

the actors in which fables are masculine; every noun in these three fables is masculine; and no nouns are admitted into them but such as give the rules. Thus the endings mentioned above are given in the first four lines of the first fable, which a pupil can easily learn in half an hour, and will thus acquire the genders of five thousand seven hundred and forty French nouns.

LE CHEVAL ET LE SANGLIER.

Un sanglier, fier de son pouvoir,
Prenant le frais dans un bosquet,
Rencontra un beau soir
Par hasard un bûcher.

Here, the word *cheval* will fix the nouns in *al*; *sanglier*, those in *er*; and so of the rest. Having learned these fables by heart, perfectly, which, as there are only three in number, may be accomplished in a very few hours, the pupil, when he meets with a noun ending like any one of these nouns given in the fables, will easily ascertain the gender by recurring to the guiding word: for instance, if he wants to use a word ending in *er* or in *ard*, he will immediately call to mind the words *frais* or *hasard*, and remembering that those nouns occur in the fable with masculine actors, viz. a wild bear, a horse, and a man, he will decide at once and with confidence that *er* and *ard* are masculine terminations; and that the word he wants is masculine. The feminine endings, being introduced in three fables having a female speaker in each of them, and every noun in them feminine,

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