

**THE RISE OF THE
ATHENIAN EMPIRE FROM
THUCYDIDES BOOK I**

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The Rise of the Athenian Empire from Thucydides Book I by F. H. Colson

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F. H. COLSON

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ATHENIAN EMPIRE FROM
THUCYDIDES BOOK I**

Elementary Classics.

THE
RISE OF THE ATHENIAN EMPIRE
FROM
T H U C Y D I D E S
BOOK I.

Edited for the Use of Beginners.

BY

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WITH NOTES, APPENDIX, AND VOCABULARY.

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PREFACE.

THE following chapters are, from a historical point of view, the natural introduction to Thucydides. Though they actually appear as episodes in his narrative, they contain a succinct account of the period immediately preceding that which he intends to treat more fully, and thus exactly correspond to the opening chapters in Macaulay or Freeman. This was the reason which originally led me to select them as an introduction to the study of Thucydides. In all other respects, however, they will be found a fair representative of his ordinary style, and they have one characteristic, which will, I think, be of use to some teachers, in these days, when boys so often possess selections instead of whole authors. Most teachers of fifth forms are obliged to resort to the books in current use for passages for unseen translation, and as the unseen should be easier than a prepared lesson, it is often very difficult to find suitable passages for the former. This selection has this advantage, that whilst the first half is of fairly uni-

form difficulty, the second half contains a good many easier passages, which will give excellent practice in unseen translation.

In the notes my chief object has been not to say too much. My principle has been to work through the chapters with a class, mark the places where they really appeared to find difficulty, and give notes (as far at least as mere explanation and translation are concerned) on these only. It is perhaps needless to say that the notes do not pretend to originality. I have used most modern editions, but have found Classen and Shilleto (though in very different ways) the most useful.

The book has only two special features which require any comment. One is that, at the advice of an eminent teacher, I have used very largely the interrogative form of note. I cannot see why the principle acknowledged in all oral teaching, that nothing should be told a boy, which he can find out for himself, should be restricted to oral teaching. In fact a question suggested to a boy, during the preparation of a lesson, when he has time to reflect, is more useful than if asked in the actual lesson, when he has only a few hurried moments to think out the answer.

The other special point is the Appendix. In this I have given (*a*) a few special notes on some idioms, which a younger boy does not meet in his grammar,

and which will be found useful in Greek prose; (b) a collection of idioms occurring in these chapters; (c) of special words and phrases; (d) a few passages, almost entirely drawn from these chapters, for translation into Greek prose. My object in this is to make the study of these chapters useful in teaching boys not only how to translate, but how to write Greek. The art of Greek prose consists very largely in amassing what are popularly called "tips," i.e., special idioms, words and phrases; and a knowledge of this kind is surely far more educating, if acquired by actual observation from Greek authors, than if got up from vocabularies and tables of idioms.

At the request of the publishers, I have added a vocabulary, but have not attempted to give full geographical and biographical information. Fifth-form boys may be assumed to have an atlas and a classical dictionary. I may add that I have not entered at all into textual criticism, but have simply (with two special exceptions) adopted Classen's text.

F. H. C.

BRADFORD, *Feb. 14th*, 1884.

Goodwin = Goodwin's School Greek Grammar.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Introduction, - - - - -	ix
Text, - - - - -	1
Notes, - - - - -	31
Appendix A—Notes on some Idioms, - - -	65
„ B—Special Idioms, - - - - -	70
„ C—Words and Phrases, - - - - -	71
„ D—Passages for Greek Prose based on these Chapters, - - - - -	73
Vocabulary, - - - - -	79
Index of Proper Names, - - - - -	113

INTRODUCTION.

THE subject of these chapters is the rise and development of the Athenian Empire during the fifty years (479-432) which passed between the Persian and Peloponnesian Wars.

The place which they occupy in Thucydides' narrative is as follows:—

Thucydides has been describing the immediate causes which led to the Peloponnesian War; he has brought his readers to the point when war has been decided on, when he remembers that he has said nothing of the real cause, viz., the jealousy which Sparta felt of the growing power of Athens. He therefore stops in his narrative and sketches the rise of the Athenian dominion, which occupies him from chapters 89-118.

To these chapters I have added another digression from a subsequent part of the same book, which describes the later career of two of the greatest names of the same period—Pausanias and Themistocles. Though it occurs in a later part of the first book, I