

**A NEW EASY AND COMPLETE HEBREW
COURSE: CONTAINING A HEBREW GRAMMAR
WITH COPIOUS HEBREW AND ENGLISH
EXERCISES STRICTLY GRADUATED; ALSO A
HEBREW-ENGLISH AND AN ENGLISH-HEBREW
LEXICON. IN TWO PARTS, PART I. - REGULAR
VERBS, ETC.**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649054534

A New Easy and Complete Hebrew Course: Containing a Hebrew Grammar with Copious Hebrew and English Exercises Strictly Graduated; Also a Hebrew-English and an English-Hebrew Lexicon. In Two Parts, Part I. - Regular Verbs, Etc. by T. Bowman

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

T. BOWMAN

**A NEW EASY AND COMPLETE HEBREW
COURSE: CONTAINING A HEBREW GRAMMAR
WITH COPIOUS HEBREW AND ENGLISH
EXERCISES STRICTLY GRADUATED; ALSO A
HEBREW-ENGLISH AND AN ENGLISH-HEBREW
LEXICON. IN TWO PARTS, PART I. - REGULAR
VERBS, ETC.**

A NEW HEBREW COURSE.

A NEW
EASY AND COMPLETE
HEBREW COURSE:

CONTAINING

A HEBREW GRAMMAR,

WITH COPIOUS

Hebrew and English Exercises, Strictly Graduated;

ALSO

A HEBREW-ENGLISH AND AN ENGLISH-HEBREW LEXICON.

BY THE REV. T. BOWMAN, M.A.,

CLIFFON, BRISTOL.

IN TWO PARTS.

PART I.—REGULAR VERBS, ETC.

EDINBURGH:
T. AND T. CLARK, 38 GEORGE STREET.
1879.

PREFACE.

Having acquired such knowledge as I possess of Hebrew by self-instruction, and having had considerable experience in teaching the language, I may fairly claim to be well acquainted with the difficulties, that beset the path of the Learner, whether he proceeds unaided, or with the assistance of a Master, to familiarise himself with the Divine Original of the Old Testament; which difficulties, if they do not arise altogether from the fact of there being no elementary text-book exactly suited to his requirements, are certainly increased by the absence of a work which, to be entirely satisfactory, should be sufficiently easy without being superficial, and sufficiently comprehensive without being abstruse and critical. It must be admitted, that much has been done in the present age to render the progress of the Student less laborious and more certain, by the publication of many excellent Grammars and Lexicons in English, the existence of which proves that a great advance has been made in Hebrew literature and learning; whereas, some thirty or forty years ago, only Hebrew-*Latin* Lexicons were to be had which, by the etymological arrangement of the words, seldom failed to embarrass the Student, even if the Classical language, in which they were written, did not altogether prevent his having recourse to them; whilst the Grammars in common use at that time were too superficial to be satisfactory, being frequently consulted in vain for

the solution of questions relating to pronunciation, or construction. *

But, inasmuch as the knowledge of Hebrew does not keep pace with the march of improvement in other branches of human learning, it would appear as if something more was needed to facilitate the study, and thus extend the acquisition, of this most important language which, if not spoken by Adam in paradise, is still venerable on account of its antiquity, having flourished for several centuries before the building of Rome; and is still dear to the Christian, no less than to the Jew, as being the medium of communication with mankind, which the Almighty condescended to employ in the revelation of his will, as recorded in the Old Testament Scriptures. Hence it seemed to me, that an elementary Grammar presenting, in a form equally concise and perspicuous, the principles of the language systematically arranged, was as yet a *desideratum*, especially if furnished with copious Hebrew and English Exercises, strictly graduated, and with Lexicons expressly adapted to both. This want I have endeavoured to supply by the publication of Part I. of a Hebrew Course of Study, combining these three features in one volume, on the plan so universally and successfully adopted in teaching the Classics, in the hope of removing the difficulties, already referred to, that at present retard the Learner's progress, and with the view to produce the desired result of a sound knowledge of the Sacred Language, easily and inexpensively obtained; and I may add, that upwards of six years has been devoted to the preparation of this Course.

Part I. contains two principal divisions, of which the first comprises the Pronunciation, and the second the Accidence as far as Regular Verbs inclusively. The former contains all information requisite to enable the Student to

pronounce every Hebrew word correctly; whilst in the latter is found an exposition of the principles, that regulate the Etymology of the language, with Tables containing Lists of the Numerals, Declensions of the Nouns and Pronouns, and Inflections of the Regular Verb. The Pronunciation is arranged in Chapters, and the Accidence in Lessons; both being subdivided into Sections or Rules, all of which are numbered to facilitate reference. A full Table of Contents follows the Preface, and at the end a copious alphabetical Index is appended, which latter has been especially prepared to afford a ready access to any subject treated in the previous pages, on which information may be sought. In general, every statement made in this Grammar is illustrated by an appropriate example, and throughout not a Hebrew word occurs for the first time, which is not printed in English letters, divided into syllables, with accent and quantity of each vowel marked. The Lessons proceed by a regular gradation, and each is provided with a double set of Exercises, Hebrew and English, compiled from the Hebrew Bible and English Authorised Version respectively; the only change in the former of which being the insertion of the Dagesh, according to rule, in such Aspirates as are made to begin sentences; whilst the latter appear exactly as they are found in the Authorised Version, with literal translations &c. enclosed in brackets. These Exercises, being strictly progressive, adapt themselves to the Learner's capacity, commencing with single words, and always keeping pace with his progress in the Grammar, until entire verses are brought under his notice.

Here it may not be amiss to indicate to those, who are disposed to adopt this Course of Study of Hebrew *without* a teacher, how it should be used. The Learner must, in the first place, thoroughly master the names, forms, and

sounds of the Consonants (I. 1; II. 2—10.), as well as of the Vowels (III. 12—22.), and Semivowels (VI. 23—30.), as given in the Tables &c. in the Pronunciation under their respective references, making himself familiar with the Hebrew words that exemplify each, and testing his knowledge, as he advances, by examining himself from time to time in the Tables prepared for the purpose. (II. 11; III. 31.) The rest of this part (V—XIII.) should then be carefully studied, except the last three Chapters (XIV., XV., XVI.), which may be omitted for the present. Hitherto the Learner has been preparing himself simply to *read* the Hebrew text, which having acquired a certain ability to do, however slowly, he may proceed to the next department of the Grammar called the Accidence, where he will have to translate from Hebrew into English, and from English into Hebrew, having previously acquainted himself with the subject of each Lesson, as explained in the paragraphs preceding the Exercises. Since scarcely a single instance presents itself of any form of word, or construction of sentence appearing in these, before the Grammar has prepared the way for its introduction, the Student will find little or no difficulty in the work of translation, with the aid of the appropriate Lexicon. Committing to memory being a labour that few persons are willing to undertake, if not indispensable, I would recommend that only the Declensions of Nouns and Pronouns, and the Inflections of the Regular Verb should be learned by heart at first, and that too, as they occur piecemeal in the course of the Student's progress. This being done, he may either proceed to master the whole of the Accidence, as presented in a collected form in the Tables at the end of the Grammar; or he may use these merely for purposes of reference. At the end of each of the Seven Voices there is appended a Table, exhibiting

in one view every form of the Verb occurring in the Voice, but promiscuously arranged for examination. In this Table the Student is strongly advised to practise himself, until he can readily name the Tense, Person, Number, and Gender of every word.

I pass on now to direct the attention of the Student to another subject, already mentioned, the importance of which must be acknowledged at once; namely, the necessity of his acquiring the ability to read the Hebrew text *with ease and fluency*. Hebrew being generally the first oriental language that is learned, the separate system of consonants and vowels, which is common to most, if not all, eastern tongues, except Sanscrit, is new to the Learner, who has to educate his eye to catch instantaneously the consonant on the line and its accompanying vowel either above, below, or alongside, before he can be said to read well. To do this constitutes the only real difficulty of the language, and no amount of knowledge of the Grammar will compensate for the want of this facility, which can only be acquired by constant practice, extending over a considerable period of time. Let the Student then devote some half hour daily of reading Hebrew *aloud**, in order that the ear may become accustomed to the sounds, as well as the eye familiar with the characters, of the language; making this an independent exercise, distinct from the Lessons, and being careful to enunciate the consonants and vowels as directed in the Pronunciation: and the result of this proceeding will be, that at the end of a few weeks the difficulty in question will be entirely surmounted.

A great diversity of opinion prevails respecting the complicated system of the Accents, about the various uses

* For this purpose the Hebrew Exercises are adapted.