



A Grammar of the English (Classic Reprint) (Paperback)

By Samuel Stillman Greene

Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. Excerpt from A Grammar of the English Language is a growth, and, like every other growth, is primarily dependent upon an inward vital energy. It has its origin and its development in answer to an instinctive desire of the soul to express its thoughts and feelings. The power of speech is stimulated by the presence of external objects, and takes its actual form by means of an unconscious ability to imitate the vocal symbols which chance to be made the conventional representatives of thought. It matters not to what nation or people the child may belong: be he English, French, German, or Chinese, it is all the same. The speech which he hears in his childhood becomes his vernacular tongue, and all others are foreign. Place him among the cultivated and refined, and he employs, he knows not why, the pure and polished speech of his guardians and associates. On the contrary, let him fall among the rude and illiterate, and he as readily and as surely accepts for his native language, his mother tongue, their perverted words...

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