



PE1109
.M92
1867
c.1

62033

42-5



1080043776

8466131

42-5
M.

na
sitarie

63



ENGLISH GRAMMAR,
ADAPTED TO THE
DIFFERENT CLASSES OF LEARNERS

WITH
AN APPENDIX,

CONTAINING
RULES AND OBSERVATIONS,
FOR ASSISTING THE MORE ADVANCED STUDENTS
TO WRITE WITH PERSPICUITY AND ACCURACY

"They who are learning to compose and arrange their sentences with
accuracy and order, are learning, at the same time, to think with accuracy
and order."

BLAIR

BY LINDLEY MURRAY.

THE FIFTY-EIGHTH EDITION.

YORK :

PRINTED FOR LONGMAN, HURST AND CO. *Capitolina*
AND FOR BAUDRY, 12, RUE BONAPARTE, PARIS.

1867.

Price, bound, Four Shillings.



Biblioteca Universitaria

13163

~~4-1-66~~

PE 1109
M92
1867

IMPRIMERIE GÉNÉRALE DE CH. LAHURE
Rue de Fleurus, 9, à Paris

INTRODUCTION.

WHEN the number and variety of English Grammars already published, and the ability with which some of them are written, are considered, little can be expected from a new compilation, besides a careful selection of the most useful matter, and some degree of improvement in the mode of adapting it to the understanding, and the gradual progress, of learners. In these respects, something, perhaps, may yet be done, for the ease and advantage of young persons.

Is books designed for the instruction of youth, there is a medium to be observed, between treating the subject in so extensive and minute a manner as to embarrass and confuse their minds, by offering too much at once for their comprehension; and, on the other hand, conducting it by such short and general precepts and observations, as convey to them no clear and precise information. A distribution of the parts, which is either defective or irregular, has also a tendency to perplex the young understanding, and to retard its knowledge of the principles of literature. A distinct general view, or outline, of all the essential parts of the study in which they are engaged; a gradual and judicious supply of this outline; and a due arrangement of the divisions, according to their natural order and connexion, appear to be among the best means of enlightening the minds of youth, and of facilitating their acquisition of knowledge. The author of this work, at the same time that he has endeavoured to avoid a plan, which may be too concise or too extensive, defective in its parts or irregular in their disposition, has studied to render his subject sufficiently easy, intelligible, and comprehensive. He does not presume to have completely attained these objects. How far he has succeeded in the attempt, and wherein

Bibl. a Universitari

62033

he has failed, must be referred to the determination of the judicious and candid reader.

THE method which he has adopted, of exhibiting the performance in characters of different sizes, will, he trusts, be conducive to that gradual and regular procedure, which is so favourable to the business of instruction. The more important rules, definitions, and observations, and which are therefore the most proper to be committed to memory, are printed with a larger type; whilst rules and remarks that are of less consequence, that extend or diversify the general idea, or that serve as explanations, are contained in the smaller letter: these, or the chief of them, will be perused by the student to the greatest advantage, if postponed till the general system be completed. The use of notes and observations, in the common and detached manner, at the bottom of the page, would not, it is imagined, be so likely to attract the perusal of youth, or admit of so ample and regular an illustration, as a continued and uniform order of the several subjects. In adopting this mode, care has been taken to adjust it so that the whole may be perused in a connected progress, or the part contained in the larger character read in order by itself. Many of the notes and observations are intended, not only to explain the subjects, and to illustrate them, by comparative views of the grammar of other languages, and of the various sentiments of English grammarians; but also to invite the ingenious student to inquiry and reflection, and to prompt to a more enlarged, critical, and philosophical research.

WITH respect to the definitions and rules, it may not be improper more particularly to observe, that in selecting and forming them, it has been the author's aim to render them as exact and comprehensive, and, at the same time, as intelligible to young minds, as the nature of the subject, and the difficulties attending it, would admit. He presumes that they are also calculated to be readily committed to memory, and easily retained. For this purpose, he has been solicitous to select terms that are smooth and voluble; to proportion the mem-

bers of the sentence to one another; to avoid protracted periods; and to give the whole definition or rule, as much harmony of expression as he could devise.

FROM the sentiment generally admitted, that a proper selection of faulty composition is more instructive to the young grammarian, than any rules and examples of propriety that can be given, the Compiler has been induced to pay peculiar attention to this part of the subject; and though the instances of false grammar, under the rules of Syntax, are numerous, it is hoped they will not be found too many, when their variety and usefulness are considered.

IN a work which professes itself to be a compilation, and which, from the nature and design of it, must consist chiefly of materials selected from the writings of others, it is scarcely necessary to apologise for the use which the Compiler has made of his predecessors' labours; or for omitting to insert their names. From the alterations which have been frequently made in the sentiments and the language, to suit the connexion, and to adapt them to the particular purposes for which they are introduced; and, in many instances, from the uncertainty to whom the passages originally belonged, the insertion of names could seldom be made with propriety. But if this could have been generally done, a work of this nature would derive no advantage from it, equal to the inconvenience of crowding the pages with a repetition of names and references. It is, however, proper to acknowledge, in general terms, that the authors to whom the grammatical part of this compilation is principally indebted for its materials, are Harris, Johnson, Lowth, Priestley, Beattie, Sheridan, Walker, and Coote.

THE Rules and Observations respecting Perspicuity, etc. contained in the Appendix, and which are, chiefly, extracted from the writings of Blair and Campbell, will, it is presumed, form a proper addition to the Grammar. The subjects are very nearly related; and the study of perspicuity and accuracy in writing, appears naturally to follow that of Grammar. A competent acquaintance with the principles of both, will prepare and qualify

the students, for prosecuting those additional improvements in language, to which they may be properly directed.

On the utility and importance of the study of Grammar, and the principles of Composition, much might be advanced, for the encouragement of persons in early life to apply themselves to this branch of learning; but as the limits of this Introduction will not allow of many observations on the subject, a few leading sentiments are all that can be admitted here with propriety. As words are the signs of our ideas, and the medium by which we perceive the sentiments of others, and communicate our own; and as signs exhibit the things which they are intended to represent, more or less accurately, according as their real or established conformity to those things is more or less exact; it is evident, that in proportion to our knowledge of the nature and properties of words, of their relation to each other, and of their established connexion with the ideas to which they are applied, will be the certainty and ease, with which we transuse our sentiments into the minds of one another; and that, without a competent knowledge of this kind, we shall frequently be in hazard of misunderstanding others, and of being misunderstood ourselves. It may, indeed, be justly asserted, that many of the differences in opinion amongst men, with the disputes, contentions, and alienations of heart, which have too often proceeded from such differences, have been occasioned by a want of proper skill in the connexion and meaning of words, and by a tenacious misapplication of language.

One of the best supports, which the recommendation of the study can receive, in small compass, may be derived from the following sentiments of an eminent and candid writer* on language and composition. "All that regards the study of composition, merits the higher attention upon this account, that it is ultimately connected with the improvement of our intellectual powers.

* Blair

For I must be allowed to say, that when we are employed, after a proper manner, in the study of composition, we are cultivating the understanding itself. The study of arranging and expressing our thoughts with propriety, teaches to think, as well as to speak, accurately."

BEFORE the close of this Introduction, it may not be superfluous to observe, that the author of the following work has no interest in it, but that which arises from the hope, that it will prove of some advantage to young persons, and relieve the labours of those who are employed in their education. He wishes to promote, in some degree, the cause of virtue, as well as of learning; and, with this view, he has been studious, through the whole of the work, not only to avoid every example and illustration, which might have an improper effect on the minds of youth; but also to introduce, on many occasions, such as have a moral and religious tendency. His attention to objects of so much importance will, he trusts, meet the approbation of every well-disposed reader. If they were faithfully regarded in all books of education, they would doubtless contribute very materially to the order and happiness of society, by guarding the innocence, and cherishing the virtue, of the rising generation.

Holgate, near York, — 1795.

Advertisement

TO THE NINTH EDITION.

THE eighth edition of this grammar received considerable alterations and additions: but works of this nature admit of repeated improvements; and are, perhaps, never complete. The author, solicitous to render his book more worthy of the encouraging approbation bestowed on it by the public, has again revised the work with care and attention. The new edition, he hopes, will be found much improved. The additions, which are very considerable, are, chiefly, such as are calculated to expand the learner's views of the subject; to

obviate objections; and to render the study of grammar both easy and interesting. This edition contains also a new and enlarged system of parsing; copious lists of nouns arranged according to their gender and number; and many notes and observations, which serve to extend, or to explain, particular rules and positions*.

The writer is sensible that, after all his endeavours to elucidate the principles of the work, there are few of the divisions, arrangements, definitions, or rules, against which critical ingenuity cannot devise plausible objections. The subject is attended with so much intricacy, and admits of views so various, that it was not possible to render every part of it unexceptionable; or to accommodate the work, in all respects, to the opinions and prepossessions of every grammarian and teacher. If the author has adopted that system which, on the whole, is best suited to the nature of the subject, and conformable to the sentiments of the most judicious grammarians; if his reasonings and illustrations, respecting particular points, are founded on just principles, and the peculiarities of the English language; he has, perhaps, done all that could reasonably be expected in a work of this nature; and he may warrantably indulge a hope, that the book will be still more extensively approved and circulated.

* The author conceives that the occasional strictures, dispersed through the book, and intended to illustrate and support a number of important grammatical points, will not, to young persons of ingenuity, appear to be dry and useless discussions. He is persuaded that, by such persons, they will be read with attention. And he presumes that these strictures will gratify their curiosity, stimulate application, and give solidity and permanence to their grammatical knowledge.

Holdgate, near York, 1804.

The *Twenty-third* edition of the present work contains references, under the particular rules, to the correspondent parts of *The Exercises* and *The Key*. By this means, the student may readily consult these volumes, or a more extensive illustration of the rules and principles of the grammar. See the *Advertisement* to the *Twelfth* edition of the *Key* to the *Exercises*, at page 220 of that volume.

The reader is referred to the OCTAVO GRAMMAR, for a still more extended view and elucidation of many parts of the subject.

CONTENTS.

PART I.—ORTHOGRAPHY.

CHAP. 1.	Of letters.	Page.
SECT.	1. Of the nature of the letters, and of a perfect alphabet. : : : : :	13
	2. General observations on the sounds of the letters. : : : : :	21
	3. The nature of articulation explained.	32
CHAP. 2.	Of syllables, and the rules for arranging them. : : : :	35
CHAP. 3.	Of words in general, and the rules for spelling them. : : :	37

PART II. — ETYMOLOGY.

CHAP. 1.	A general view of the parts of speech. : : : : :	41
CHAP. 2.	Of the articles. : : : : :	44
CHAP. 3.	Of substantives.	
SECT.	1. Of substantives in general. : : :	46
	2. Of gender. : : : : :	47
	3.* Of number. : : : : :	50
	4. Of case. : : : : :	52
CHAP. 4.	Of adjectives.	
SECT.	1. Of the nature of adjectives, and the degrees of comparison. : : :	56
	2. Remarks on the subject of comparison. : : : : :	59
CHAP. 5.	Of pronouns.	
SECT.	1. Of the personal pronouns. : : :	60
	2. Of relative pronouns. : : : :	62
	3. Of the adjective pronouns. : : :	65

CHAP. 6.	Of verbs.	Page.
SECT.	1. Of the nature of verbs in general. :	70
	2. Of number and person. : : :	73
	3. Of moods and participles. : : :	74
	4. Remarks on the potential mood. :	78
	5. Of the tenses. : : : : :	80
	6. The conjugation of the auxiliary verbs <i>to have</i> and <i>to be</i> . : : :	86
	7. The auxiliary verbs conjugated in their simple form; with observa- tions on their peculiar nature and force. : : : : :	95
	8. The conjugation of regular verbs. :	99
	9. Observations on passive verbs. : :	108
	10. Of irregular verbs. : : : : :	111
	11. Of defective verbs; and of the dif- ferent ways in which verbs are conjugated. : : : : :	117
CHAP. 7.	Of adverbs. : : : : :	119
CHAP. 8.	Of prepositions. : : : : :	123
CHAP. 9.	Of conjunctions. : : : : :	126
CHAP. 10.	Of interjections. : : : : :	129
CHAP. 11.	Of derivation.	
SECT.	1. Of the various ways in which words are derived from one another. :	130
	2. A sketch of the steps, by which the English language has risen to its present state of refinement. : :	134

PART III.—SYNTAX.

Of the syntax of the article. : : : : 166

Of the syntax of the noun.

Of several nouns joined by copulatives. :	143
Of nouns connected by disjunctives. : : :	146

	Page.
Of nouns of multitude. : : : : :	147
Of one noun governing another in the possessive case. : : : : :	169
Of the syntax of the pronoun.	
Of pronouns agreeing with their antecedents. :	148
Of the relative being nominative to the verb. :	153
Of the relative preceded by nominatives of dif- ferent persons. : : : : :	155
Of the syntax of the adjective. : : : : :	156
Of the syntax of the verb.	
Of the verb's agreement with the nominative case. :	139
Of verbs active requiring the objective case. : :	175
Of one verb governing another in the infinitive mood. : : : : :	178
Of verbs related in point of time : : : : :	179
Of the syntax of the participle. : : : : :	183
Of the rules respecting adverbs.	
Of the position of adverbs : : : : :	186
Of two negatives : : : : :	189
Of the syntax of prepositions. : : : : :	190
Of the syntax of conjunctions.	
Of conjunctions connecting the same moods, tenses, and cases. : : : : :	194
Of conjunctions requiring the subjunctive mood, &c. : : : : :	195
Of the syntax of interjections. : : : : :	152
Of comparisons by the conjunction <i>than</i> or <i>as</i> . :	206
Directions respecting the ellipsis. : : : : :	207
General rule of syntax. : : : : :	212
Directions for parsing. : : : : :	215

PART IV.—PROSODY.

CHAP. 1.	Of pronunciation : : : : :	224
----------	----------------------------	-----

	Page.
SECT 1. Of accent. : : : : : 224	224
2. Of quantity. : : : : : 229	229
3. Of emphasis. : : : : : 231	231
4. Of pauses. : : : : : 236	236
5. Of tones. : : : : : 239	239
CHAP. 2. Of versification. : : : : : 244	244

OF PUNCTUATION.

CHAP. 1. Of the comma. : : : : : 258	258
CHAP. 2. Of the semicolon. : : : : : 264	264
CHAP. 3. Of the colon. : : : : : 265	265
CHAP. 4. Of the period. : : : : : 266	266
CHAP. 5. Of the dash, notes of interroga- tion, exclamation, capitals, etc. : : : : : 267	267

APPENDIX.

RULES AND OBSERVATIONS FOR PROMOTING PERSPICUITY
AND ACCURACY IN WRITING.

PART I.

*Of perspicuity and accuracy of expression, with respect to
single words and phrases.*

CHAP. 1. Of purity. : : : : : 274	274
CHAP. 2. Of propriety. : : : : : 275	275
CHAP. 3. Of precision. : : : : : 282	282

PART II.

*Of perspicuity and accuracy of expression, with respect to
the construction of sentences.*

CHAP. 1. Of the clearness of a sentence. 287	287
CHAP. 2. Of the unity of a sentence. . . 293	293
CHAP. 3. Of the strength of a sentence. : 297	297
CHAP. 4. Of figures of speech. : : : : 315	315
ADDRESS TO YOUNG STUDENTS. : : : : : 335	335

ENGLISH GRAMMAR.

ENGLISH GRAMMAR is the art of speaking and writing the English language with propriety.

It is divided into four parts, viz. ORTHOGRAPHY, ETYMOLOGY, SYNTAX, and PROSODY.

This division may be rendered more intelligible to the student, by observing, in other words, that Grammar treats, *first*, of the form and sound of the letters, the combination of letters into syllables, and syllables into words; *secondly*, of the different sorts of words, their various modifications, and their derivation; *thirdly*, of the union and right order of words in the formation of a sentence; and *lastly*, of the just pronunciation, and poetical construction of sentences.

PART. I.

ORTHOGRAPHY.

CHAPTER I. *Of the LETTERS.*SECTION I. *Of the nature of the letters, and of a perfect
alphabet.*

Orthography teaches the nature and powers of letters, and the just method of spelling words.

A letter is the first principle, or least part, of a word.

The letters of the English language, called the English Alphabet, are twenty-six in number.

These letters are the representatives of certain articulate sounds, the elements of the language. An articulate sound, is the sound of the human voice, formed by the organs of speech.