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Edited by A. Wilson-Green
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The Cambridge Modern French Series
Middle Group

GENERAL EDITOR: A. WILSON-GREEN, M.A.

LA TOURAINE

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TOURS



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HENRI GUERLIN
LA TOURAINE

Edited by
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Radley College

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GENERAL INTRODUCTION

THE aim of the Cambridge Modern French Series is to offer to teachers French texts, valuable for their subject-matter and attractive in style, and to offer them equipped with exercises such as teachers who follow the Direct Method have usually been obliged to compile for themselves. The texts are arranged in three groups,—Junior, Middle and Senior,—designed, respectively, for pupils of 13 to 15, of 15 to 17 and of 17 to 19 years of age. It is hoped to bring into schools some of the most notable modern books,—novels and stories, memoirs, books of travel, history and works of criticism; and further to give the pupil not only an opportunity of becoming acquainted with great books, but, at the same time, of reading them in such a way that he may gain in knowledge of French, in ability to write and speak the language, in sympathy with and interest in ‘*France, mère des arts, des armes, et des lois.*’

It is with this end in view that the exercises are written. They follow, in the main, the lines of my Exercises on Erckmann-Chatrion’s *Waterloo*, published by the Cambridge University Press in 1909. Some of the most distinguished teachers of French have expressed to me their approval of these exercises; others have paid them the sincerest compliment in imitating them. Each exercise is based on a definite

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number of pages of the text and consists of: questions in French on (a) the subject-matter, (b) the words and idioms, (c) the grammar. In addition, in all the volumes of the Middle Group and in some of those of the other two Groups, English passages, based on the pages under review, are provided for translation into French. Where there is no translation, the number of questions is increased, and, in the Senior Group, opportunity is given for free composition. The intention is to catch in this fourfold net every important word and idiom; often, to catch them even more than once. The questions on the subject-matter are not of the kind that may be answered by selecting some particular scrap of the text. They involve some effort of intelligence, some manipulation of the text. The general questions on words and idioms aim at showing how the words of the text may be used in quite other connections, in bringing them home to 'the business and bosoms' of the pupils, in building up the vocabulary by association, comparison, and word-formation. Often something will be learnt from the form of the questions, and every question should be answered with a complete sentence so that the repetition may help memory. The questions on grammar will serve to test oral work done in class. Each volume contains a systematic series of questions on verbs and pronouns, with examples drawn, where possible, from the text, and besides, each exercise contains a question, or questions, on the grammar of the pages on which it is based. Lastly, vocabularies are provided for the convenience of those teachers who wish for translation into English, in addition to, or instead of, reading all in French. The editors of the

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different volumes have practical experience of the teaching of French. Our hope is that this new Series may make French teaching more intelligent and more real, and therefore more interesting and more effective; that it may help to give the pupil an interest in French ideas and ideals which he will not lose, and provide him in the classroom with an atmosphere not altogether alien to that of France itself, the other Fatherland, for

chacun a deux pays,
Le sien et puis la France.

A. WILSON-GREEN.

RADLEY COLLEGE,
1 *January*, 1923.

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This English edition of M. Guerlin's work on Touraine is published by arrangement with M. H. Laurens, Librairie Renouard, 6 rue de Tournon, Paris. The French edition is one of a series entitled *Les Provinces Françaises*, published under the direction of M. Henry Marcel.

PRÉFACE

COMME toute noble tâche, celle d'apprendre le français a ses moments d'ennui et de découragement; mais, pour charmer ces mauvais instants, rien n'est plus efficace que la connaissance du pays de France et de son peuple.

Notre but est donc d'étaler sous les yeux de l'étudiant une des plus jolies provinces de France: nous offrons ici la charmante étude de Monsieur Guerlin sur la Touraine, étude déjà chaleureusement accueillie en France. L'étudiant anglais ne manquera pas de goûter, en lisant les pages de Monsieur Guerlin, un peu du soleil, de la grâce et de la gaieté de la Touraine. Jusqu'ici peut-être ce même étudiant anglais s'est-il contenté de passer ses vacances dans son pays natal, beau pays en vérité. Mais un changement total de ciel n'est-il pas quelquefois souhaitable?

Ce volume le guidera, soit réellement, soit par la pensée, à travers le fameux "jardin de la France" et de la lecture agréable de ce livre il retirera deux résultats précieux: connaissance plus profonde de la langue française et amour plus éclairé des Français et de la France.

A. W.-G.

Janvier 1923.

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