

PREFACE.

In issuing under a new title what is really a revised and enlarged edition of my "Exercises in False Syntax," it may be well that I should accompany it with a brief preface.

I have substituted for the old name one which will, I think, better express the purpose and scope of the book. The changes and additions do not materially alter its form. I have prefixed to most of the exercises a summary of the most important principles and distinctions to be observed in dealing with the examples or questions given. This I have done out of consideration for the younger and less experienced teachers, and as they form the great, and, I fear, increasing majority of the profession, I trust that the older and better equipped ones who may use the book will not resent my cautions and suggestions as "quite unnecessary." I have also re-arranged the material of a few of the exercises, and, finally, I have omitted a considerable number of sentences that did not seem to me on further consideration to illustrate common errors, and have inserted some others that seemed suitable for my purpose.

With all these changes it is still true that the book "is not intended to take the place of any other book, nor has it been prepared to suit any particular work on grammar or composition." I hope that no one will think that I have ever been foolish enough to suppose that the use of such a book can take the place of regular instruction and frequent practice in composition. The book is intended to be used merely as a supplement, and as such I venture to think there is room for it and need of it in the list of "Teachers' and Students' Helps."