

**A FIRST GERMAN COURSE, CONTAINING
GRAMMAR, DELECTUS, AND EXERCISE-
BOOK, WITH VOCABULARIES,
AND MATERIALS FOR GERMAN
CONVERSATION ON THE PLAN OF DR.
WILLIAM SMITH'S "PRINCIPIA LATINA"**

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A first German course, containing grammar, delectus, and exercise-book, with vocabularies, and materials for German conversation on the plan of Dr. William Smith's "Principia Latina" by Anonymous

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GERMAN PRINCIPIA.—Part I.

A

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WITH VOCABULARIES,
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ON THE PLAN OF

DR. WILLIAM SMITH'S 'PRINCIPIA LATINA.'

THIRD EDITION.

REVISED AND ENLARGED, WITH THE EXERCISES PRINTED
IN BOTH GERMAN AND ENGLISH CHARACTERS.

NEW YORK:
HARPER & BROTHERS, PUBLISHERS,
FRANKLIN SQUARE.

JOHN S. PRELL
Civil & Mechanical Engineer.
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

NOTICE TO THE THIRD EDITION.

This Edition has been thoroughly revised, and various improvements and additions have been made, of which the following are the most important :—

1. At the request of several Teachers, the Exercises are reprinted before the Vocabularies (pp. 153, foll.) in the old German characters, so that the work can be used equally by those who prefer either the Roman or the German letters. In the body of the book the Roman characters are retained, for the reasons stated in the Preface.

2. Some general Exercises have been added (pp. 117-121) to practise the pupils more completely in the use of the Strong Verbs.

3. Two new chapters have been added, one on the Gender of Nouns (pp. 127, foll.), and another containing Remarks on the Conjugations (pp. 132, foll.).

4. The Strong Verbs have been carefully classified, and a fuller List of them given than in the previous edition (pp. 135, foll.).

5. Materials for Conversation are added at the end of the book, taken, with the Editor's permission, from Mr. Murray's 'Handbook of Travel Talk.'

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PREFACE.

THE following work has been compiled at the repeated request of numerous teachers who, finding the 'Principia Latina' the easiest book for beginners in Latin, are anxious to obtain an equally elementary German work on the same plan.

The main object of this book, as of the 'Principia Latina,' is to enable a beginner to acquire an accurate knowledge of the chief grammatical forms, to learn their usage by constructing simple sentences as soon as he commences the study of the language, and to accumulate gradually a stock of words useful in conversation as well as in reading. The grammatical forms are printed in conspicuous type, and at full length, as no sound knowledge of the language can be acquired without the pupil being thoroughly familiar with these forms. It is the want of this sound grammatical training which is the chief objection to the systems of Ollendorff, Ahn, and similar works. But at the same time it is important the pupil should be exercised from the first in the construction of sentences, so as to test by practical application the grammatical forms. The present work thus contains Grammar, Delectus, Exercise-book, with Vocabularies, and consequently presents in one book all that the beginner will require for some time in his study of the language.

A few simple rules of Syntax are introduced, as they are required for the construction of sentences; but it is proposed to give the chief syntactical rules in another book in the series, which will form a *Practical Introduction to German Prose Composition*.

It is proper to direct attention to one peculiarity in the present work, as well as in the other books of the same series. Differing from the ordinary grammars, all German words are printed in Roman, and not in the old German characters. The latter add to the difficulty of a learner, and as the Roman letters are not only used by many modern German writers, but also in Grimm's great Dictionary and Grammar, there seems no reason why the beginner, especially the native of a foreign country, who has learnt his own language in the Roman letters, should be any longer debarred from the advantage of this innovation. It is believed that this alteration will facilitate, more than at first might be supposed, the acquisition of the language. But at the same time, as most German books continue to be printed in the German characters, some Reading Lessons are given on pp. 122-126 printed in both German and Roman letters. When the learner has become familiar with the German words in the Roman letters, he will, after a little practice, find no difficulty in reading the German characters.

The books chiefly used in compiling the present work are Heyse's 'Schul-Grammatik' and the German grammars of Whitney, Wittich, and Otto, together with Wittich's 'German for Beginners,' which has furnished several of the examples in the Exercises. The work has been revised by an eminent German scholar, thus securing it against those inaccuracies which a foreigner would otherwise be in danger of committing.

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JOHN S. PRELL

Civil & Mechanical Engineer.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

A FIRST

GERMAN COURSE.

I.—THE ALPHABET.—PRONUNCIATION.

1. ALPHABET.—The German Alphabet consists of 26 letters, the same as the English.

German letters.	Roman letters.	German name.	German letters.	Roman letters.	German name.
Ä, a	.. a	.. ah.	Ń, n	.. n	.. ñn.
ß, b	.. b	.. bay.	Ŏ, o	.. o	.. o.
Ĉ, c	.. c	.. tsay.	Ŧ, p	.. p	.. pay.
Đ, d	.. d	.. day.	Ũ, q	.. q	.. koo.
Ė, e	.. e	.. ey.	Ŧ, r	.. r	.. èr.
Ĝ, f	.. f	.. ÷f.	Š, ŝ	.. s	.. ès.
Ĥ, g	.. g	.. gay.	Ŧ, t	.. t	.. tay.
Ĥ, h	.. h	.. hah.	Ũ, u	.. u	.. co.
Ĥ, i	.. i	.. ee.	Ŧ, v	.. v	.. fow (fou).
Ĥ, j	.. j	.. yot.	Ŧ, w	.. w	.. vay.
Ŧ, k	.. k	.. kah.	Ŧ, x	.. x	.. iks.
Ĉ, l	.. l	.. èl.	Ŧ, y	.. y	.. ypsilon.
Ŧ, m	.. m	.. èm.	Ŧ, z	.. z	.. tsèt.

The Compound Consonants are:—

ß	=	ss (see p. 4).
Ŧ	=	ks.
Ŧ	=	tz.

The German letters are not used by many modern writers, and as they add to the difficulty of a learner, they are not employed in the body of this work, except in the Reading Lessons on pp. 122, foll., where the extracts are printed in both German and Roman letters for the sake of practice. The Exercises also are repeated in German characters on pp. 153, foll., as explained in the Notice to this Edition.