

RULE XI.

Compounded words are generally spelled in the same manner, as the simple words of which they are formed: as, glasshouse, skylight, thereby, hereafter. Many words ending with double *l*, are exceptions to this rule: as, handful, dung-hil, withal, also, chilblain, foretel, fulfil.

The orthography of a great number of English words, is far from being uniform, even amongst writers of distinction. Thus, *honour* and *honor*, *inquire* and *enquire*, *negotiate* and *negociate*, *control* and *controul*, *expense* and *expençe*, *allege* and *alledge*, *surprise* and *surprize*, *complete* and *compleat*, *connexion* and *connection*, *abridgment* and *abridgement*, and many other orthographical variations, are to be met with in the best modern publications. Some authority for deciding differences of this nature, appears to be necessary: and where can we find one of equal pretensions with Dr. Johnson's Dictionary? though a few of his decisions do not appear to be warranted by the principles of etymology and analogy, the stable foundations of his improvements.—“As the weight of truth and reason (says Nares in his ‘Elements of Orthoepey’) is irresistible, Dr. Johnson's Dictionary has nearly fixed the external form of our language. Indeed, so convenient is it to have one acknowledged standard to recur to; so much preferable, in matters of this nature, is a trifling degree of irregularity, to a continual change, and fruitless pursuit of unattainable perfection; that it is earnestly to be hoped, no author will henceforth, on light grounds, be tempted to innovate.”

This Dictionary, however, contains some orthographical inconsistencies, which ought to be rectified: such as, *immoveable* *moveable*, *chastely* *chastness*, *fertileness* *fertily*, *sliness* *slyly*, *fearlessly* *fearlessness*, *needlessness* *needlesly*. If these, and similar irregularities, were corrected by spelling the words analogically, according to the first word in each part of the series, and agreeably to the general rules of spelling, the Dictionary would doubtless, in these respects, be improved.

ART. II.
ETYMOLOGY.

CHAPTER I.

A GENERAL VIEW of the PARTS of SPEECH.

THE second part of grammar is ETYMOLOGY, which treats of the different sorts of words, their various modifications, and their derivation.

There are, in English, nine sorts of words, or, as they are commonly called, PARTS OF SPEECH; namely, the ARTICLE, the SUBSTANTIVE OR NOUN, the ADJECTIVE, the PRONOUN, the VERB, the ADVERB, the PREPOSITION, the CONJUNCTION, and the INTERJECTION.

1. An Article is a word prefixed to substantives, to point them out, and to show how far their signification extends: as, *a* garden, *an* eagle, *the* woman.

2. A Substantive or noun is the name of any thing that exists, or of which we have any notion: as, *London*, *man*, *virtue*.

A Substantive may, in general, be distinguished by its taking an article before it, or by its making sense of itself: as, *a book*, *the sun*, *an apple*; *temperance*, *industry*, *chastity*.

3. An Adjective is a word added to a substantive, to express its quality: as, “An *industrious* man; a *virtuous* woman.”

An Adjective may be known by its making sense with the addition of the word *thing*: as, *a good thing*; *a bad thing*: or of any particular substantive; as *a sweet apple*, *a pleasant prospect*, *a lively boy*.

4. A Pronoun is a word used instead of a

noun, to avoid the too frequent repetition of the same word: as, "The man is happy; *he* is benevolent; *he* is useful."

5. A Verb is a word which signifies to BE, to DO, or to SUFFER: as, "I *am*; I *rule*; I *am ruled*."

A Verb may generally be distinguished by its making sense with any of the personal pronouns, or the word *to* before it: as, I *walk*, he *plays*, they *write*; or, to *walk*, to *play*, to *write*.

6. An Adverb is a part of speech joined to a verb, an adjective, and sometimes to another adverb, to express some quality or circumstance respecting it: as, "He reads *well*; a *truly* good man; he writes *very correctly*."

An Adverb may be generally known by its answering to the question, How? how much? when? or where? as, in the phrase, "He reads *correctly*," the answer to the question, How does he read? is, *correctly*.

7. Prepositions serve to connect words with one another, and to show the relation between them: as, "He went *from* London *to* York;" "she is *above* disguise;" "they are supported *by* industry."

A Preposition may be known by its admitting after it a personal pronoun, in the objective case; as, *with*, *for*, *to*, will allow the objective case after them; with *him*, *for*, *to* *them*, &c.

8. A Conjunction is a part of speech that is chiefly used to connect sentences; so as, out of two or more sentences, to make but one: it sometimes connects only words: as, "Thou *and* he are happy, *because* you are good." "Two *and* three are five."

9. An Interjection is a word used to express

some passion or emotion of the mind: as, "*Oh!* I have alienated my friend; *alas!* I fear for life."

The observations which have been made, to aid learners in distinguishing the parts of speech from one another, may afford them some small assistance; but it will certainly be much more instructive to distinguish them by the definitions, and an accurate knowledge of their nature.

In the following passage, all the parts of speech are exemplified:

¹ The ² power ⁷ of ² speech ⁵ is ¹ a ² faculty ³ peculiar ⁷ to ² man; ³ and ⁵ was ⁶ bestowed ⁷ on ⁴ him ⁴ by ⁴ his ³ beneficent ² creator, ⁷ for ¹ the ³ greatest ⁸ and ⁶ most ³ excellent ² uses; ⁸ but ⁹ alas! ⁶ how ⁶ often ⁵ do ⁴ we ⁵ pervert ⁴ it ⁷ to ¹ the ³ worst ⁷ of ² purposes!

In the foregoing sentence, the words *the*, *a*, are articles; *power*, *speech*, *faculty*, *man*, *creator*, *uses*, *purposes*, are substantives; *peculiar*, *beneficent*, *greatest*, *excellent*, *worst*, are adjectives; *him*, *his*, *we*, *it*, are pronouns; *is*, *was*, *bestowed*, *do*, *pervert*, are verbs; *most*, *how*, *often*, are adverbs; *of*, *to*, *on*, *by*, *for*, are prepositions; *and*, *but*, are conjunctions; and *alas* is an interjection.

The number of the different sorts of words, or of the parts of speech, has been variously reckoned by different grammarians. Some have enumerated ten, making the participle a distinct part; some eight, excluding the participle, and ranking the adjective under the noun; some four, and others only two (the noun and the verb), supposing the rest to be contained in the parts of their division. We have followed those authors who appear to have given them the most natural and intelligible distribution. Some remarks on the division made by the learned Horne Tooke, are contained in the first section of the eleventh chapter of etymology.

The interjection, indeed, seems scarcely worthy of being considered as a part of artificial language or speech, being rather a branch of that natural language, which we possess in common with the brute creation, and by which we express the sudden emotions and passions that actuate our

frame. But, as it is used in written as well as oral language, it may, in some measure, be deemed a part of speech. It is with us, a virtual sentence, in which the noun and verb are concealed under an imperfect or indigested word.—See this Chapter, in the OCTAVO Grammar.

CHAPTER II.

Of the ARTICLES.

AN Article is a word prefixed to substantives, to point them out, and to show how far their signification extends; as, *a* garden, *an* eagle, *the* woman.

In English, there are but two articles, *a* and *the*: *a* becomes *an* before a vowel,* and before a silent *h*; as, *an* acorn, *an* hour. But if the *h* be sounded, the *a* only is to be used; as, *a* hand, *a* heart, *a* highway.

The inattention of writers and printers to this necessary distinction, has occasioned the frequent use of *an* before *h*, when it is to be pronounced; and this circumstance, more than any other, has probably contributed to that indistinct utterance, or total omission, of the sound signified by this letter, which very often occurs amongst readers and speakers. *An* horse, *an* husband, *an* herald, *an* heathen, and many similar associations, are frequently to be found in works of taste and merit. To remedy this evil, readers should be taught to omit, in all similar cases, the sound of the *n*, and to give the *h* its full pronunciation.

A or *an* is styled the indefinite article: it is used in a vague sense to point out one single thing of the kind, in other respects indeterminate: as, "Give me *a* book;" "Bring me *an* apple."

The is called the definite article; because it ascertains what particular thing or things are meant:

* *A* instead of *an* is now used before words beginning with *u* long. See page 29, letter *U*. It is also used before *one*; as many a one. See 8vo. Gram. page 67.

as, "Give me *the* book;" "Bring me *the* apples;" meaning some book, or apples, referred to.

A substantive without any article to limit it, is generally taken in its widest sense: as, "A candid temper is proper for man;" that is, for all mankind.

The peculiar use and importance of the article will be seen in the following examples; "The son of a king—the son of the king—a son of the king." Each of these three phrases has an entirely different meaning through the different application of the articles *a* and *the*.

"Thou art *a* man," is a very general and harmless position; but, "Thou art *the* man," (as Nathan said to David,) is an assertion capable of striking terror and remorse into the heart.

The article is omitted before nouns that imply the different virtues, vices, passions, qualities, sciences, arts, metals, herbs, &c.; as, "prudence is commendable; falsehood is odious; anger ought to be avoided;" &c. It is not prefixed to a proper name; as, "Alexander," (because that of itself denotes a determinate individual or particular thing,) except for the sake of distinguishing a particular family: as, "He is *a* Howard, or of the family of the Howards;" or by way of eminence: as, "Every man is not *a* Newton;" "He has the courage of *an* Achilles;" or when some noun is understood; "He sailed down *the* (river) Thames, in *the* (ship) Britannia.

When an adjective is used with the noun to which the article relates, it is placed between the article and the noun; as, "*a* good man," "*an* agreeable woman," "*the* best friend." On some occasions, however, the adjective precedes *a* or *an*; as, "*such* a shame," "*as* great a man as Alexander," "*too* careless an author."

The indefinite article can be joined to substantives in the singular number only; the definite article may be joined also to plurals.

But there appears to be a remarkable exception to this rule, in the use of the adjectives *few* and *many*, (the latter chiefly

with the word *great* before it,) which, though joined with plural substantives, yet admit of the singular article *a*: as, *a few men*; *a great many men*.

The reason of it is manifest, from the effect which the article has in these phrases; it means a small or great number collectively taken, and therefore gives the idea of a whole, that is, of unity. Thus likewise, a dozen, a score, a hundred, or a thousand, is one whole number, an aggregate of many collectively taken; and therefore still retains the article *a*, though joined as an adjective to a plural substantive; as, a hundred years, &c.

The indefinite article is sometimes placed between the adjective *many*, and a singular noun: as,

"Full *many a gem* of purest ray serene,

"The dark unfathom'd caves of ocean bear:

"Full *many a flow'r* is born to blush unseen,

"And waste its sweetness on the desert air."

In these lines, the phrases, *many a gem* and *many a flow'r*, refer to *many gems* and *many flowers*, separately, not collectively considered.

The definite article *the* is frequently applied to adverbs in the comparative and superlative degree; and its effect is, to mark the degree the more strongly, and to define it the more precisely: as, "*The more I examine it, the better I like it. I like this the least of any.*"—See this chapter, in the OCTAVO Grammar.

CHAPTER III.

Of SUBSTANTIVES.

SECTION I. Of Substantives in general.

A SUBSTANTIVE or Noun is the name of any thing that exists, or of which we have any notion: as, *London, man, virtue*.

Substantives are either proper or common.

Proper names or substantives, are the names appropriated to individuals: as, *George, London, Thames*.

Common names or substantives, stand for kinds

containing many sorts, or for sorts containing many individuals under them; as, *animal, man, tree*, etc.

When proper names have an article annexed to them, they are used as common names: as, "He is the *Cicero* of his age; he is reading the lives of the Twelve *Cæsars*."

Common names may also be used to signify individuals, by the addition of articles or pronouns: as, "*The boy* is studious; *that girl* is discreet *."

To substantives belong gender, number, and case; and they are all of the third person, when spoken *of*, and of the second when spoken *to*: as, "Blessings attend us on every side; be grateful, children of men!" that is, *ye children of men*.

SECTION 2. Of Gender.

GENDER is the distinction of nouns, with regard to sex. There are three genders, the MASCULINE, the FEMININE, and the NEUTER.

The Masculine Gender denotes animals of the male kind: as, a man, a horse, a bull.

The Feminine Gender signifies animals of the female kind: as, a woman, a duck, a hen.

The Neuter Gender denotes objects which are neither males nor females: as, a field, a house, a garden.

Some substantives, naturally neuter, are, by a figure of speech, converted into the masculine or

* Nouns may also be divided into the following classes: *Collective nouns*, or nouns of multitude; as, the people, the parliament, the army; *Abstract nouns*, or the names of qualities abstracted from their substances; as, knowledge, goodness, whiteness: *Verbal or participial nouns*; as, beginning, reading, writing.

feminine gender: as, when we say of the sun, *he* is setting; and of a ship, *she* sails well.

Figuratively, in the English tongue, we commonly give the masculine gender to nouns which are conspicuous for the attributes of imparting or communicating, and which are by nature strong and efficacious. Those, again, are made feminine, which are conspicuous for the attributes of containing or bringing forth, or which are peculiarly beautiful or amiable. Upon these principles, the sun is said to be masculine; and the moon, being the receptacle of the sun's light, to be feminine. The earth is generally feminine. A ship, a country, a city, &c. are likewise made feminine, being receivers or containers. Time is always masculine, on account of its mighty efficacy. Virtue is feminine from its beauty, and its being the object of love. Fortune and the church are generally put in the feminine gender.

The English language has three methods of distinguishing the sex, viz.

1. By different words: as

Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Bachelor.	Maid.	Husband.	Wife.
Boar.	Sow.	King.	Queen.
Boy.	Girl.	Lad.	Lass.
Brother.	Sister.	Lord.	Lady.
Buck.	Doe.	Man.	Woman.
Bull.	Cow.	Master.	Mistress.
Bullock or	} Heifer.	Milter.	Spawner.
Steer.		Nephew.	Niece.
Cock.	Hen.	Ram.	Ewe.
Dog.	Bitch.	} Singer.	{ Songstress or
Drake.	Duck.		
Earl.	Countess.	Sloven.	Slut, slattern.
Father.	Mother.	Son.	Daughter.
Friar.	Nun.	Stag.	Hind.
Gander.	Goose.	Uncle.	Aunt.
Hart.	Roe.	Wizard.	Witch.
Horse.	Mare.		

2. By a difference of termination: as,

Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Abbot.	Abbess.	Landgrave.	Landgravine.
Actor.	Actress.	Lion.	Lioness.
Administrator.	Administratrix.	Marquis.	Marchioness.
Adulterer.	Adulteress.	Master.	Mistress.
Ambassador.	Ambadress.	Mayor.	Mayoress.
Arbiter.	Arbitress.	Patron.	Patroness.
Baron.	Baroness.	Peer.	Peeress.
Bridegroom.	Bride.	Poet.	Poetess.
Benefactor.	Benefactress.	Priest.	Priestess.
Caterer.	Cateress.	Prince.	Princess.
Chanter.	Chantress.	Prior.	Prioress.
Conductor.	Conductress.	Prophet.	Prophetess.
Count.	Countess.	Protector.	Protectress.
Deacon.	Deaconess.	Shepherd.	Shepherdess.
Duke.	Duchess.	Songster.	Songstress.
Elector.	Electress.	Sorcerer.	Sorceress.
Emperor.	Empress.	Sultan.	{ Sultanness.
Enchanter.	Enchantress.		{ Sultana.
Executor.	Executrix.	Tiger.	Tigress.
Governor.	Governess.	Traitor.	Traitress.
Heir.	Heiress.	Tutor.	Tutress.
Hero.	Heroine.	Viscount.	Viscountess.
Hunter.	Huntress.	Votary.	Votress.
Host.	Hostess.	Widower.	Widow.
Jew.	Jewess.		

3. By a noun, pronoun, or adjective, being *prefixed* to the substantive: as,

A cock-sparrow.	A hen-sparrow.
A man-servant.	A maid-servant.
A he-goat.	A she-goat.
A he-bear.	A she-bear.
A male child.	A female child.
Male descendants.	Female descendants.

It sometimes happens, that the same noun is either masculine or feminine. The words *parent, child, cousin, friend,*

neighbour, servant, and several others, are used indifferently for males or females.

Nouns with variable terminations contribute to conciseness and perspicuity of expression. We have only a sufficient number of them to make us feel our want; for when we say of a woman, she is a philosopher, an astronomer, a builder, a weaver, we perceive an impropriety in the termination, which we cannot avoid; but we can say, that she is a botanist, a student, a witness, a scholar, an orphan, a companion, because these terminations have not annexed to them the notion of sex.

SECTION 3. *Of Number.*

NUMBER is the consideration of an object, as one or more.

Substantives are of two numbers, the singular and the plural.

The singular number expresses but one object; as, a chair, a table.

The plural number signifies more objects than one; as chairs, tables.

Some nouns, from the nature of the things which they express, are used only in the singular form; as, wheat, pitch, gold, sloth, pride, etc.; others, only in the plural form; as, bellows, scissors, ashes, riches, etc.

Some words are the same in both numbers; as, deer, sheep, swine, etc.

The plural number of nouns is generally formed by adding *s* to the singular: as, dove, doves; face, faces; thought, thoughts. But when the substantive singular ends in *x*, *ch* soft, *sh*, *ss*, or *s*, we add *es* in the plural: as box, boxes; church, churches; lash, lashes; kiss, kisses; rebus, rebuses. If the singular ends in *ch* hard, the plural is formed b

adding *s*; as, monarch, monarchs; distich, distichs.

Nouns which end in *o*, have sometimes *es* added, to form the plural; as, cargo, echo, hero, negro, manifesto, potato, volcano, wo: and sometimes only *s*; as, folio, nuncio, punctilio, seraglio.

Nouns ending in *f*, or *fe*, are rendered plural by the change of those terminations into *ves*: as, loaf, loaves; half halves; wife, wives; except grief, relief, reproof, and several others, which form the plural by the addition of *s*. Those which end in *ff*, have the regular plural: as, ruff, ruffs; except, staff, staves.

Nouns which have *y* in the singular, with no other vowel in the same syllable, change it into *ies* in the plural: as, beauty, beauties; fly, flies. But the *y* is not changed when there is another vowel in the syllable: as, key, keys; delay, delays; attorney, attorneys.

Some nouns become plural by changing the *a* of the singular into *e*: as, man, men; woman, women; alderman, aldermen. The words ox and child, form oxen and children; brother, makes either brothers or brethren. Sometimes the diphthong *oo* is changed into *ee* in the plural: as, foot, feet; goose, geese; tooth, teeth. Louse and mouse make lice and mice. Penny makes pence, or pennies, when the coin is meant; die, dice (for play); die, dies (for coining).

It is agreeable to analogy, and the practice of the generality of correct writers, to construe the following words as plural nouns; *pains, riches, alms*: and also, *mathematics, metaphysics, politics, ethics, optics, pneumatics*, with other similar names of sciences.

Dr. Johnson says, that the adjective *much* is sometimes a term of number, as well as of quantity. This may account for the instances we meet with of its associating with *pains* as a plural noun: as, "much pains." The connexion, however, is not to be recommended.

The word *news* is now almost universally considered as belonging to the singular number

The noun *means* is used both in the singular and the plural number.

The following words, which have been adopted from the Hebrew, Greek, and Latin languages, are thus distinguished, with respect to number.

Singular.	Plural.	Singular.	Plural.
Cherub.	Cherubim.	Datum.	Data.
Seraph.	Seraphim.	Effluvium.	Effluvia.
Antithesis.	Antitheses.	Encomium.	{ Encomia <i>or</i> Encomiums.
Automaton.	Automata.		
Basis.	Bases.	Erratum.	Errata.
Crisis.	Crises.	Genius.	Genii.*
Criterion.	Criteria.	Genus.	Genera.
Diæresis.	Diæreses.	Index.	{ Indices <i>or</i> Indexes.†
Ellipsis.	Ellipses.		
Emphasis.	Emphases.	Lamina.	Laminæ.
Hypothesis.	Hypotheses.	Medium.	Media.
Metamorphosis.	{ Metamorphoses.	Magus.	Magi.
Phænomenon.	Phænomena.	Memorandum.	Memoranda <i>or</i> Memorandums.
Appendix.	{ Appendices Appendixes.	Radius.	Radii.
Arcanum.	Arcana.	Stamen.	Stamina.
Axis.	Axes.	Stratum.	Strata.
Calx.	Calces.	Vortex.	Vortices.

Some words, derived from the learned languages, are confined to the plural number: as, antipodes, credenda, literati, minutæ.

The following nouns being, in Latin, both singular and plural, are used in the same manner when adopted into our tongue: hiatus, apparatus, series, species.

* *Genii*, when denoting aerial spirits: *Geniuses*, when signifying persons of genius.

† *Indexes*, when it signifies pointers, or tables of contents: *Indices*, when referring to algebraic quantities.

SECTION 4. *Of Case.*

In English, substantives have three cases, the nominative, the possessive, and the objective*.

The nominative case simply expresses the name of a thing, or the subject of the verb: as, "The boy plays;" "The girls learn."

The possessive case expresses the relation of property or possession; and has an apostrophe with the letter *s* coming after it: as, "The scholar's duty;" "My father's house."

When the plural ends in *s*, the other *s* is omitted, but the apostrophe is retained: as, "On eagles' wings;" "The drapers' company."

Sometimes also when the singular terminates in *ss*, the apostrophic *s* is not added: as, "For goodness' sake;" "For righteousness' sake."

The objective case expresses the object of an action, or of a relation; and generally follows a verb active, or a preposition: as, "John assists Charles;" "They live in London."

English substantives are declined in the following manner:

	Singular.	Plural.
<i>Nominative Case.</i>	A mother.	Mothers.
<i>Possessive Case.</i>	A mother's.	Mothers'.
<i>Objective Case.</i>	A mother.	Mothers.
<i>Nominative Case.</i>	The man.	The men.
<i>Possessive Case.</i>	The man's.	The men's.
<i>Objective Case.</i>	The man.	The men.

* The possessive is sometimes called the genitive case; and the objective the accusative.

The English language, to express different connexions and relations of one thing to another, uses, for the most part, prepositions. The Greek and Latin among the ancient, and some too among the modern languages, as the German, vary the termination or ending of the substantive, to answer the same purpose; an example of which, in the Latin, is inserted, as explanatory of the nature and use of cases, viz.

	Singular.	
Nominative.	DOMINUS,	A Lord.
Genitive.	DOMINI,	Lord's, of a Lord.
Dative.	DOMINO,	To a Lord.
Accusative.	DOMINUM,	A Lord.
Vocative.	DOMINE,	O Lord.
Ablative.	DOMINO	By a Lord.
	Plural.	
Nominative.	DOMINI,	Lords.
Genitive.	DOMINORUM,	Lords', of Lords.
Dative.	DOMINIS,	To Lords.
Accusative.	DOMINOS,	Lords.
Vocative.	DOMINI,	O Lords.
Ablative.	DOMINIS,	By Lords.

Some writers think, that the relations signified by the addition of articles and prepositions to the noun, may properly be denominated cases, in English; and that, on this principle, there are, in our language, as many cases as in the Latin tongue. But to this mode of forming cases for our substantives, there are strong objections. It would, indeed, be a formal and useless arrangement of nouns, articles, and prepositions. If an arrangement of this nature were to be considered as constituting cases, the English language would have a much greater number of them than the Greek and Latin tongues: for, as every preposition has its distinct meaning and effect, every combination of a preposition and article with the noun, would form a different relation, and would constitute a distinct case.

This would encumber our language with many new terms and a heavy and useless load of distinctions*.

On the principle of imitating other languages in names and forms, without a correspondence in nature and idiom, we might adopt a number of declensions, as well as a variety of cases, for English substantives. Thus, five or six declensions, distinguished according to the various modes of forming the plural of substantives, with at least half a dozen cases to each declension, would furnish a complete arrangement of English nouns, in all their trappings. See on this subject, *the fifth and ninth sections of the sixth chapter of etymology.*

But though this variety of cases does not at all correspond with the idiom of our language, there seems to be great propriety in admitting a case in English substantives, which shall serve to denote the *objects* of active verbs and of prepositions; and which is, therefore, properly termed the *objective case*. The general idea of case doubtless has a reference to the termination of the noun: but there are many instances, both in Greek and Latin, in which the nominative and accusative cases have precisely the same form, and are distinguished only by the relation they bear to other words in the sentence. We are therefore warranted, by analogy, in applying this principle to our own language, as far as utility, and the idiom of it, will admit. Now it is obvious, that in English, a noun governed by an active verb, or a preposition, is very differently circumstanced from a noun in the nominative, or in the possessive case; and that a comprehensive case, correspondent to that difference, must be useful and proper. The business of parsing, and of showing the connexion and dependence of words, will be most conveniently accomplished, by the

* "If cases are to be distinguished by the different significations of the noun, or by the different relations it may bear to the governing word, then we have in our language as many cases almost as there are prepositions: and above a man, beneath a man, beyond a man, round about a man, within a man, without a man, &c. shall be cases, as well as, of a man, to a man, and with a man." *Dr. Beattie.*

adoption of such a case; and the irregularity of having our nouns sometimes placed in a situation, in which they cannot be said to be in any case at all, will be avoided.

The author of this work long doubted the propriety of assigning to English substantives an objective case: but a renewed critical examination of the subject; an examination to which he was prompted by the extensive and increasing demand for the Grammar, has produced in his mind a full persuasion, that the nouns of our language are entitled to this comprehensive objective case.

When the thing to which another is said to belong, is expressed by a circumlocution, or by many terms, the sign of the possessive case is commonly added to the last term: as, "The king of Great Britain's dominions."

Sometimes, though rarely, two nouns in the possessive case immediately succeed each other, in the following form: "My friend's wife's sister;" a sense which would be better expressed by saying, "the sister of my friend's wife;" or, "my friend's sister-in-law." Some grammarians say, that in each of the following phrases, viz. "A book of my brother's," "A servant of the queen's," "A soldier of the king's," there are two genitive cases; the first phrase implying, "one of the books of my brother," the next, "one of the servants of the queen;" and the last, "one of the soldiers of the king." But as the preposition governs the objective case; and as there are not, in each of these sentences, two apostrophes with the letter *s* coming after them, we cannot with propriety say, that there are two genitive cases.

CHAPTER IV.

Of ADJECTIVES.

SECTION 1. *Of the nature of Adjectives, and the degrees of comparison.*

An Adjective is a word added to a substantive,

to express its quality: as, "*An industrious man;*" "*A virtuous woman;*" "*A benevolent mind.*"

In English, the adjective is not varied on account of gender, number, or case. Thus we say, "*A careless boy; careless girls.*"

The only variation which it admits, is that of the degrees of comparison.

There are commonly reckoned three degrees of comparison; the POSITIVE, the COMPARATIVE, and the SUPERLATIVE.

Grammarians have generally enumerated these three degrees of comparison; but the first of them has been thought by some writers, to be, improperly, termed a degree of comparison; as it seems to be nothing more than the simple form of the adjective, and not to imply either comparison or degree. This opinion may be well founded, unless the adjective be supposed to imply comparison or degree, by containing a secret or general reference to other things: as, when we say "*he is a tall man,*" "*this is a fair day,*" we make some reference to the ordinary size of men, and to different weather.

The Positive State expresses the quality of an object, without any increase or diminution: as, good, wise, great.

The Comparative Degree increases or lessens the positive in signification: as, wiser, greater, less wise.

The Superlative Degree increases or lessens the positive to the highest or lowest degree: as, wisest, greatest, least wise.

The simple word, or positive, becomes the comparative, by adding *r* or *er*; and the superlative, by adding *st* or *est*, to the end of it: as, wise,

wiser, wisest; great, greater, greatest. And the adverbs *more* and *most*, placed before the adjective, have the same effect: as, wise, *more* wise, *most* wise.

The termination *ish* may be accounted in some sort a degree of comparison, by which the signification is diminished below the positive: as *black*, *blackish*, or tending to blackness; *salt*, *saltish*, or having a little taste of salt.

The adverb *rather* is very properly used to express a small degree or excess of a quality: as, "She is *rather* profuse in her expenses."

Monosyllables, for the most part, are compared by *er* and *est*; and dissyllables by *more* and *most*: as, mild, milder, mildest; frugal, more frugal, most frugal. Dissyllables ending in *y*, as, happy, lovely; and in *le* after a mute, as, able, ample; or accented on the last syllable, as, discreet, polite; easily admit of *er* and *est*: as, happier, happiest; abler, ablest; politer, politest. Words of more than two syllables hardly ever admit of those terminations.

In some words the superlative is formed by adding the adverb *most* to the end of them; as, nethermost, uttermost, or utmost, undermost, uppermost, foremost.

In English, as in most languages, there are some words of very common use, (in which the caprice of custom is apt to get the better of analogy,) that are irregular in this respect: as, "good, better, best; bad, worse, worst; little, less, least; much or many, more, most; near, nearer, nearest or next; late, later, latest or last; old, older or elder, oldest or eldest;" and a few others.

An adjective put without a substantive, with the definite article before it, becomes a substantive in sense and meaning, and is written as a substantive; as, "Providence rewards the *good*, and punishes the *bad*."

Various nouns placed before other nouns assume the nature of adjectives: as sea fish, wine vessel, corn field, meadow ground, &c.

Numeral adjectives are either cardinal, or ordinal: cardinal, as one, two, three, &c.; ordinal, as, first, second, third, &c.

SECTION 2. Remarks on the subject of Comparison.

If we consider the subject of comparison attentively, we shall perceive that the degrees of it are infinite in number, or at least indefinite.—A mountain is larger than a mite:—by how many degrees? How much bigger is the earth than a grain of sand? By how many degrees was Socrates wiser than Alcibiades? or by how many is snow whiter than this paper? It is plain, that to these and the like questions no *definite* answers can be returned.

In quantities, however, that may be *exactly* measured, the degrees of excess may be exactly ascertained. A foot is just twelve times as long as an inch; and an hour is sixty times the length of a minute. But, in regard to *qualities*, and to those quantities which cannot be measured exactly, it is impossible to say how many degrees may be comprehended in the comparative excess.

But though these degrees are infinite or indefinite in fact, they cannot be so in language; nor would it be convenient, if language were to express many of them. In regard to unmeasured quantities and qualities, the degrees of more and less (besides those marked above,) may be expressed intelligibly, at least, if not accurately, by certain adverbs, or words of like import: as, "Socrates was *much* wiser than Alcibiades;" "Snow is a *great deal* whiter than this paper;" "Epaminondas was *by far* the most accomplished of the Thebans;" "The evening star is a *very* splendid object, but the sun is *incomparably* more splendid;" "The Deity is *infinitely* greater than the greatest of his creatures." The inaccuracy of these, and the like expressions, is not a material inconvenience; and, if it were, it is unavoidable: for human speech can only express human thought; and where thought is necessarily inaccurate language must be so too.

When the word *very*, *exceedingly*, or any other of similar import, is put before the positive, it is called by some writers the superlative of eminence, to distinguish it from the other superlative, which has been already mentioned, and is called the superlative of comparison. Thus *very eloquent* is termed the superlative of eminence; *most eloquent*, the superlative of comparison. In the superlative of eminence, something of comparison is, however, remotely or indirectly intimated; for we cannot reasonably call a man very eloquent, without comparing his eloquence with the eloquence of other men.

The comparative may be so employed, as to express the same pre-eminence or inferiority as the superlative. Thus, the sentence, "Of all acquirements, virtue is the *most valuable*," conveys the same sentiment as the following; "Virtue is *more valuable* than every other acquirement."—See the THIRD, or any subsequent, edition of the OCTAVO GRAMMAR.

CHAPTER V.

Of PRONOUNS.

A PRONOUN is a word used instead of a noun, to avoid the too frequent repetition of the same word: as, "The man is happy; *he* is benevolent; *he* is useful."

There are three kinds of pronouns, viz. The PERSONAL, the RELATIVE, and the ADJECTIVE PRONOUNS.

SECTION I. Of the Personal Pronouns.

THERE are five Personal Pronouns, viz. *I*, *thou*, *he*, *she*, *it*; with their plurals, *we*, *ye* or *you*, *they*.

Personal pronouns admit of person, number, gender, and case.

The persons of pronouns are three in each number, viz.

<i>I</i> , is the first person	} Singular
<i>Thou</i> , is the second person	
<i>He, she, or it</i> , is the third person	
<i>We</i> , is the first person	} Plural.
<i>Ye, or you</i> , is the second person	
<i>They</i> , is the third person	

This account of persons will be very intelligible, when we reflect, that there are three persons who may be the subject of any discourse: first, the person who speaks, may speak of himself; secondly, he may speak of the person to whom he addresses himself; thirdly, he may speak of some other person: and as the speakers, the persons spoken to, and the other persons spoken of, may be many, so each of these persons must have the plural number.

The Numbers of pronouns, like those of substantives, are two, the singular and the plural: as, *I*, *thou*, *he*; *we*, *ye* or *you*, *they*.

Gender has respect only to the third person singular of the pronouns *he*, *she*, *it*. *He* is masculine; *she* is feminine; *it* is neuter.

The persons speaking and spoken to, being at the same time the subjects of the discourse, are supposed to be present: from which, and other circumstances, their sex is commonly known, and needs not to be marked by a distinction of gender in the pronouns: but the third person or thing spoken of, being absent, and in many respects unknown, it is necessary that it should be marked by a distinction of gender; at least when some particular person or thing is spoken of, that ought to be more distinctly marked: accordingly, the pronoun singular of the third person has the three genders, *he*, *she*, *it*.

Pronouns have three cases; the nominative, the possessive, and the objective.

The objective case of a pronoun has, in general, a form different from that of the nominative, or the possessive case.

The personal pronouns are thus declined :

Person.	Case.	Singular.	Plural.
<i>First.</i>	<i>Nom.</i>	I.	We.
	<i>Poss.</i>	Mine.	Ours
	<i>Obj.</i>	Me.	Us.
<i>Second.</i>	<i>Nom.</i>	Thou.	Ye or you.
	<i>Poss.</i>	Thine	Yours.
	<i>Obj.</i>	Thee.	You.
<i>Third.</i> <i>Mas.</i>	<i>Nom.</i>	He.	They.
	<i>Poss.</i>	His.	Theirs.
	<i>Obj.</i>	Him.	Them.
<i>Third.</i> <i>Fem.</i>	<i>Nom.</i>	She	They.
	<i>Poss.</i>	Hers.	Theirs.
	<i>Obj.</i>	Her.	Them.
<i>Third.</i> <i>Neuter.</i>	<i>Nom.</i>	It.	They.
	<i>Poss.</i>	Its.	Theirs.
	<i>Obj.</i>	It	Them.

SECTION 2. Of the Relative Pronouns

RELATIVE PRONOUNS are such as relate, in general, to some word or phrase going before, which is thence called the antecedent: they are, *who*, *which*, and *that*: as, "The man is happy *who* lives virtuously *."

* The relative pronoun, when used interrogatively, relates to a word or phrase, which is not antecedent, but subsequent, to the relative. See note under Rule VI. of Syntax.

What is a kind of compound relative, including both the antecedent and the relative, and is mostly equivalent to *that which*: as, "This is *what* I wanted;" that is to say, "*the thing which* I wanted."

Who is applied to persons, *which* to animals irrational and things inanimate: as, "He is a friend, *who* is faithful in adversity;" "The bird, *which* sung so sweetly, is flown;" "This is the tree, *which* produces no fruit*."

That, as a relative, is often used to prevent the too frequent repetition of *who* and *which*. It is applied to both persons and things: as, "*He that* acts wisely deserves praise;" "Modesty is a quality *that* highly adorns a woman."

Who is of both numbers, and is thus declined :

Singular and Plural.

<i>Nominative.</i>	Who.
<i>Possessive.</i>	Whose.
<i>Objective.</i>	Whom.

Which, *that*, and *what*, are likewise of both numbers, but they do not vary their termination; except that *whose* is sometimes used as the possessive case of *which*; as, "Is there any other doctrine *whose* followers are punished?"

— "And the fruit
Of that forbidden tree *whose* mortal taste
Brought death."

MILTON.

— "Pure the joy without alloy,
Whose very rapture is tranquillity."

YOUNG.

"The lights and shades, *whose* well accorded strife
Gives all the strength and colour of our life."

POPE.

"This is one of the clearest characteristics of its being
a religion *whose* origin is divine."

BLAIR.

* See the exceptions: Syntax, Rule V. Notes 6, 7, 8

By the use of this license, one word is substituted for three: as, "Philosophy, *whose* end is to instruct us in the knowledge of nature," for, "Philosophy, *the* end of *which* is to instruct us," &c.

Who, which, and what, have sometimes the words *soever* and *ever* annexed to them; as, "*whosoever* or *whoever, which-soever* or *whichever, whatsoever* or *whatever*;" but they are seldom used in modern style, except *whoever* and *whatever*.

The word *that* is sometimes a relative, sometimes a demonstrative pronoun, and sometimes a conjunction. It is a relative, when it may be turned into *who* or *which* without destroying the sense: as, "*They* that (who) reprove us, may be our best friends;" "From every thing *that* (which) you see, derive instruction." It is a demonstrative pronoun when it is followed immediately by a substantive, to which it is either joined, or refers, and which it limits or qualifies: as, "*That* boy is industrious;" "*That* belongs to me; meaning, that book, that desk, &c. It is a conjunction, when it joins sentences together, and cannot be turned into *who* or *which*, without destroying the sense: as, "Take care *that* every day be well employed." "I hope he will believe *that* I have not acted improperly."

Who, which, and what, are called *Interrogatives*, when they are used in asking questions; as, "*Who* is he?" "*Which* is the book?" "*What* art thou doing?"

Whether was formerly made use of to signify interrogation: as, "*Whether* of these shall I choose?" but it is now seldom used, the interrogative *which* being substituted for it. Some grammarians think that the use of it should be revived, as, like *either* and *neither*, it points to the dual number; and would contribute to render our expressions concise and definite.

Some writers have classed the interrogatives as a separate kind of pronouns; but they are too nearly related to the relative pronouns, both in nature and form, to render such a division proper. They do not, in fact, lose the character of relatives, when they become interrogatives. The only

difference is, that *without* an interrogation, the relatives have reference to a subject which is antecedent, definite, and known; *with* an interrogation, to a subject which is subsequent, indefinite, and unknown, and which it is expected that the *answer* should express and ascertain.

SECTION 3. Of the Adjective Pronouns.

Adjective Pronouns are of a mixed nature, participating the properties both of pronouns and adjectives.

The adjective pronouns may be subdivided into four sorts, namely, the *possessive*, the *distributive*, the *demonstrative*, and the *indefinite*.

1. The *possessive* are those which relate to possession or property. There are seven of them; viz. *my, thy, his, her, our, your, their*.

Mine and *thine*, instead of *my* and *thy*, were formerly used before a substantive, or adjective, beginning with a vowel, or a silent *h*: as, "Blot out all *mine* iniquities."

The pronouns, *his, mine, thine*, have the same form, whether they are possessive pronouns, or the possessive cases of their respective personal pronouns. See p. 170.

A few examples will probably assist the learner to distinguish the possessive pronouns from the genitive cases of their correspondent personal pronouns.

The following sentences exemplify the possessive pronouns.—"*My* lesson is finished; *Thy* books are defaced; He loves *his* studies; She performs *her* duty; We own *our* faults; *Your* situation is distressing; I admire *their* virtues."

The following are examples of the possessive cases of the personal pronouns.—"This desk is *mine*; the other is *thine*; These trinkets are *his*; those are *hers*; This house is *ours*, and that is *yours*; *Theirs* is very commodious."

Some grammarians consider *its* as a possessive pronoun.

The two words *own* and *self*, are used in conjunction with pronouns. *Own* is added to possessives, both singular and plural: as, "*My own hand, our own house.*" It is emphatical, and implies a silent contrariety or opposition: as, "*I live in my own house,*" that is, "*not an hired house.*" *Self* is added to possessives: as, *myself, yourselves*; and sometimes to personal pronouns: as, *himself, itself, themselves*. It then, like *own*, expresses emphasis and opposition: as, "*I did this myself,*" that is, "*not another;*" or it forms a reciprocal pronoun: as, "*We hurt ourselves by vain rage.*"

Himself, themselves, are now used in the nominative case, instead of *himself, themselves*: as, "*He came himself;*" "*He himself shall do this;*" "*They performed it themselves.*"

2. The *distributive* are those which denote the persons or things that make up a number, as taken separately and singly. They are *each, every, either*: as, "*Each of his brothers is in a favourable situation;*" "*Every man must account for himself;*" "*I have not seen either of them.*"

Each relates to two or more persons or things, and signifies either of the two, or every one of any number taken separately.

Every relates to several persons or things, and signifies each one of them all taken separately. This pronoun was formerly used apart from its noun, but it is now constantly annexed to it, except in legal proceedings: as, in the phrase "*all and every of them.*"

Either relates to two persons or things taken separately, and signifies the one or the other. To say "*either of the three,*" is therefore improper.

Neither imports "*not either;*" that is, not one nor the other; as, "*Neither of my friends was there.*"

3. The *demonstrative* are those which precisely point out the subjects to which they relate: *this*

and *that, these* and *those*, are of this class: as, "*This is true charity; that is only its image.*"

This refers to the nearest person or thing, and *that* to the most distant: as, "*This man is more intelligent than that.*" *This* indicates the latter or last mentioned; *that*, the former or first mentioned: as, "*Both wealth and poverty are temptations; that, tends to excite pride, this, discontent.*"

The words *former* and *latter* may, at the first view, appear to have the nature of demonstrative pronouns, as in the following example: "*It was happy for the state, that Fabius continued in the command with Minucius: the former's phlegm was a check upon the latter's vivacity.*" But those words are to be considered as adjectives; and, in the example just given, as adjectives substantively used.

4. The *indefinite* are those which express their subjects in an indefinite or general manner. The following are of this kind: *some, other, any, one, all, such*, etc.

Of these pronouns, only the words *one* and *other* are varied. *One* has a possessive case, which it forms in the same manner as substantives: as, *one, one's*. This word has a general signification, meaning people at large; and sometimes also a peculiar reference to the person who is speaking: as, "*One ought to pity the distresses of mankind.*" "*One is apt to love one's self.*" This word is often used, by good writers, in the plural number: as, "*The great ones of the world;*" "*The boy wounded the old bird, and stole the young ones;*" "*My wife and the little ones are in good health.*"

Other is declined in the following manner:

	Singular.	Plural.
Nom.	<i>Other.</i>	<i>Others.</i>
Poss.	<i>Other's.</i>	<i>Others'.</i>
Obj.	<i>Other.</i>	<i>Others.</i>