

**A KEY TO THE EXERCISES
FOR WRITING,
MANUAL OF ENGLISH
GRAMMAR; PP. 194-256**

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A key to the exercises for writing, manual of english grammar; pp. 194-256 by B. H. Smart

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A K E Y

TO THE

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CONTAINED IN THE

MANUAL OF ENGLISH GRAMMAR.



By B. H. SMART.

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K E Y
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EXERCISE FOR LEARNING THE USE OF CAPITALS.

MANUAL, page 29.

STORY OF A BOY SAVED FROM RUIN.*

GEORGE ARMSTRONG* was a boy of naturally good understanding, and good heart. But he was the only son of a doating mother, a widow who lived in a retired village; and she, instead of sending him to a good school at a distance, kept him at home, where he could receive no instruction but what was supplied at the very humble day-school of the place. Hence, when George had nearly completed his twelfth year, he could scarcely read or write; his chief accomplishments being birds'-nesting, trap-ball, cricket, and marbles; of which last though he could count a hundred, his skill in arithmetic scarcely went further. He knew the days of the week, however; for he disliked one day, and that was Sunday; and he liked another, which was Thursday; because it was only on this day, that, from the state of their little market, his mother could indulge him with pork sausages for dinner; a savoury but unwholesome dish, of which George was voraciously fond. His mother made some attempts to teach him the truths of the Bible; but George, who found himself quite as clever as the village boys around, relieved himself from all the trouble of attention, by thinking on his bats, balls, and birds'-nests, while his mother was talking of Adam and Eve, of the Fall of Man, of the Deluge, of the Old Dispensation, of God's Chosen People, of the New Testament, and such other points belonging to Sacred Writ, as came within the limits of her slender

* In manuscript, only the larger letters are capitals.

formal theology. Thus unread in His Sacred Word who made and governs all, it will easily be supposed that George knew nothing of the history of his own country; and accordingly, if any one spoke of the Ancient Britons, the Saxons, the Conquest, the Barons, the Feudal System, the Church, the Wars of the Houses, the Conquests of Henry the Fifth, the Reformation, the Commonwealth, the Restoration, or the Revolution, he would quickly be interrupted by George's ordinary exclamation, "Nonsense!"

The widow we speak of lived in a comfortable house, which was her own property, and she had besides an easy independent income. Her only relation beside George was a brother in India; and most providentially for the future happiness both of the mother and child, this brother returned to Europe at the time we have in view, sought this sequestered spot of his native England, and took up his abode in the house of his sister. Here he soon perceived the ruin that was in progress, and lost no time in pointing it out to the fond mother. It was not without difficulty that he roused her fears; as to her understanding, that was impenetrable: she saw nothing in her boy but growing good nature and good spirits; and, as to learning, why should he be burthened with it, when he would have money enough to keep him quite above drudgery of any kind. However, though with difficulty, the uncle gained his point; and not more than a month after his arrival at his sister's, was on the way, with George, to a school of high reputation, far removed from the danger of his mother's frequent visits, and the still greater danger of a frequent recal home.

It is impossible to describe the mortifications to which George was now subjected. Had he not been a boy of spirit, these indeed would never have been felt: but he could not bear to be inferior in things, in which he soon saw it was honourable to excel; and, in these things, George was inferior to the youngest in the school. His instructors found no difficulty in turning these feelings to account: indeed, they were often obliged to restrain them, lest, from his eagerness to ascend the hill of learning, in the paths of which he was behind all his companions, he

might overtask his strength, to the detriment of that strong bodily health which he had hitherto enjoyed.

At the end of a twelvemonth, George returned to spend some holidays at home. His mother met him with all the warmth which might be expected from her doating nature, and his long absence; but while she loaded him with kisses, she felt, or she fancied, (for George had lost his boisterous way of meeting her,) that his embrace was cold. "My dear, dear George," said she, "I hope you are not altered toward your mother." "Not toward you, mother," said he, "but I hope I am altered in many things. Oh! what should I have been in a few years more, if uncle had not come to see us!" The words were not meant for a reproach, but they sounded so to the mother, and she burst into tears. These relieved her heart, and had their proper effect upon George, who threw his arms around her neck, and returned her kisses in such a manner, that she could no longer suspect any decrease in his affection toward her.

The sequel scarcely needs to be told. George grew up to be a blessing to his mother, and an ornament to society, though, but for his uncle's interference, there can hardly be a doubt, that he would have become a curse to the one, and a disgrace to the other.

EXERCISES IN ORTHOGRAPHY* AND ETYMOLOGY.

MANUAL, pages 31, 32.

* * The letter or letters standing for the sound indicated at the beginning of each of the several divisions, are printed in type different from the rest of the word,—in italic, if the rest is in roman,—in roman if the rest is in italic.

1. Give the *cakes* away.—*They* met with strange *plagues*.—*Angels* will hail the good.—*We* must survey the *cham-*

* These, as exhibited hereunder in the Key, will be exercises in Orthography alone, if written from dictation. The way to make them most serviceable will be to write them twice,—once from the Manual, when the object will be twofold,—to form the eye by copying the words there given in roman type, and to learn the etymological changes, with their proper spelling, of those there given in italics: and once by dictation from the Key, with the single object of calling upon the ear and the pen to make good the instruction previously received through the eye.

hers.—They fail to gain any great *praises*.—Ancient *ladies* arrayed in *veils* came to *pray*.—The *sailors* became afraid of *beasts* of prey.—*Babies* cannot *feign*.—Let us well *weigh* by how many *ways* we may go astray.—They saw many *greyhounds*, and few of them were *gray*.

ē. What *fees* has he?—In the *fields*, we perceived *geese*.—Such *speeches* I never believed that any people would speak.—What large *feet* he has!—The *leaves* will fall when the *sheaves* shall be *housed*.—The *griefs* of the *chiefs* increased.—He seized many *deer* and many *sheep*.—Her *nieces* could never conceive why she was *displeased*.—His *fatigues* cannot be *relieved*.—Ye must not seek to deceive by such *treaties*.

ī. If you tell *lies*, his love will fly, and so will mine.—The *criers* could find no *buyers*.—A child can take the *lives* of many *flies*, or, like a little tyrant, make mice painfully *die*.—They use *dies* in coining, and *dice* in gaming.—The *dyer* *dyes* the white *blinds* green.—He *dies* after *escapes* from many *fights*.—We contrive to supply the place of writing by printing from *types*.—*Aisles* of a church, and *isles* in the sea, are very different things.—To indict for *crimes* is one thing, and to indict *letters* is another.—The fine *viscount* does not like nasty *swine*.—How many *strifes* might we avoid by kindness!—My eyes seemed dizzy in climbing so *high*.—Let us, like *butterflies*, *hie* away, *fly* away.

ō. He was no *foe* to the poor *negroes*. His *toes* felt the cold in that land of *snows*.—They were armed with *bows* and *arrows*.—Such *folios* alarmed the young tyros.—The *rogues* beheld my *woes* with *souls* unmoved.—They dined on *oatmeal* or cold *potatoes*.—The *souls* of *poets* can *soar* and *glow*.—Mean-souled *fellows* cannot be *heroes*.—The bold *yeomen* drove the *rogues* away.—My *combs* fell, but only one broke, and not both.—You must bestow the *loaves* and *poultry* on poor Job.

ū. *Rebukes* will be *due* to you for any new future *abuses*.—*Dews* renewed the *hue* and *beauty* of the fields.—*Adieu*! said he, to the *pursuits* of my youth.—He produced the *ewes*, but refused the *feudal dues*, and impugned the *usage*.—*New duties* ensued on opening *new views*.—The curate knew his *cue*, and removed the *pews*.

MANUAL, page 33.

ä as in ät. I have the *man's cap* and *plaid*.—He rammed sand down the *cannon's deep cavity*.—The old *castle's battlements* cracked under the *cannons' blast*.—He bade the *Canon's man* carry the *repast* to his *master's room*.—The *Canons' chapel* stands near the *tavern*.—The *wag's hat* had a *fantastic flap*.—We have to *stand* these *wags' railery*.

ë as in ët. The *men's heads* get *heavy*.—He could get no *bread*, so he *eat* the *pheasant's flesh* by itself.—She *said* that the *peasants' zealous blessings* deeply affected her *breast*.—The *leopard's den* was one *heifer's death-place*; and probably had been *ten heifers' death-place*.—He did it for a *friend's benefit*, and not for an *enemy's*.—He *prays* for his *enemies' good*, as well as for his *friends'*.

î as in ît. A *fish's fin* is *pretty*.—*Fishes' fins* assist them as *wings*.—The *motive of women's visits* is *civility*, not *business*.—The *captain's spirits* will not *sink*; he has lived through many *kings' reigns*, and has ever been his *sovereign's genuine vindicator*.

ô as in ôt. *Folly's wanton costs* demolish *honest profits*.—*Was not* the *ox's halter* gone?—He wanted a quantity of *oxen's houghs*.—Part of the *lost shough dog's body* was found in that *horrid hog's trough*.—The *scholar's knowledge* of *logic* astonished the *sophists*.—*Warriors' brows* are crowned with *laurel*; *scholars' brows* with *bay* or *olive*.

û as in ût. The *hubbub* does not come from your *brothers' comrades*.—*My mother's first cousin* is *young*.—*One must not* be *cozened out* of *one's comforts*.—The *blood from your brother's cut thumb* comes through his *glove*.—Among the *monks' studies*, some were *dull enough*.—*Cromwell's courage* was accompanied by *cunning*.—He was in a *hurry* to get into *Surrey's pleasant plains*.—A *man's courage* is not shown by *empty flourishes*.

MANUAL, page 34.

AH. Ah! my *forefathers' paths* daunt me; rather be mine the *heart's calm* than *glory's palm*.—He *eat half*