

**EXERCISES IN
FRENCH SYNTAX,
WITH RULES**

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PREFACE.

I HAVE assumed on the part of the learner a fair knowledge of French Accidence, and some acquaintance with the commoner grammatical terms of Syntax, and I have aimed at reaching the point at which the translation of ordinary straightforward pieces of English ought to be manageable. I may observe that this is also the point at which, as far as I have been able to form an opinion, a boy may with most profit be subjected, in France or otherwise, to a course of "colloquial French." Colloquial French, apart from Grammar, seems to be for the average boy a delusion, and as an educational instrument valueless.

In framing the Rules I have not been afraid of moving, as far as possible, along classical lines. Where French lessons are, as on "Modern Sides," a considerable part of a boy's weekly work, it is desirable to make them as rational as may be—to teach French as one would teach Latin. At the same time, I have not

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thought it necessary to linger, for the sake of theoretical completeness, over points in which English and French usages are alike. Where a boy goes right by himself, it is best to let well alone. And a similar consideration has governed the order of arrangement. The different subjects have been taken, for the most part, in the order in which they are practically wanted in learning to write.

The French sentences in the Exercises have been selected from a considerable collection made by noting and arranging under heads examples of French constructions as they have occurred in books read in school or out. These sentences supply so many illustrations of the rules in hand, and a vocabulary for the accompanying English sentences.

The Grammars that I have been most in the habit of using for reference, and to which I must acknowledge very considerable obligations, are respectively that by Messrs. Eve and Baudiss, and the large German work by Hölder.

G. S.

MARLBOROUGH,
June 21st, 1884.

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