A COMPENDIOUS GRAMMAR OF THE EGYPTIAN LANGUAGE AS CONTAINED IN THE COPTIC, SAHIDIC, AND BASHMURIC DIALECTS; TOGETHER WITH ALPHABETS AND NUMERALS IN THE HIEROGLYPHIC AND ENCHORIAL CHARACTERS

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A Compendious Grammar of the Egyptian Language as Contained in the Coptic, Sahidic, and Bashmuric Dialects; Together with Alphabets and Numerals in the Hieroglyphic and Enchorial Characters by Henry Tattam

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HENRY TATTAM

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Trieste

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Quicquid praecipies esto brevis: ut cito dicta
Percipiant animi dociles, teneantque fideles.

De Art. Poet. III. 55.

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IN GRATEFUL REMEMBRANCE OF

THE MANY FACILITIES AFFORDED

IN THE PROSECUTION OF

HIS EGYPTIAN STUDIES

THIS VOLUME IS RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED

BY THE AUTHOR.

PREFACE.

Egyptian Literature has of late years attracted particular attention. All that has come down to us of the Language and Literature of ancient Egypt is contained in the Coptic, Sahidic, and Bashmuric Dialects; and in the Enchorial, Hieratic, and Hieroglyphic Inscriptions, and Manuscripts.

Without attempting to trace the origin of the Egyptian Language, we may just remark that the learned Rossius in his "Etymologiæ Ægyptiacæ," has shown the affinity of a number of Coptic and Sahidic words to the Oriental Languages; which affinity to a certain extent, it must be admitted, does exist.*)

*) In Rawlinson's Herodotus are the following observations. "The Egyptian Language might, from its grammar, appear to claim a Semitic origin, but it is not really one of that family, like the Arabic, Hebrew,