

# PRINCIPAL TESTIMONIALS

UPON THE UTILITY OF THE

“VADE-MECUM DE LA LANGUE FRANÇAISE,”

ARRANGED ACCORDING TO

THE BEST GRAMMARS AND DICTIONARIES,

WITH

MANY EXAMPLES OF GOOD EXPRESSIONS GIVEN

BY THE FRENCH ACADEMY,

OR TO BE FOUND IN THE WORKS OF

THE MOST CELEBRATED FRENCH AUTHORS.

BY

J. J. BARANOWSKI,

Formerly Under-Secretary of the Bank of Poland in Warsaw,

WITH THE APPROBATION OF

MR. E. LITTRÉ, Senator,

Member of the French Academy,

Author of the famous French Dictionary, &c.

LONDON: TRÜBNER & CO., LUDGATE HILL.

PARIS: ERNEST LEROUX, 28, RUE BONAPARTE.

1880.

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PRICE: Cloth, 2s. 6d.; Morocco (plain), 3s. 6d.; Morocco (tucked), 4s.

The First Approbation of M<sup>r</sup>. E. LITTRÉ (when M<sup>r</sup>. Baranowski submitted to him his Manuscript) was given in the following terms:—

“ J'ai parcouru le manuscrit du Dictionnaire *Vade-Mecum* rédigé par M<sup>r</sup>. Baranowski, et je suis heureux de donner mon approbation à ce travail.

(Signed) “ E. LITTRÉ, Sénateur.

“ PARIS, 28 Mai 1879.”

The Second Approbation of M<sup>r</sup>. E. LITTRÉ (when he received a copy of the printed book, with the Author's homages, and information that it is already translated into English) was given by his autographic letter as follows:—

“ PARIS, le 22 Xbre 1879,  
RUE D'ASSAL, No. 44.

“ MONSIEUR,—

“ J'ai reçu votre *Vade-Mecum*. Je vous en rémercie et vous félicite du succès que vous obtenez; je vous rémercie aussi beaucoup des sentiments de bienveillance que vous me témoignez, je suis très-sensible à de pareils témoignages.

“ Agréez, Monsieur, l'assurance de ma haute considération.

(Signed) “ E. LITTRÉ.”



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*The following AUTOGRAPHIC letters were addressed to M<sup>R</sup>. BARANOWSKI by M<sup>R</sup>. J. I. KRASZEWSKI, the most popular Polish Author now living, whose Jubilee was celebrated at Cracow in October 1879:—*

**1st LETTER.**

“DRESDE (Saxe Royale), ce 30 Décembre 1879,  
31 NORDSTRASSE.

“MONSIEUR ET CHER COMPATRIOTE,—

“J'ai reçu avec reconnaissance votre *Vade-Mecum*, et je m'empresse de vous en rémercier chaleureusement. Dans mes correspondances pour les journaux littéraires paraissant à Varsovie, je parlerai de votre ouvrage, qui trouvera certainement des appréciateurs parmi nos compatriotes.

“En vous rémerciant encore,” etc., etc.

**2d LETTER.**

“DRESDE (Saxe-Royale), ce 7 Janvier 1880,  
31 NORDSTRASSE.

“MONSIEUR ET CHER CONFRÈRE,—

“Je me suis empressé de parler du *Vade-Mecum* dans la correspondance des journaux de Varsovie, et j'espère que sitôt qu'il y sera connu, on rendra justice à cette publication si utile et si pratique.

“Recevez, je vous prie, l'expression de ma considération distinguée,

(Signed) “J. I. KRASZEWSKI.”

*Extract from the well-known Monthly Publication,*

**“THE BOOKSELLER,”**

A NEWSPAPER OF BRITISH AND FOREIGN LITERATURE,  
dated January 3, 1880.

“From Messrs. TRÜBNER & Co.—

“VADE-MECUM DE LA LANGUE FRANÇAISE, par J. J. BARANOWSKI.—A handier and, at the same time, a better guide to a thousand niceties of the *French language*, it has never been our good fortune to meet with. It is scarcely so big as the palm of the hand; yet it contains, in small but beautiful type, *all the important RULES OF GRAMMAR*, with numerous *conversational examples*. In an advanced section, many *ERRONEOUS PHRASES* in common use are pointed out; followed by an *exceedingly useful* and *extensive catalogue of SYNONYMS*, with full explanation as to when one is to be preferred to another. The tiny handbook represents, in fact, the *concentrated authority of sixty classical authors* and *ictionaries*, including that of the *French Academy*. M. LITTRÉ, a host in himself, gives it his *unqualified approbation*.”

“*THE CHRISTIAN WORLD*,” January 15, 1880, criticises this Work (page 36) in the following terms:—

“We have pleasure in calling attention to an admirable *Vade-Mecum* of the French language which has been published in London by Messrs. Trübner & Co. (*Vade-Mecum of the French Language*. By J. J. Baranowski.) The author of this very handy and exquisitely-printed little book has obtained for his work the approbation of Monsieur Littré, the distinguished French Academician and compiler of the famous dictionary of his language. Mr. Baranowski furnishes in this work a distinct and careful definition of the rules of French grammar, with suitable illustrations; and in the second section of his work treats of synonyms, to enable those who wish to write French to compose each phrase in the spirit of the language. It is quite evident that those who wish to perfect themselves in French, unless they are favoured with opportunities of conversation with those who speak it, require the help of such directions as those which are given by this writer in the choice of words, when an unnatural and awkward meaning might attach to the selections made by a foreigner. The arrangement and indices of the book give to it great value.”

From “*THE EXAMINER*,” a Weekly Review of Politics, Literature, Science, and Art, January 17, 1880 (page 89):—

“A very useful guide to the niceties of the French language has just been published by Messrs. Trübner, under the title of *Vade-Mecum de la Langue Française*, par J. J. Baranowski. It is a handy little book, very elegantly got up, and it contains an extensive catalogue of *synonyms*, *erroneous phrases in common use*, &c., to which ready reference is given by a well-arranged index. The work has been examined and approved by *M. Littré*, a facsimile of whose signature is on the title-page.”

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After the above flattering Testimonials, it would be superfluous to reproduce any other not less favourable opinions (expressed lately in English, French, German, and Polish newspapers) upon this handy *VADE-MECUM*, as a *very useful GUIDE* to numerous *niceties of the French Language*.

LONDON, February 1880. *Read a PARIS M. Baranowski. Printed and sold by*