

**CLARENDON PRESS SERIES:  
SELECTIONS ADAPTED  
FROM XENOPHON, WITH  
ENGLISH NOTES**

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Clarendon Press Series: Selections Adapted from Xenophon, With English Notes by J. Surtees  
Phillpotts

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**J. SURTEES PHILLPOTTS**

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## P R E F A C E.

THERE is a real lack of Greek books for beginners, such, that is, as will satisfy the necessary criteria--

- i. that the book should be *easy* enough ;
- ii. that it should mark clearly the main outlines of the *form* of the language ;
- iii. that the *matter* should be interesting, and form a connected story within a moderate compass.

There are admirable exercise-books which pass the first and second tests, but fail to satisfy the third ; and if the main aim of education be to develop a pupil's intelligence, the third test is vital. Lucian's style is eminently lively ; but his Greek is not what we want. Arrian is not the best model for the construction of sentences. Homer is unsurpassed for the interest it awakes, but the dialect unfits it for our purpose. When a boy has painfully learnt his Greek grammar, the book put into his hands should be one in which that grammar can be rigidly applied. The only text-book which supplies our wants at present is the Anabasis of Xenophon, and

that unaltered is too long. Travels are interesting, but if read at the rate of ten lines at a time the interest is apt to evaporate, and while the mere geographical framework gets a proportion of attention which was never intended by the writer, the unity of the story is lost to one who reads but one seventh of the whole, and that by fragments.

Here it has been attempted to forge Xenophon's Hellenics into another weapon for the teacher's armoury. An excerpt of the most interesting passages has been made, and difficult sentences have been so far simplified that, in the judgment of boys, the book is even easier than the Anabasis.

When this result was attained, I should have preferred to leave the book without notes, as I have no wish that my book should do a pupil's thinking for him: however, I have found by experience that notes are almost indispensable for a beginner, and so, while I have saved a little labour with the dictionary, I have given as few explanations as possible, and have made it my main purpose to lay stress on the laws of certain constructions. If the notes only teach boys to observe that there is a difference between imperfects and aorists, that different prepositions have different meanings, and that particles do affect the sentences in which they occur, and cannot be all alike translated by 'indeed,' my labour will have been amply repaid. The same notes have been repeated again and again, so that each Section is nearly always complete in itself.

The number of boys who either can or will look out references is so small that it seemed better to repeat than to refer. It is hoped that even the experienced teacher may economise his time by being able to make his pupils get up the main grammatical points by themselves, while the less experienced may be glad to have rules already framed for him, instead of having to adapt the rules he has framed for himself to the capacity of very young boys.

The last point on which these Selections differ from others of the same kind is in the amount of space given to the History. This is not merely for the sake of the history itself, though it is that of a period full of interest, and too often neglected both by Schools and Universities. It is to make the connection of the parts with the whole clear. The natural boy will probably never look at the Historical Introductions; he will at any rate gain but little from them, unless they are made the text of a lecture by his teacher. The teacher's work will be repaid if he thus teaches his class to read with their brains as well as with their eyes.

To prevent the length from being a bar to the interest, the ten thousand lines of the Hellenics have been reduced to two thousand; this smaller whole has again been divided into Sections adapted for some twenty lessons of from fifteen to twenty lines a time; while each of these Sections again has been distributed into some twenty or thirty paragraphs, with headings marking the progress of the story.



If Greek is to be retained in our curriculum, besides Latin, French, English, and Science, we must economise time in our methods. In the furtherance of this object it is hoped that this book will do its part.

Grote's History, Sturz's Lexicon, and the chief editions<sup>1</sup> of Xenophon have been continually consulted. My thanks are also due to my colleagues for the many practical suggestions they have given in the four or five years during which they have used these Extracts in their Tutor-rooms.

<sup>1</sup> Dindorf, Breitenbach, Büchschütz, and especially Sauppe, who has a most useful 'Annotatio Critica,' in which he discusses questions of text and the emendations of Cobet.

RUGBY, *Jan.* 1871.

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SELECTIONS FROM XENOPHON.

SECTION I.

THE CLOSING SCENES

OF THE

PELOPONNESIAN WAR,

OR

THE BATTLES OF CYZICUS, NOTIUM, ARGINUSAE,  
AND AEGOSPOTAMI.

B. C. 410—405.