

The Roman Notation

3. Employs seven capital letters to express numbers.
Thus,

Letters—	I	V	X	L	C	D	M
Values—	<i>one</i>	<i>five</i>	<i>ten</i>	<i>fifty</i>	<i>one</i>	<i>five</i>	<i>one</i>
					<i>hundred</i>	<i>hundred</i>	<i>thousand</i>

By combining these letters, the ancient Romans formed the following

Table of Notation.

I ..	1	VIII ..	8	XV ..	15	XL ..	40
II ..	2	IX ..	9	XVI ..	16	L ..	50
III ..	3	X ..	10	XVII ..	17	LXX ..	70
IV ..	4	XI ..	11	XVIII ..	18	C ..	100
V ..	5	XII ..	12	XIX ..	19	D ..	500
VI ..	6	XIII ..	13	XX ..	20	M ..	1000
VII ..	7	XIV ..	14	XXX ..	30	MD ..	1500

This system of notation is principally confined to the numbering of chapters of books, public documents, &c.

Express the following numbers by letters :

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| 1. Eleven. | 7. Ninety-nine thousand, four hundred. |
| 2. Fifteen. | 8. One thousand, nine hundred and ten. |
| 3. Seventeen. | 9. Express the present year. |
| 4. Twenty-five. | |
| 5. Thirty-nine. | |
| 6. One thousand and one. | |

The Arabic Notation

4. Employs ten characters, or figures, to express numbers.
Thus,

Figures,	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0
Names and values, }	<i>one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, nought</i>									
	<i>or</i>									
	<i>cipher.</i>									

The first nine characters are called *significant figures*, because each has a value of its own. They are also called *digits*, a word derived from the Latin word *digitus*, which signifies *finger*.

The nought or cipher is also called *nothing* or *zero*. The cipher has, of itself, no value, but is used to indicate the order of the significant figures which precede it.

The ten Arabic characters are the Alphabet of Arithmetic; and by combining them according to certain principles, all numbers can be expressed.