

The reasons why students spend so much time over Latin with so little to show for their work must now be apparent. Our only wonder is that they make even what progress they do. When we consider that in spite of the awkward means they have of getting at the language, or rather the effective means employed to keep them from the language, they do sometimes make considerable progress, there is only one conclusion open to us, viz., *that Latin is not a difficult language to learn.* If the eight years which the young man spends in a vain endeavor to master the contents of the text-books on Latin Grammar and Latin Composition, were spent in a study of Latin, (for the text-books contain little Latin) not only would he be able to translate and write the language with the greatest ease, but I firmly believe he would be able to speak it.

Of course no one longs very much, in this age, to be able to speak Latin. Still less does he care to spend eight years in learning to speak it. But there are many who feel that they would like to read and write the language and who would willingly begin to study it, if they thought that in any reasonable time their efforts would be rewarded with success. From what we have already seen, we are justified in believing that with a method free from the objections pointed out, to learn to read and write Latin would not be a very difficult matter. But we have more than theory to rely on. We have tangible proof. In the next chapter the results of the experiments made with a new method, will be given.