

**THE FIRST BOOK OF HOMER'S ILIAD,
WITH A LITERAL INTERLINEAR
TRANSLATION, ILLUSTRATED WITH
NOTES: ON THE PLAN RECOMMENDED
BY MR. LOCKE. A NEW EDITION**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649026425

The First Book of Homer's Iliad, with a Literal Interlinear Translation, Illustrated with Notes:
On the Plan Recommended by Mr. Locke. A New Edition by Homer

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HOMER

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LONDON:
PRINTED FOR JOHN TAYLOR,
Bookseller and Publisher to the University of London.
30, Upper Gowze Street.

1834.

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Harvard College Library
July 1, 1914.
Bequest of
Georgina Lowell Putnam

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LONDON:
PRINTED BY STEWART AND CO.
OLD BAILEY.

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TO THE

SECOND EDITION.

CONSIDERING the very flattering encouragement which the former edition of this little volume has experienced, we have felt that it would be an unpardonable negligence on our part to spare any pains that might conduce to perfectionate the system, of which this Interlinear Translation forms the first Part. For the numerous communications with which we have been favoured since the first publication, we beg to express our sincere thanks; as nothing can be more acceptable than any hint which may be given to ensure the

more effective operation of the method we propose. If some intimations from our friends should not appear from subsequent alterations to have received that consideration which was due to them, we beg leave to assure them that it should not be attributed to any insensibility to the value of such suggestions, but rather to the difficulty of combining in one compact mass the conflicting details which must always be expected from a variety of opinions on a new subject. At the same time we confess that some part of this difficulty is attributable solely to our own delay, in not having earlier presented to the public a more detailed explanation of the plan we have long since marked out for ourselves: and we trust that many reasonable queries have been answered in the remarks introductory to the *PARSING LESSONS* for the *Æneid*, now lately published; remarks in great measure applicable to the present volume, though we have not on this account deferred the appearance of similar *Lessons* for this *Book of the Iliad*. In an undertaking like the present, uniformity of design and execution must be allowed to be not so much an incidental ad-

vantage, as an indispensable requisite for its successful progress. And although we shall gladly adopt any improvement consistent with unity of method, we must endeavour to keep in view this important consideration throughout any slight changes that may seem expedient. Some alterations have indeed been made in this Part since the appearance of the first Edition, with a view to render it conformable to the more extended range of illustration we thought proper to assume in our subsequent publications. Much care has also been bestowed in reforming the language of the Translation, wherever it might seem deficient in perspicuity or force. We have, not, however, attempted to refine upon the diction of our Author, even in the rendering of phrases peculiarly adapted to the simplicity of ancient manners. Accordingly, many expressions will be found in the translation, which may sound harsh and unpoetical to modern ears: but we trust it is sufficient to repeat that the object of these publications is not, by means of translation, to provide for the English reader a substitute for the Poetry of the Classics, but to enable him to perceive

and appreciate their beauties without the aid of so imperfect a reflector. For the satisfaction of all those, who in the purchase of successive Editions might find inconvenience from continual alteration, we take this opportunity of stating that no further changes will be made in this respect: as the sheets will henceforth be preserved entire in *Stereotype* plates. The large demand which we have found for these little volumes has made such a measure absolutely necessary, in order to prevent the delay which would otherwise attend the re-printing of each work. The plan in its maturer state is now before the Public; and we are gratified to find that those very points, wherein it differs exclusively from other methods of the day professedly of similar intention—in combining close and perspicuous translation with discursive annotation and practical analysis—are generally considered as its highest recommendation. We need scarcely assure our friends we shall endeavour to merit a continuance of this preference by unre-mitted attention to the clear and satisfactory development of the further details of the system.

December, 1827.

P R E F A C E

TO THE FIRST EDITION.

We need not add our voice to the many by which the present School System of Classical instruction is condemned. Sufficient has been said to create a general wish for its improvement, and the age is now too forward in every other department of knowledge to suffer its advance in this to be much longer retarded. The wonder is that some change has not been made long ago, seeing that for centuries the same charges have been brought against it which are now so prevalent, and some of the same corrections have been proposed which are now offered as modern discoveries. But perhaps the course of instruction having been prescribed in many of our endowed grammar schools, by the deed of their foundation, may account for this. With others, however, that could be no argument; and yet in these the system is the same. Our earnest wish is, that in all which are free to change, a change may be made; the rest will follow in time. But the question is, what change would we propose? We are almost tempted to reply, that any alteration must be for the better; but being sincerely desirous to effect a real improvement in our present school system; and for that purpose having given the subject a long and anxious consideration, we shall state in express terms the methods by which we conceive so important an object may be attained.

LOCKE'S EASY METHOD OF ACQUIRING LANGUAGES

forms the ground-work of our system. Locke was a member of the University of Oxford, and, we need not add, one of its greatest ornaments: he knew well the errors of the old system, and, with Herculean vigour, attempted to remove them. His object was to initiate the pupil generally into the knowledge of a language before he troubled him with the Rules of Syntax and