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A BOY'S BOOKS, THEN AND NOW—1818, 1881.\*—II.

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(Continued from page 153.)

HAVING thus largely discussed Lily, I need not be so diffuse in my account of the chief scion of his stock, the Eton Latin Grammar. I have not at present any very ancient copy of this book. The oldest one before me is dated so late as 1835. Like the other copies, however, here present, it has seen *bona fide* service in the pioneer work of Canadian education. The Eton Latin Grammar is a simplification of Lily. Superfluous matter is omitted. The Address to the Reader and other prefaces are dropped. The learner is plunged at once in *medias res*. The appearance of the pages is inviting. The type is bold and clear; and crowding is avoided. In many points of view it is an admirable manual; and I know I owe a great deal to it. To this day I find myself falling back on it, as on a syllabus of facts, on numerous oc-

casions. I nevertheless do not suppose that it will ever again dominate, as it has done. The British world is no longer the lotus-eating place that it was. An era of boundless activity and daily-multiplying interests and necessities has dawned upon it, and the time can no longer be spared to move along the lines of Lily and the rest. Moreover, the modern philosophy, which has dared to invade the "secret bowers" and "molest the ancient solitary reign" of Authority in so many quarters, has penetrated the realms even of "Grammar;" and seems likely, as the years roll on, to be opposed more and more to the aims and methods of former days. Yet, no doubt, for a considerable while there will be a certain percentage of parents and others who will still hold to the opinion that in the acquisition of Latin there is no need at the outset to broach questions as to the general subject; no need to

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