

Z as in *gaza*, *Zephyrus*.

Probably as *dz* in *adze*.

Double consonants should be carefully separated in pronunciation, as *ag-ger*, *pos-sum*, *pen-na*.

#### QUANTITY.

Observance of the quantity is of vital importance for the proper appreciation of metre in Latin poetry and of rhythm in prose. The difference in duration between short and long vowels should be carefully observed. Distinguish (*e.g.*) *bōnum* and *dōnum*, *miles* and *fides*, *cūpidus* and *dūrus*. Observe the quantity in *sic*, *vōn*, *sīnē*, *dīē*, etc.

Each vowel has a quantity of its own, and as far as possible the natural length of a vowel should be distinguished from the conventional "lengthening" which it undergoes before two consonants. The *i* of *scribo* is still *i* in *scriptus*, as the *ē* of *sēco* is still short (by nature) in *sēctus*. But in *sectus* the weight of the double consonant allows the syllable to be treated in verse, as if it were naturally long.

From ancient authorities we learn that vowels were regarded as long in themselves, when preceding *ns*, *nf*, *gn*, *cl* (when representing *gt*, as in *lēctus* from *lēgo*), and at least sometimes before *nc*, *ng*, and *r* followed by a consonant. Thus *cōnstāns*, *infēnsus*, *rēgnum*, *signum*, *quīnque*, *sānctus*, *ōrdo*, *ōrno*.

NOTE.—Communications should be addressed to H. R. Fairclough, M.A., Secretary of the Classical Association, University College, Toronto.

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