

PREFACE.

THIS book is designed for the higher grades in grammar schools, and for those classes in high schools, academies, and ungraded schools, that require a brief, practical, progressive course in English grammar.

The aim of the work is not to teach the greatest possible number of facts about the English language, but to give the pupil a mastery of the fundamental grammatical principles as a means toward the right understanding and correct use of English.

The work does not consist of a mere statement of definitions and rules. Every principle is presented through the study of examples of good English, thus leading the pupil from the observation of particular facts to general conclusions, and aiding him to comprehend and appreciate good literature.

Abundant exercises for the application of the principles presented are given throughout the book. The pupil is required to construct sentences illustrating the principles studied, as well as to point out and explain the various forms and constructions found in sentences selected from standard writers.

The selection and arrangement of topics is adapted to give the pupil a clear and comprehensive view of the subject. Part First treats of the Parts of Speech, and emphasizes the fact, that it is not the form but the function of a word that determines the class to which it belongs.