AN INTRODUCTION TO THE GREEK OF THE NEW TESTAMENT

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An Introduction to the Greek of the New Testament by Geo. L. Cary

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GREEK OF THE NEW TESTAMENT.

BY

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OF THE MEADVILLE THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL.

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PREFACE.

It is believed that there are many persons (some of them students in theology) unacquainted with the Greek language, and with neither time nor inclination for the study of classical Greek literature, who would nevertheless be glad to read the New Testament in its original tongue. For the aid of such, this little work has been prepared. It contains what is absolutely necessary for the understanding of New Testament Greek, omitting (or occasionally introducing in brackets) what is applicable only to classical authors. Not that a familiarity with this book alone will enable one to read offhand the Greek New Testament without further assistance; but he who has faithfully studied this "Introduction" will then be in a situation to make use of more elaborate works. Perhaps the most helpful book to the beginner is "Bagster's Analytical Greek Lexicon,"—*too* helpful if mental discipline is sought, but not if one's only aim is to economize time and labor. To the advanced student (supposed to be already in possession of some good New Testament Lexicon), Buttmann's "Grammar of the New Testament Greek" (or Winer's "Grammar of the Idiom of the New Testament") is almost indispensable.

Notwithstanding the very elementary character of the following lessons, they presume in the learner an acquaintance with

the fundamental principles of English grammar; only that which is peculiar to the Greek has been explained.

As very few inflected words occur in all their parts in the New Testament, different words have often been introduced into the same paradigm; therefore the student will probably find it best to memorize in order only the *terminations*. In the "Appendix" is a uniform paradigm of the regular verb, which will be found convenient for reference; also a tabular view of the endings of nouns.

Prior to publication, these lessons have been used with several classes in the "Meadville Theological School," and seem to have answered the purpose for which they were designed. Those familiar with them have been able to proceed at once (with the assistance above referred to) to the reading of the easier portions of the New Testament.

To Professor Ezra Abbot, of Harvard University, I am much indebted for assistance in the revision of proof-sheets and for valuable suggestions which have contributed to the completeness and accuracy of the work.

G. L. C.

MEADVILLE, PA., Dec. 1, 1878.

A SYNOPTIC TABLE OF CONTENTS.

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1. The Greek Alphabet. — 2. Pronunciation. — 3. Punctuation, Breathings, and Accents. — 4. Classification of the Consonants.