

## Our French Lesson

## AVIS A TOUS CEUX QUI VEULENT APPRENDRE LE FRANCAIS.

La nouvelle direction de l'Abeille qui a à cœur la conservation et la propagation de la belle langue française en Louisiane a résolu de donner aux Américains l'opportunité d'apprendre le français pour la modique somme de 75 sous par mois, montant de l'abonnement mensuel au journal. Notre nouvelle méthode permettra également aux Louisianais désirant se perfectionner dans l'étude plus complète de la langue de leurs ancêtres, de pouvoir la faire avec la plus grande facilité et sans perdre un temps précieux que trop souvent dérangent leurs affaires.

Nous avons en effet obtenu de Monsieur M. D. Berlitz, chevalier de la légion d'honneur, officier d'académie, l'autorisation de publier chaque jour dans nos colonnes une leçon tirée de sa méthode dont la réputation est mondiale.

Nous continuons aujourd'hui la publication de la première leçon.

Afin de permettre aux débutants de pouvoir comprendre parfaitement la méthode, nous publierons en anglais les notices explicatives qui accompagnent chaque leçon.

Toute personne n'ayant pu pour une raison quelconque suivre nos premières leçons aura toujours la ressource de se les procurer en nous demandant de lui envoyer les numéros du journal correspondant aux leçons qui lui manquent.

## NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS WHO WOULD LEARN THE FRENCH LANGUAGE.

As the preservation and the propagation of the French language in Louisiana are among the prime desiderata cherished by the new administration of the New Orleans Bee, it has been decided to inaugurate a system whereby Americans will be enabled to study French for the small sum of seventy-five cents per month—amount of one month's subscription to the paper. The published exercises will be of great help to Louisianians who would wish to gain more accurate understanding of the idioms and grammatical construction of the language of their ancestors, without taxing either

their time or their intellectual forces.

By permission of Prof. M. D. Berlitz, Knight of the Legion of Honor, Officer of the French Academy, we are publishing in the columns of the Bee, a series of graduated exercises from Prof. Berlitz's work, whose excellence is recognized

the world over.

We shall continue these lessons every day.

In order to facilitate the task for beginners, we will accompany the explanatory notes with the English equivalent.

Any persons who, for some reason or other, has missed the first lesson, can obtain back number of the paper, either by calling at our office or requesting that they be forwarded by mail.

The advantages claimed for this method are:

(a) The lessons are mostly based on object-teaching; this results in the students associating perception with the foreign expressions; he thus is soon able to think in the foreign idiom.

The method is designed:

(1) For self-instruction: The student in such case reads over aloud, and several times, each lesson and then asks himself the questions of the book, answering them.

(2) For reciprocal instruction in clubs or parties of friends, each member alternately taking the role of the teacher, asking the questions and letting the others alternately answer. This has the advantage over self-instruction that the ear is more thoroughly drilled in catching the foreign sounds by hearing other people's voices, and, as several heads know more than one, each student will be able in his turn to correct mistakes made by his fellow-students.

(b) Nearly all the lessons are in shape of conversation, in order to continually drill the student's ear and tongue.

(c) The most useful is always taught first, so that the student's mind is not encumbered with rules and word forms that he cannot immediately use and will forget again before reading them.

(d) Where rules are to be given, they are illustrated by striking examples, so that even those who are not good grammarians can fully understand them.

(e) The pronunciation of all difficult words or expressions is carefully transcribed, so that the students need not constantly rely on their teacher, and can, if necessary, progress entirely without him.

(f) All idioms or other difficulties are carefully explained in order to emancipate the intelligent students from their teacher.

## L'ARABE ET SON CHEVAL.

## (Partie narrative).

Tout à coup, la jeune femme se redressa et interrogea l'horizon; son beau visage s'éclaira d'un rayon d'espoir. Qu'est-ce qui produit ce changement soudain? Laissons ici la parole au chef de la famille, qui, quelques heures plus tard, entouré de sa femme et de ses enfants, commença en ces termes:

"En revenant chargé de butin," après un succès "inépuisé" sur la tribu des Beni-Bouzoufs, nous rencontrâmes les cavaliers d'Abd-el-Kader à environ douze heures de marche d'ici. Sitôt qu'ils nous aperçurent ils s'arrêtèrent sur nous; qu'importe, comme vous le pensez; mais que faire un contre-dix? Nous vendimes cheriment notre vie; tous mes frères d'armes tombèrent à mes côtés, je restai seul, me défendant encore, malgré deux profondes blessures; à bout de forces, je tombai. Aussitôt les mameutes se jetèrent sur moi, me garrottèrent avec des cordes et m'attachèrent sur un chameau! Ils s'emparèrent alors de notre butin et prirent mon cheval qu'ils emmenèrent également.

"Sat. up. (sù ar-dress-sah). "Oh-ree-zoh." Beamed (sai-kai-rah). "Ray of hope (rai-yoh' aïs-poahr)." Suddenly (soo-dai'). "Family (fah-mee)." In these words (tairm). "Loaded with booty (shahr-shai d-hü-tai')." Success (sück-sai)." Unlooked for (ee-nais-pai-ri). "Tree-bü." Benny-Boozof. "Horse-men (kah - vall - yai). "Ahh-doll-kah-dair." About (ah'-vee-roh)." Twelve hours' walk from here (mahrsheh)." As soon as (sittob)." They putred (fob-deer)." We defended ourselves (dai-fah-deer)." Heroically (ai-roh-ick-mah)." Dear-ly (shair-mah)." Life (vee)." Brothers in arms (frair-dahr)." Wounds (bles-sur)." Exhausted, lit: out of strength (ah boo d-fors)." Mamelukes (mam-luck)." Pinioned (gah-roh-tair)." Ropes (kohra)." Camel (shah-moh)." Seized (sah'-pah-rair)." Took away (ah'-manair)." Also (eg-gahl-mah").

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