

PREFACE TO THE AMERICAN EDITION.

THE strong and commendable desire, felt by almost every student of the French language, to enter as early as possible upon a course of instructive or entertaining reading, has induced the Publishers to select for the use of such persons a work of acknowledged excellence, which has rapidly passed through five editions in England. It is intended to accompany "Ollendorff's New Method of Learning French," now so widely known and justly esteemed, as pre-eminently the best work extant for gaining rapidly a thorough knowledge of the most useful and indispensable of modern languages. With any other French Grammar that may be used, however, it will be found highly valuable as an auxiliary.

The great difficulty of compiling a book adapted to the wants of beginners has been admirably overcome in this "Introduction." The method which ought to prevail in every branch of learning—that of proceeding by insensible steps from what is easy to what is difficult—is closely adhered to. The pieces contained in the volume com-