

**Our French Lesson**

**AVIS A TOUS CEUX QUI VU-  
VENT 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 le faire avec la plus grande facilité et sans perdre un temps précieux que trop souvent déclament 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 conservation 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 lessons, can obtain back numbers 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.

**SINGULIERE MEPRISE.**

Moi, monsieur! répondit le banquier, je l'ignore autant et plus que vous; ma surprise surpassera la vôtre. Mais enfin, quel est cet ordre? — Monsieur, répliqua l'officier, en vérité, le courage me manque pour vous le faire connaître! — Eh quoi! au moins, j'ai perdu la confiance de l'impératrice? — Si ce n'était pas cela, vous ne me verriez pas si désolé: la confiance peut revenir; une place peut-être rendue? — Eh bien, s'il s'agit-il de me renvoyer dans "mon pays"? — Ce serait une contrariété, mais avec vos richesses! on est bien partout! — Ah! mon Dieu, s'écria Suderland en tremblant, est-il question de m'exiler? en Sibérie? — Hélas! on en revient! — De me jeter en prison? — Si ce n'est que cela, on en sort! — Bonne divine! voudrait-on me knouter? — Ce supplice est affreux, mais il ne tue pas toujours."

— Eh quoi! dit le banquier en sanglotant, ma vie est-elle en péril? L'impératrice, si bonne, si clément, qui me parlait si doucement! encore il y a deux jours, elle voudrait... Mais je ne puis le croire. Ah! de grâce, achievez-moi; la mort! serait moins cruelle que cette attente insupportable! — Eh bien, mon cher, dit l'officier de police d'une voix lamentable, ma gracieuse souveraine m'a donné l'ordre de vous faire empailler.

"Exceeds. But finally. Replied. Indeed. My courage fails me. What! Could I have lost. Confidence. If it was only that. Grieved. A position can be restored. Well. Is it in contemplation to send me back to my country? — Vexation. Wealth. Everywhere. God. Exclaimed. To banish me. Alas. One may come back from it. One may come out of it. Gracious goodness! Would they want to knout me? Punishment. Frightful. It does not

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