

**A NEW TREATISE ON THE
FRENCH VERBS;
RULES FOR THE PRESENT
AND PAST PARTICIPLES**

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A New Treatise on the French Verbs; Rules for the Present and Past Participles by Alfred Hennequin

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ALFRED HENNEQUIN

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NEW TREATISE

ON

THE FRENCH VERBS;

INCLUDING

AN EASY AND PRACTICAL METHOD FOR ACQUIRING
THE IRREGULAR VERBS,

AND

RULES FOR THE PRESENT AND PAST PARTICIPLES.

BY

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INSTRUCTOR IN FRENCH IN THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN.

SECOND EDITION,

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TO THE
STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

This Volume

IS MOST RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED



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Tappan Press. Inc.
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P R E F A C E .

THE study of the Verbs, in the French language, presents to the American student one great difficulty which is seldom thoroughly mastered, and which appears to require a considerable amount of brain-work as well as an extraordinary memory.

Too great importance has been attached, not to the study of this particular branch of the French language, but to the difficulties which it presents. The student, relying upon the frequent use of the *Irregular Verbs* in "Readers," or upon the alphabetical list given in nearly all grammars, hopes to learn them by constant practice, and therefore neglects to study them seriously. The cause of this neglect may be found in the want of a clear and practical method of learning them. One of the principal reasons why those who study the French language can scarcely ever speak French correctly, is the lack of a complete knowledge of the *Irregular Verbs*.

The small book which we now offer to the American student is a concise treatise on the French Verbs, with especial reference to the *Irregular Verbs*. The advantages claimed for this method over the ordinary treatment of the Verb are: first, the mastery of the *Regular Verbs* by means of their terminations, instead of the mechanical memorizing of the conjugations; second, an improved classification, showing that the greater part of the so-called *Irregular Verbs* can be

conjugated orally and written without any difficulty; and third, a special plan (see §§ XXII. and LII.) for the study of a verb, which, it is believed, will prove of much service to both teachers and pupils.

This treatise can be advantageously used by the beginner, and the advanced student, as well as by those who, having nearly completed the study of the grammar of the language, feel the need of some ready method of conjugating *all the Verbs known as irregular*.

We sincerely hope that the present treatise, which is not an addition to the French grammar, but a *substitute* for its most difficult and important part, will prove useful to students of the French language.

ALFRED HENNEQUIN.

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN, ANN ARBOR, 1874.

THE first edition of this "Treatise" being exhausted, the author has taken this opportunity of giving to the work a thorough review; and, without changing the general plan, of introducing such improvements as have been pointed out to him as desirable by experienced instructors in the French language.

A. H.

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN, ANN ARBOR, February, 1875.

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