

**HARPER'S LANGUAGE SERIES;
LANGUAGE PRIMER: BEGINNERS'
LESSONS IN SPEAKING AND
WRITING ENGLISH**

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English by William Swinton

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WILLIAM SWINTON

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HARPER'S LANGUAGE SERIES.

LANGUAGE PRIMER:

BEGINNERS' LESSONS

IN

SPEAKING AND WRITING ENGLISH.

BY

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"PROGRESSIVE GRAMMAR," ETC.

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PREFACE.

THIS little work is designed to serve as a *Primer*, or beginners' book in the study of our own language.

In the new courses of study in most of our cities, lessons in writing and speaking English are begun quite early; and this fact has disclosed the need of a small manual of suitable *work*, to be placed in the hands of young scholars as the accompaniment of the teacher's oral instruction.

The success of the author's "Language Lessons"—a success without precedent in school-book literature—is the best assurance that the simple, untechnical, objective, and inductive mode of unfolding our speech will meet the views of intelligent teachers.

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GIFT OF

JULIUS R. WAKEFIELD

W. S.

CAMBRIDGE, August, 1874. MAY 4 1932

TEACHER'S NOTE.—The paragraphs introduced by a ~~§~~ are, where not mere *directions*, designed as suggestions for oral explanation by the teacher; sometimes by way of introducing a topic, and at other times by way of summing up. This mode of developing the subject works admirably in the class-room, exciting the interest and quickening the mental power of the pupil.

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LANGUAGE PRIMER.

SECTION I.

WORDS AND SENTENCES.

I. — OBJECTS AND WORDS.

Teacher, holding up *a book, a pencil, an orange, etc.* :

What is this ? A book.

This ? A pencil.

This ? An orange.

This ? A bell.

1. What are all these ?

They are all things, or *objects*.

2. How do we learn about such things, or objects ?

We learn about them through the senses.

Now I shall name two other things, or objects : *Love, gladness*. We do not know these things through the senses.

3. How do we know these things ?

By *thinking about* them.

4. What is an object ?

An object is anything that we can learn about through the senses or that we can think about.

5. When I say *book*, is that an object ?

No ; it is a *word*, or the *name* of an object.