

**ELEMENTS OF LOGIC, COMPRISING
THE DOCTRINE OF THE LAWS AND
PRODUCTS OF THOUGHT, AND THE
DOCTRINE OF METHOD, TOGETHER
WITH A LOGICAL PRAXIS**

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Elements of Logic, Comprising the Doctrine of the Laws and Products of Thought, and the Doctrine of Method, Together with a Logical Praxis by Henry N. Day

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HENRY N. DAY

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DESIGNED FOR CLASSES AND FOR PRIVATE STUDY.

BY *Hable*
HENRY N. DAY,

AUTHOR OF "ART OF RHETORIC," "RHETORICAL PRAXIS," ETC.

Nam neque decipitur ratio, nec decipit unquam.

The mixture of those things by speech, which by nature are divided, is the mother of all error.

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PREFACE.

THE present work is designed for learners. As a branch of science, the study of Logic commends itself by very special, not to say preëminent claims to all lovers of learning and liberal culture. But a leading motive in the preparation of this volume has been to furnish a needed help to the training of thought for effective communication in discourse. The first requisite for good speaking and good writing is the power to think well; and to a good thinker, the study of Logic as the science of Thought bears the same relation as the study of mathematics to a good civil engineer. The plan of the work has been determined by this governing design. The aim has been to develop the science in strict method. From the determination of the single radical principle of Thought, its Laws and the forms of its Products have been methodically evolved; and the Doctrine of Method with the Exercises is but the end and result toward which the unfolding of the Doctrine of the Elements of Thought has steadily tended. The barbarous terminology of the Scholastic Logic, shown by Sir William Hamilton to be as erroneous as useless, is discarded, except so far as seemed necessary for understanding the forms in which it has entered and modified general literature. The Exercises are prepared for the help of the teacher, rather than to be used just as they are presented,

except, perhaps, in small classes, where free conversational discussion and criticism are practicable, and in private study. For large classes there may be found necessary special adaptations of the material here furnished, which may be used to suggest other exercises or to furnish opportunity of ready selection.

The hope that this object of training for effective thinking, and especially with reference to the construction of Discourse, may be better accomplished than through other published treatises on Logic, has been one principal inducement to prepare the present work. But some new things will be found to characterize it, which, if approved and accepted as valuable contributions to the advancement of the science, may, of themselves, justify this address to the public.

These contributions are in part to be found in the following particulars, to which the attention of the cultivators of the science is particularly solicited.

1. The rigid reduction of Thought to its one essential principle — that of Identity.

2. The unfolding of the Laws and of the forms of the Products of Thought under this principle, and the validating of each of them by it.

3. The formal derivation of the Concept and of the Reasoning from the primitive product of Thought — the Judgment — under the principle regulative of all Thought — that of Identity.

4. The determination of the reciprocal relations and distinguishing characteristics of Concepts in respect of their peculiar Quantities, and of the relations of Concepts to Language.

5. The more exact discrimination of the Thought-process itself from its object-matter or *datum*.

6. The determination of the different kinds of Wholes in which Thought may proceed, and the discrimination of those founded in the matter or *datum* to Thought from those which are the pure product of Thought itself.

7. The full development of the relationship of Part to Complementary Part as one of the two relationships in which all Thought proceeds, equally primitive and necessary with that of Whole to Part; this last being the only one recognized hitherto by logicians, who have, by unavoidable consequence, been obliged to give a one-sided and therefore essentially imperfect and unsatisfactory development of the whole science, and either to exclude the consideration of Inductive Reasoning altogether or to give an entirely erroneous and pernicious presentation of it.

8. The formal grounding of all Induction, so far as a process of Thought, on this relationship of Part to Complementary Part, with a full unfolding of its laws, its forms, and its uses.

9. The more exact exposition of Logical Disjunction, of the grounds of distinction between Contradictory and Contrary Oppositions, of Modality and its distinctions, and of Necessary and Contingent Truth.

10. A new classification of Reasonings, — the logical consequence of modifications of logical doctrine already indicated.

11. A new system of Logical Methodology, more precisely defined as the Doctrine of the Conditions of Thought in order to perfect science.

12. A Logical Praxis, comprising copious exercises sep-

arately arranged for each of the forms of the various products of Thought.

A free use has been made of the elaborations of Sir William Hamilton, who, however defective and imperfect his system appears in his posthumous lectures, has done more for the science, it may perhaps be said without extravagance, than all that has been done for it since the times of Aristotle. In some cases, where his language has been used, it has been modified and changed to make his teachings correspond to those that are peculiar to the present work. These borrowings are indicated by the usual quotation marks without more special reference, and without any discrimination of Hamilton's free borrowings from German writers, or of the changes made in his statements. The intended uses of the book as a text-book seemed to forbid the incumbering of the text with such special references, while this general acknowledgment will enable any critical reader to ascertain the extent to which these borrowings have been carried.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., *November, 1866.*

CONTENTS.



INTRODUCTION.

	PAGE
§ 1. Definition of Logic	1
§ 2. Its Utility :— a. Objective; b. Subjective	3-12
§ 3-6. Its Divisions	12-16

PART I.

THE ELEMENTS OF THOUGHT.

CHAPTER I.

THE NATURE OF THOUGHT.

§ 7. Elements of Thought :— 1. Laws; 2. Products	17
§ 8. Thought a relative Cognition	17-19
§ 9. Nomenclature of Attributes	19, 20

CHAPTER II.

THE LAWS OF THOUGHT.

§ 10-14. The Four Laws of Thought :— 1. Of Identity; 2. Of Contradiction; 3. Of Disjunction; 4. Of Exclusion	21-25
§ 15. Quantity in all Thought	25, 26

CHAPTER III.

THE WHOLE IN THOUGHT. LOGICAL POSTULATE.

§ 16, 17. Kinds of Wholes	27-29
§ 18. Hamilton's Postulate	29, 30