

**A FIRST GREEK BOOK:  
WITH REFERENCES TO THE  
GRAMMARS OF HADLEY-  
ALLEN AND GOODWIN**

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A First Greek Book: With References to the Grammars of Hadley-Allen and Goodwin by L. L. Forman

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**L. L. FORMAN**

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# A FIRST GREEK BOOK

*WITH REFERENCES TO THE GRAMMARS*  
*OF*  
*HADLEY-ALLEN AND GOODWIN*

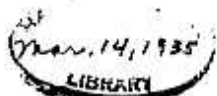
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Edward K. Achertson

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TO

MY BEST FRIEND

**George Prentice Bristol**

L. L. F.

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## PREFACE

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THIS book does not pretend to offer a short and easy introduction to the Greek language. For Greek is not easy, and any short introduction can only prove inadequate. Even the one year's work which this book contains must postpone many subjects, which properly should be mastered before the student should be set to reading a Greek author. A man must sow before he can reap. Discipline in a language cannot be got at the same time with the pleasures of its literature. They are mutually destructive, and discipline *must* precede. That impatient haste, therefore, which opens at once with the first page of Xenophon's *Anabasis* with little or no preliminary hard labor reaps invariably its whirlwind of quick *ennui*, despair, and vain regret.\*

Nor is the book intended for self-instruction, or for ill-prepared teachers. Though somewhat has been done, it is hoped, to simplify difficulties, yet in the way of supplementary explanation and drill much remains to be done by the good teacher who knows his Greek Grammar by heart. Indeed success with this or any other book must be due mainly to

\* Yet if Greek be swept utterly out of our education, the blame will lie not so much with the youth of the country as with us teachers, who yield to their importunities. Because the babe in the cradle cries, we permit it first Option of Study (or of No-Study), then Option of Method. These two Options were, I suspect, the two serpents carelessly allowed to invade the cradle of little Hercules, but strangled by that sensible young hero. Can we hope, however, for this happy issue now ?

the diligence of the pupil and the wisdom of the teacher; and the author of the manual will serve his purpose well if he merely provides suitable material to, and does not hinder, the workers.

Xenophon's *Anabasis* being usually the first Greek work read, its vocabulary has been kept ever in mind in the preparation of the following exercises and stories. But many words have been admitted besides, that belong to the general body of Attic prose, and a few others also of rarer or poetic occurrence, because they are the primitives from which other common words are derived. Such are κλέος, πέδον, σθένος, etc., which appear in the *Anabasis* only in derivative forms.

Since the beginner in Greek is usually confronted with many new difficulties at one and the same time—strange characters, accents, varieties of inflection in the first declension, totally new vocabulary, and so on, an attempt has been made to present these difficulties singly—1st) by giving a reading exercise in words already known (Alcibiades, Demosthenes, etc.); 2) by teaching the O-Declension, which is simple, before the A-Declension, which is varied—a plan long practised by experienced teachers; 3) by grouping words according to their accent and offering drill on each group separately (oxytones, paroxytones, etc.).

A word of explanation must be offered regarding the English of the sentences to be translated into Greek. Since good Greek was the result aimed at, the Greek sentence was regularly composed first, and the English translation of it made as suggestive as possible of that original, rather than as a model of English style.

The paragraphs into which the book is divided are of quite unequal length, dependent upon the subject treated. They are, therefore, not intended to suggest the amount of the daily lesson. But it may be added that often the long paragraphs

are not proportionally hard, being written to exercise the memory on words already learned.

The books from which the author has derived most aid in composing the present one, and to whose authors he here acknowledges his indebtedness, are the German elementary Greek books by Gerth, Kaegi, and Wesener, the invaluable *Sprachgebrauch Xenophons* by Artur Joost (Berlin, 1892), White and Morgan's equally invaluable *Dictionary to Xenophon's Anabasis*, and Professor Goodell's *Greek in English* (Holt, 1889). From Mr. J. E. Sandys' *First Greek Reader and Writer* he borrowed the idea of arranging the words in the first reading exercise alphabetically.

Lastly, it is the author's pleasure and honor to return thanks to the kind friends who have read, tested, and criticised his proof word by word and page by page—viz., to Mr. Charlton T. Lewis for many hints on Attic purity and style, to Professor B. I. Wheeler for general supervision of the whole, and particularly to Professor G. P. Bristol for microscopic attention to accents, vowel quantities, syntax, and indeed every other detail of accurate scholarship.

L. L. FORMAN.

ITHACA, NEW YORK, May 18, 1899.