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**P. SADLER**

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*LEYPOLDT & HOLT,*

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PETIT COURS DE VERSIONS;

OR,

EXERCISES FOR TRANSLATING

ENGLISH INTO FRENCH.

BY

P. SADLER.

*Revised and Annotated by*

C. F. GILLETTE,

PROFESSOR OF FRENCH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE.

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## INTRODUCTION.

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**STUDENTS** who need practice in translating *English into French*, beyond the routine of grammatical exercises, as an introductory course to French composition, can find no book better adapted to their requirements than Sadler's "Petit Cours de Versions."

The varied topics of its entertaining anecdotes afford exercises admirably calculated to promote proficiency in the French language, at the same time that they impress moral truth and noble sentiments. Hence the popularity of this little work notwithstanding a serious impediment thrown in the way of the learner, in the *Paris edition* (the only one hitherto published), which, being intended for French scholars studying English, contains directions in regard to the *English idioms*, instead of the *French*; an anomaly in the hands of Americans, and also a puzzle, as they must throughout take the reverse of the explanations given.

It is in order to remove this difficulty that the present edition is issued, with the following changes:

### THE PARIS EDITION

Contains explanatory notes of the *English* idioms, and references to the *English* grammar.

Opens with a list of idiomatic phrases without *direct* connexion with the text, so that they can be applied only by analogy, which requires from the pupil more mental labour

### THIS EDITION

Contains explanatory notes of the *French* idioms, and references to the *French* grammar.

Opens with a list of all French idioms contained in the book, for which there was no space in the notes.

Reference is made to the page where they are to be

than can be reasonably expected. They are, moreover, presented without order, and the difficulty in finding the one looked for, renders them almost useless.

Has a dictionary lacking many words.

found, and they are presented so as to be used without any difficulty whatever.

Has a *complete* dictionary, with the following important additions:

To the *verbs* and *adjectives* have been joined the *prepositions* to be used before *infinitives* and *complements*. (See Appendix, page 263.) This cannot fail to be considered an improvement by all who have experienced the difficulties arising from the lack of such directions.

It will be noticed that the *French language* has been retained in the notes, it being admitted by all experienced Teachers, that pupils, when sufficiently advanced, derive more benefit from studying in French texts.

The grammatical explanations introduced in the notes bear exclusively on idiomatical peculiarities, which learners are generally inclined to lose sight of. They will save much trouble to both students and teachers, without lessening in any way the rôle of the latter, as the leading rules have been left untouched, this book being not intended to be a grammatical instructor.

As may be inferred from the above, it has been the aim of the author of these alterations to appropriate this edition to the use of Americans, just as the Paris one is to that of the French. He ventures to hope that the work thus submitted will prove both useful and agreeable to students, and therefore meet the approval of all interested in giving French instruction.

C. F. GILLETTE.