THE MODERN GREEK GRAMMAR OF JULIUS DAVID, FORMERLY ONE OF THE PROFESSION IN THE GREEK COLLEGE OF SCIO

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649650705

The Modern Greek Grammar of Julius David, Formerly One of the Profession in the Greek College of Scio by Julius David & George Winnock

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JULIUS DAVID & GEORGE WINNOCK

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THE

MODERN GREEK GRAMMAR

OF

DEFECT DATED.

FORMERLY ONE OF THE PROPESSORS IN THE GREEK COLLEGE OF .

TRANSLATED FROM THE ORIGINAL FRENCH.

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THE REV. GEORGE WINNOCK, A.B.

OF MAGDALEN HALL, OXFORD,

CHAPLAIN TO THE FORCES IN THE IONIAN ISLANDS.

Such parts as required, it will be found to have been so modified, as to adapt it peculiarly to the English Student, particularly with respect to Pronunciation, in the Arrangement of the Duclensions, and in treating of the equivalent expression of Time in the conjugation of Verbs.

The local situation of the Translator has afforded him manifest advantages; and he trusts that the kindness of his Greek Friends, from various parts of the Continent of Greece, has enabled him to give a considerable increase of value to a Work already highly estimable.

LONDON:

PUBLISHED FOR THE TRANSLATOR, BY J. SOUTER, 78, ST. PAUL'S CHUNCH YARD; AND SOLD BY RIVINGTON AND CO. WATERLOO PLACE; PARESE AND CO. OXFORD; AND DEIGHTON, CAMBRIDGE.

1825

[Entered at Stationer's Hall.]

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TO

HIS EXCELLENCY

SIR FREDERICK ADAM

ENIGHT GRAND CROSS OF THE MOST DISTINGUISHED ORDER OF S. MICHAEL AND S. GEORGE,

ENIGHT COMMANDER OF THE MOST HONOURABLE MILITARY ORDER OF THE BATH,

KNIGHT OF THE AUSTRIAN IMPERIAL MILITARY ORDER OF MARIA TERESA,

KNICHT OF THE RUSSIAN IMPERIAL ORDER OF S. ANN OF THE FIRST CLASS,

THE PROTECTING SOVEREIGN'S LORD HIGH COMMISSIONER

TO THE UNITED STATES OF THE JONIAN ISLANDS

AND

LIEUTENANT GENERAL COMMANDING THE FORCES SERVING IN THE SAME,

&c., &c., &c.

This humble attempt to facilitate to his Countrymen the acquisition of the present Language of Greece is respectfully

Dedicated

By the

EDITOR.

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ADVERTISEMENT.

The proposal of a New Grammar has in it certainly nothing very extraordinary to Englishmen, particularly since Foreign Languages have been so much more studied than formerly. Commerce and Travelling, and the consequent interest and curiosity about the Literature, Antiquities, Customs, Manners and Resources of almost every People, have of late greatly quickened the zeal of our Countrymen in Philological Pursuits. New Grammars of the French and Italian Languages, though they have long since attained a high classical character, are continually issuing from the British press.

In a language till lately little cultivated, even amongst those who speak it, it is not to be wondered at, that a good Grammar should long be a desideratum; and that many attempts should be made, before any thing like an approximation to excellence should be attained; but this is least of all to be wondered at in a Language flowing directly from a source of the very highest celebrity in Literary Annals, from the Language of Homer. The Greeks themselves who write on the subject, wish very naturally to overleap, if it were possible, the Great Gulf, the corruptions of ages, lying between them and their far famed Ancestors, and to bring their Disciples into immediate contact with the perfection of speech. This is utterly impracticable.

It has been almost invariably the misfortune of those who have written before this Author to perplex rather than illustrate their subject. Nothing previously written by a Foreigner could lay any just claims to the Title of a Grammar. All attempts of the kind by natives have been so very meagre as to afford little assistance to Foreigners: many have been more perplexing than useful even among themselves, from being shackled by some unbending Theory, or from a very natural propensity to lean more, than at the present epoch is justifiable, to their Ancient Classics.

Of these latter Athanasius Christopulo is considered to have higher pretensions than most of his contemporaries; but even he has spent more than one third of his small Volume on mitter quite irrelevant, wherever his Student is not already a deeply read Hellenist, His sixty two first pages are devoted to proving that the proper Name of the existing Language would be Æolo-Doric; it being manifestly, according to mm, little more than a substitution, or geperal previouce of the Eolic and Doric Dialects over all the others of Ancient Greece, Little of general utility could be expected from such a work as this. The Grammar of Darvaris, as far as foreigners are concerned, has even lower pretensions. Are we then to stop till the language be perfect, he as classical as its Parent, before Merchants and Travellers, unacquainted with Ancient Greek, are to have a guide for the exigencies of the Day,

Christopulo, aware of the warping partialities, and very general failure of his countrymen, gives them this excellent counsel: though his Devotion to his own Creation, the Eolo-Doric Theory, has made him almost as regardless of

General Usefulness as others.

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» An Author who writes a Grammar (he says) ought » to compose it with a reference, not to what he wishes » a Lunguage should be, but to what the Language, he » undertakes to teach, actually is. Otherwise it is not a » Grammar, but like the Monster in Homer » The Translator must trespass on his Reader's patience for one moment more; and he will then leave him with his Author. That a Work of this nature, tolerably well executed, has long been desired by that part of the British Public interested in the subject, will be, he is sure, universally allowed. Whether his Readers will think as highly as himself of the Original; Whether, by translating, modifying and adapting the Work to the use of the English Student, he have in any degree supplied the chasm in the series of Philological Auxiliaries; or whether he have but added one to the almost daily disappointments of the Literary World; he must submit, with hopes of indulgence, to the Public.

If, however, the Work be of any Value to an Englishman, it is most certainly worthy of appearing in an English Costume, for as, in sound Logic, it is a manifest error to explain one Term by another, more, or equally obscure or difficult, and it is the perfection of illustration to use the easiest and most explicit; so in a Science, materially connected, as Grammar is, with sound reasoning, it is at length, fortunately, deemed an absurdity to teach one foreign Language through the medium of another, whenever the Master can avail himself of the language of his pupil.