AN INTRODUCTORY LATIN BOOK: INTENDED AS AN ELEMENTARY DRILL-BOOK, ON THE INFLECTIONS AND PRINCIPLES OF THE LANGUAGE, AND AS AN INTRODUCTION TO THE AUTHOR'S GRAMMAR, READER AND LATIN COMPOSITION

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An Introductory Latin Book: Intended as an Elementary Drill-Book, on the Inflections and Principles of the Language, and as an Introduction to the Author's Grammar, Reader and Latin Composition by Albert Harkness

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ALBERT HARKNESS

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AUTHOR'S GRAMMAR, READER AND LATIN COMPOSITION.

BY

ALBERT HARKNESS.

Revised Edition, adapted to the revised gramman.

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111

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33

PREFACE.

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THE volume now offered to the public is intended to furnish the pupil his first lessons in Latin. As an Elementary Drill-book, it aims to supply a want long felt in our schools. In no stage of a course of classical study is judicious instruction of more vital importance than in that which deals with the forms and elements of the Latin language. To the beginner, every thing is new, and requires minute and careful illustration. He must at the very outset become so familiar with all the grammatical inflections, with their exact form and force, that he will recognize them with promptness and certainty wherever they occur. He must not lose time in uncertain conjecture, where positive knowledge alone will be of any real value. Improvement on this point is one of the pressing needs of our This volume is intended as a contribution to schools. classical education in aid of this particular work. It aims to lighten the burden of the teacher in elementary drill, and to aid him in grounding his pupils in the first elements of the Latin language.

It is the unmistakable verdict of the class-room, that theory and practice must not be separated in the study of language. The true method of instruction will make ample provision for both. On the one hand, the pupil must, by a vigorous use of the memory, become master of all the grammatical forms and rules; while, on the other hand, he must not be denied the laxury of using the knowledge which he is so laboriously acquiring.

To this just and urgent demand of the class-room, the

PREFACE.

author's First Latin Book, published fifteen years since, on the basis of Dr. Arnold's works, owed its origin. For the favor with which it was received, and for the generous interest with which it has so long been regarded, the author desires here to express his sincere thanks to the numerous classical instructors whose fidelity in its use has contributed so largely to its success. In the conviction, however, that it has now done its appointed work, he begs leave to offer them the present volume as its successor.

The great objection to most First Latin Books, that, however excellent they may be in themselves, they are not especially adapted to any particular Grammar, and that they accordingly fill the memory of the pupil with rules and statements which must, as far as possible, be unlearned as soon as he passes to his Grammar, is entirely obviated in this volume. All the grammatical portions of it, even to the numbering of the articles, are introduced in the exact form and language of the author's Grammar. Indeed, the paradigms are not only the same as in the Grammar, but also occupy the same place on the page; so that even the local associations which the beginner so readily forms with the pages of his first book may be transferred directly to the Grammar.

This work is intended to be complete in itself. It comprises a distinct outline of Latin Grammar, Exercises for Double Translation, Suggestions to the Learner, Notes and Vocabularies. As an Introduction to the author's Grammar, Reader and Latin Composition, it discusses and illustrates precisely those points which are deemed most essential as a preparation for the course of study presented in those works.

PROVIDENCE, R.I., June, 1866.

.

iv

CONTENTS.

1

12

90

Pag

PART FIRST.

ORTHOGRAPHY.

	20		1	1		8					1
tter	з.	<u>,</u>	18		2	÷2	÷.	1			2
se I		•25	68	20	83		÷2				3
I	I.										4
1	II.	- 31	- 5	1		28	1		- 6	1	5
æ		3	8	- 22	23	1	<u>.</u>		2		6
8 3	6 8	8 3	85	81	3 0	- 3		¥.			6
					•			•			7
se I	V.		22	1	- 45	10	- 21		10		7
	ве I I I	se I II. III.	tters se I II III 	tters	tters	tters	tters	tters	tters	tters	

PART SECOND.

ETYMOLOGY.

CHAPTER L

YOUNS.

Gender										8
Person and Number		12	12		124		025	1	- 8	9
Cases	21.82	23452	223	1333	5400	1.5	1		- 23	9
Declensions	5 4 5	1993	-		•	•				10
First Declension .		1.4	10.000							11
Exercise V.										11
Second Declension .	39			33	1.1		140	40	63	13
Exerciso VI.	-	с. С.	3.03	5965	0.00					14
" VII.										16
Third Declension .	8	0.		8100						17
Exercise VIII.	33	18	36	-	3 4		3.00		1.	23
" IX.	20									25
Fourth Declension .										26
Exercise X	•		3							27

CONTENTS.

20

									1	age.
Fifth Declension		1.5	124	19	8. e	 	•	•	12	28
Exercise X	I,							•		29

CHAPTER IL

ADJECTIVES.

First and Second Decle	nsio	n.s	$\langle \mathbf{i} $	36	13	53	13	23	36	30
Exercise XII.			18	28	23			÷.	÷.	33
Third Declension .		12								35
Exercise XIIL	16		5	4		35				37
Comparison of Adjectiv	68	82		63						38
Exercise XIV.	×	38	18	э	ц×.	12				39
Numeral Adjectives		10								40
Exercise XV.	2	10		8	34	191				42

CHAPTER III.

PRONOUNS.

Personal Prop	noun	8 -	1	35	35	124	$\delta \Phi$	32	10	12		43
Possessive		- 52		14		34		1	4			44
Demonstrativ		33		32		36	19 A	3	12		33	44
Relative .	28	36	35	36	÷.			08	88	÷.	38	45
Interrogative												46
Indefinito	÷	. S.		1	3 <u>8</u>	12	19 19	24	22	12		46
Exerci	80 X	VI.	10	8	\otimes	14	€ĕ.	18	34		13	47

CHAPTER IV.

					VERD	W.,						
Voices .	- 8	2	4			,	52				٠	48
Moods .	- 8	. C.	÷.	÷.		2	3¥			2		49
Tenses .		6 36	38			- 38		З¥.		30K	5 (#	50
Numbers												50
Persons .						12		14		12		51
Conjugatio	n		1	52	14	\odot		14	3	32	34	51
The Verb			30	38	38	÷.	\propto	2.		13		52
Exe	rciso	NVII.										56
	4	XVII	ι			23	16			88		57
2.6	K.	XIX.	12		1	1.4	3 4	1		32	19	60
First Conji	ugst	ion .			*	5.¥	÷.	2.	1.	3×	\sim	62
		• XX.							S.,			68

vi

CONTENTS.

35 E

								- C		
										Page.
Exercise	XXI	12		13		8		8	1	67
"	XXII		15	85			÷3	1		69
	XXIII	62	10	85	•	•		•		71
	XXIV			•		1				73
	XXV	21	1				3 7		23	74
м	XXVI		23	22	3 65	23	28			75
	XXVII.	•22	•	*2	•	•	80			76
Second Conjug	ation .					18	- 12		-	78
	XXVIII.		1	- 6	13			1		82
	XXIX	63	1	48	6 3	87	80	÷.		83
**	XXX	67	•	4.5						84
"	XXXI	1	- 11		2	1	1			85
. "	XXXIL		1	1	1	1	3	1	- 23	86
**	XXXIIL	10		85	82	83	9C		•	87
"	XXXIV.	•	10				•2	•		88
Third Conjugat	ion .				1		- 23			90
	XXXV.	22		1	1	1	1	2		94
	XXXVI.	10	2 2	×1	201	2 0	λŭ.	λŰ.	¥2	95
41	XXXVII.		• 2			•	•			96
16	XXXVIIL		8	- 8	- <u>-</u>	- 21	- 23	12	-	97
20 AC	XXXIX.	- 22	1	- 22	- 22	- 21		1		97
"	XL		6 1		83		a 2			98
	XLI			•		•	- 53	•		99
Fourth Conjuga	tion .	1		22	2		- 23	22		100
Exercise		1	1	곗		23	23	2	1	104
"	XLIIL .			9 50			•	×1		104
	XLIV		***	•		-		•		105
a	XLV.	- 22	- 9	- 52		- 60				106
41	XLVI	22	- 31	- 22		- 51				107
**	XLVII.	1	- 20							107
	XLVIII.		•2	•	•					108
Verbs in 10 .		9	- 20	- 21		25	23	62		110
Exercise		5		- 2	÷.	27	20	20		112
				100 million (1990)		1 C C C				

PART THIRD.

CHAPTER L

STRTAX OF SERTENCES.

Bect	ion.	TRIAL .	0.9 83	ANTES	NUKA				
L	Classification of Sen	tences	×3	¥0	•	•		\mathbf{x}	114
п.	Simple Sentences	8 - 90	•	5			(2)		115

vii

.