RECREATIVE FRENCH
GRAMMAR; BEING IN AN
AMUSING POINT OF VIEW, IT IS
ALIKE SUITABLE FOR SCHOOL,
YOUTH, OR THE ADULT**

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Drury's Recreative French Grammar; Being in an Amusing Point of View, It is Alike Suitable for School, Youth, or the Adult by Edward James Drury

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EDWARD JAMES DRURY

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THE AMERICAN IN FRANCE.

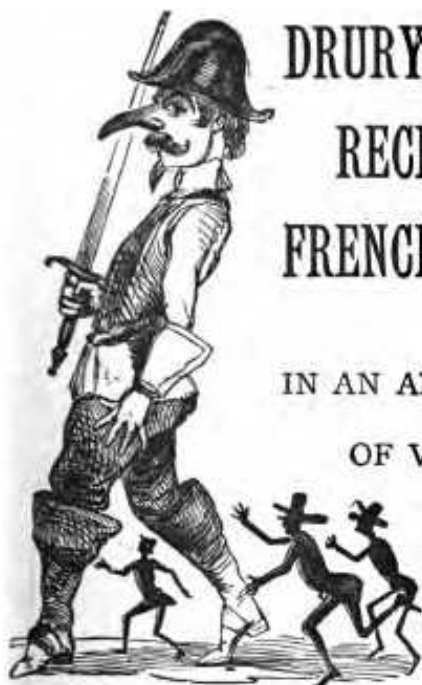


A CONVERSATION UNDER DIFFICULTIES.

"Never go to France unless you know the lingo,
For if you do, like me, why you'll repent, by jingo."
TOM HOOD.

22974

Why even the little children in France speak French! —ADDISON.



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FOR

SCHOOL, YOUTH, OR THE ADULT,

BY EDWARD JAMES DRURY.

With numerous humorous Woodcuts.

ALSO A CONCISE GUIDE TO PARIS.

LONDON:
REEVES AND TURNER, 196, STRAND.

NEW YORK:
SCRIBNER AND WELFORD.

1883.



"Knowledge the wing wherewith we fly."
SHAKESPEARE.



The author desires to call attention to some opinions of the press, shown at the end, which had reference to his formerly "COMICAL FRENCH GRAMMAR;" he thinks they may be accepted as peculiarly favourable to it. The Edition has since then been sold out.

It did seem to him however there was an idea then prevalent, that had a similar kind of grammar suitable for schools and scholars appeared, it would have been most acceptable. He has therefore revised it, striving to make it adaptable alike for youth and adult without destroying its originality or comicality.

To distinguish the present edition from the former one, he has altered the title to that of "RECREATIVE FRENCH GRAMMAR," which is easily to be understood, free from dry superfluities, yet full of everything necessary for a sure acquisition of the French language in a month, but only by those who will trouble themselves to go carefully and earnestly through it.

All translations of examples from the French into English are rendered literally, so that the student may become accustomed to the general formation of French sentences.

N'ayant ni demandé à Sa Majesté, ni reçu d'Elle la permission de lui dédier cet ouvrage, l'auteur se borne à dire :
Dieu la bénisse!



Neither having asked for, nor received from Her Majesty the permission to dedicate this work to Her, the author limits himself to say—**GOD BLESS HER!**

"*Novelty is the great parent of pleasure.*"—SOUTH.

"*Les grammairres: peut-être y a-t-il de la témérité à en vouloir grossir le nombre.*"—NOËL AND CHAPSAL.

INTRODUCTION.

THE French language is divided into parts of speech just the same as the English. Good English scholars will, of course, find the least difficulty in acquiring French. The knowledge of grammar is indispensable to the free use of any language. This his French grammar, without attempting anything more than novelty itself, the author has striven to make as pleasing as it is possible for dry, nasty stuff to be, by leaving out trifling distinctions and superfluities, too many peculiarities and comparisons—thus making it as simple as it is possible for a real grammar to be.

If "milk for babes" be the best nourishment, whether they are adults or just born, then the following lines will describe grammar better than anything else, for when once learned, they are never forgotten.

Three little words you oft may see,
Called Articles; as: *A, An, The*.
Noun is the name of anything,
As: *Sky, Earth, Spirit, Tea and Gin*.
An Adjective describes a Noun,
As: **My Dog, Her Dog; Great, Small, Brown*.
In place of Nouns do Pronouns stand,
As: *I, You, He*, would kiss her hand,
Verbs speak of actions *being* done,
As: *Eat, Drink, Speak, Sleep, Kiss, Sigh, Stun*.
How things *are* done sly Adverbs tell,
As: *Slowly, Smoothly, Sweetly, Well*.
And Prepositions come before
Their Nouns; as: *On, Behind* the door.
Conjunctions join two words together,
As: *Man and Woman, Wind or Weather*.
But Interjections show surprise,
As: *Ah*, how pretty! *Oh*, what eyes!
The whole are termed nine parts of speech,
Which all should learn if France they'd reach.

* *My and Her in the English language are Pronouns, but in French they are Adjectives.* (See p. 33.)

The very best reading-book is either a French Bible or Prayer Book (Protestant and Catholic versions may be purchased cheaply). The quotations in such are very familiar, and the language pure; so that by the frequent use of the sentences and prayers, they become indelibly impressed on the memory.

The examples in this Grammar have been extracted from noted French authors.

No one need be under the impression that French is difficult to learn: if students will thoughtfully and carefully peruse my grammar they will be sure to find instruction and recreation combined, bearing in mind always, that no beaten track has been followed, but that comicality and originality are considerably mixed up with utility and reality.

E. J. DRURY.



Un nouveau jeu de cartes, le jeu de beautés; qui gagne?
A new game of cards, the Game of Beauties; who wins?

Une main remplie de beautés est sûre de gagner: a hand-full of beauties (or court cards) is sure to win.

J'aimerais mieux voir entrer chez moi une jolie femme, qu'un vilain créancier—I would like better to see (to) enter my home a pretty woman than an ugly creditor.