

PREFACE

The aim of this book is to present a method by which the student of Latin may be trained from the very beginning to look beyond *words* to *ideas*. Constructions and idioms are therefore introduced as rapidly as the average student is capable of mastering them, and grammatical forms are reduced to a minimum. The First and Second Person of the verb, the Vocative and Locative Cases, together with all irregularities in the declension of Nouns, Adjectives and Pronouns, may very well be left till the student comes to read his first author. The verb, as being the part of speech which is most necessary for the expression of ideas, is given the most important place in the grammatical scheme, while the other parts of speech are taken up only as they are required for new constructions or idioms. If the teacher finds that these constructions and idioms are too rapidly introduced for the ability of his class, he should review frequently by giving sentences of his own, and these sentences should always be as idiomatic as his pupils are capable of understanding. Suitable material for such review exercises will be found in the extracts from Mommsen's "History of Rome," at the end of the book.

The characters "j" and "v" for consonantal "i"