The emphasis is upon "a party" as distinguished from "a call," not upon *one* party as distinguished from another.

A *and* ONE *should be carefully distinguished.*

The or **This.** — "This" is sometimes wrongly used instead of "the."

I.	II.
I shall try to estimate the worth of the principle which sustains my proposition.	I shall try to estimate the worth of *this* principle which sustains my proposition.

In this example, — considered apart from the context, — "the" is the proper word, because it leads the reader to expect to be told what "principle" is referred to, and he is told in the clause beginning with "which." *This* implies that the reader already knows what "principle" is referred to, either because it has been mentioned before, or because it is pointed out at the time, — suppositions apparently unwarranted by the facts.

THE *and* THIS *should be carefully distinguished.*

Chapter III.

OF NOUNS

As compared with pronouns and verbs, nouns suffer few changes of form, but those few should be mastered.

Use and **Misuse** of the **Apostrophe.** — In modern English, the apostrophe serves as a sign of the possessive case.

I.	II.
In spite of our hero's services, the king begins to wish he were well rid of such a monster.	In spite of our *heros* services, the king begins to wish he were well rid of such a monster.
He thus won not only a wrestling match but a lady's heart.	He thus won not only a wrestling match but a *ladies* heart.

These examples need no comment. The only excuse for putting them into this book is that the faulty sentences come from compositions written by candidates for admission to Harvard College.

I.	II.
She had known everything about them, from the boys' bills and the girls' gloves to the heart and the disposition of each.	She had known everything about them, from the boys' bills and the *girl's* gloves to the heart and the disposition of each.

If more than one girl is meant, the apostrophe should come after the "s" in "girls'," as it does in "boys'."

I.	II.
Many of Scott's more romantic novels are not nearly so true to life as Miss Austen's.	Many of Scott's more romantic novels are not nearly so true to life as Miss *Austens'*.

If the reference is to the author of "Pride and Prejudice," the apostrophe should be put before the "s."

I.	II.
I shot Mrs. Briggs's cat.	I shot Mrs. *Briggs'* cat.
Fate that day decreed that no horse-jockey should become the possessor of Godfrey Cass's beloved mare.	Fate that day decreed that no horse-jockey should become the possessor of Godfrey *Cass'* beloved mare.

The weight of authority seems, on the whole, to be with the second "s" in the possessive case of proper names ending in "s"; but good use is not uniform. With some proper names, — *e. g.*, "Cass," — the second "s" seems to be imperative. In others, — *e. g.*, "Highlands," "Socrates," — euphony seems to settle the question the other way, as it certainly does in "for conscience' sake," which sounds much better than "for *conscience's* sake."

I.	II.
I bought these rolls at Wright the baker's.	I bought these rolls at *Wright's the baker.*
I bought these rolls at Wright's the baker's.	

The practice of putting the sign of the possessive case with only the first of two nouns that are in apposition cannot be deemed absolutely wrong, for it is supported by a certain amount of authority; but the best usage favors the apostrophe either with the second noun or with both nouns. One reason for putting the apostrophe with the second noun is that it naturally comes at the end of the possessive expression. In the sentence quoted, "shop" is understood; and surely we should say "Wright the baker's shop" or "Wright's the baker's shop," not "*Wright's the baker* shop."

I.	II.
His generosity is especially marked when compared with his brother John of Lancaster's (or, with that of his brother, John of Lancaster).	His generosity is especially marked when compared with his *brother's* John of Lancaster's.

This sentence as originally written is intolerable in sound and misleading in sense.

I.	II.
I have received your cards, but not anybody else's.	I have received your cards, but not *anybody's else.*

Those who prefer — as some recognized authorities do — *anybody's else* to "anybody else's" do not hesitate to say *anybody's else cards;* but the weight of good usage seems to incline to "anybody else's" and "anybody else's cards." Nobody, however, says *who else's* in preference to "whose else."

I.	II.
They were frequent visitors at the manor house of Mr. Bingley (or, at Mr. Bingley's manor house), where Mr. Darcy was staying.	They were frequent visitors at the manor house of Mr. *Bingley's*, where Mr. Darcy was staying.

"The manor house" belongs to Mr. Bingley, not to Mr. *Bingley's.*

An APOSTROPHE *should be put exactly where it belongs.*

Use and **Misuse** of the **Possessive Case.** — It is sometimes a question whether to express the relation between two nouns by putting one of them in the possessive case, or by using the preposition "of."

I.	II.
I had a full understanding of (or, I fully understood) the significance of the fact.	I had a full understanding of the *fact's* significance.

In the older language the possessive (or genitive) case was more frequently used than is proper now. The King James translation of the Gospels, for example, speaks of *the shoe's latchet,* the novelist Richardson wrote *stair's foot,*

and even Thackeray wrote *bed's foot;* but such expressions are not now in good use. The tendency of the best modern usage is to indicate relations between nouns by prepositions rather than by changes in form. It is only in inferior writers that the tendency is the other way.

Other examples are —

I.	II.
The march of civilization is towards Mr. Bellamy's Utopia.	*Civilization's* march is towards Mr. Bellamy's Utopia.
It is unorthodox to refuse assent to the tenets of the Creed.	It is unorthodox to refuse assent to the *Creed's* tenets.
The cause of the catastrophe.	The *catastrophe's* cause.
A mad act of jealousy.	*Jealousy's* mad act.
The condition of the stock market.	The stock *market's* condition.
The narrow escape of a train.	A *train's* narrow escape.
The President of Amherst College.	*Amherst's* President.
The ice-palace at St. Paul.	*St. Paul's* ice-palace.
The handsome lady of Watertown.	*Watertown's* handsome lady.
The act of admission passed by Congress consisted of a simple declaration that Vermont was a member of the Union.	*Congress'* act of admission consisted of a simple declaration that Vermont was a member of the Union.

To speak of *Congress' act* is to sin against idiom, clearness, and euphony, at the same time.

Some short phrases — *e. g.*, "a week's wages," "a day's march," "the law's delay" — are so convenient that they are supported by the best modern usage. With pronouns still greater latitude is allowed. Careful writers avoid *in our midst, in their midst;* but no one hesitates to write "on our account," "in my absence," "to their credit," "for my sake," "in his defence."

As a general rule, the POSSESSIVE CASE *should be confined to cases of possession.*

Singular or **Plural.** — Nouns that are in the singular number are sometimes treated as if they were in the plural; nouns in the plural, as if they were in the singular.

I.	II.
There 's one die.	There 's one *dice.*
He is a long way off.	He is a long *ways* off.

One dice and *a ways* are indefensible.

I.	II.
In Ireland, as in all countries pervaded by disaffected feeling, news spreads rapidly, no one knows how.	In Ireland, as in all countries pervaded by disaffected feeling, news *spread* rapidly, no one knows how.
They were in a state of enthusiasm at this news.	They were in a state of enthusiasm at *these* news.

"News" as a plural noun is no longer in good use. "Tidings," now rarely heard, seems to be still plural. "Means" in the sense of instrument — *e. g.*, "a means to an end," "this was the sole means within reach" — is usually, though not always, treated as singular; but in the sense of income — *e. g.*, "his means are ample" — it is plural.

Some words are always treated as plural: *e. g.*, "assets," "dregs," "eaves," "nuptials," "pincers," "proceeds," "riches," "scissors," "shears," "suds," "tongs," "trousers," "vitals."

Others are treated sometimes as singular, sometimes as plural: *e. g.*, "alms," "amends," "headquarters," "measles," "odds," "ethics," "mathematics," "politics," "tactics," and other words ending in "-ics." Anthony Trollope, for example, in the first volume of "Framley Parsonage," writes: "Politics as a profession was, therefore, unknown to him;" in the second volume, "Politics make a terrible demand on a man's time." The tendency of modern Eng-

lish seems to be to treat words in "-ics" (except, perhaps, "athletics") as singular.

I.	II.
The United States agree to set apart certain lands for the Indians.	The United States *agrees* to set apart certain lands for the Indians.

Before the Civil War, the best authorities, including (it is said) all our Secretaries of State, treated "the United States" as a plural noun. Its use in the singular number was condemned by William C. Bryant in the famous "Index Expurgatorius," which in his day settled questions of usage for "The New York Evening Post" and its intelligent readers. Of late years, however, many persons have maintained that, the sword having decided that all the territory under the Stars and Stripes constitutes one country, the name of that country should be in the singular number, — as if a question of grammar were to be determined by political reasons. The weight of usage, at any rate, seems to be still in favor of treating "The United States" as a plural noun.

I.	II.
Use two spoonfuls of flour.	Use two *spoonsful* of flour.
Thus I had two mothers-in-law at once.	Thus I had two *mother-in-laws* at once.

"Spoonfuls" is correct; for "spoonful," "shovelful," and "cupful" are, like "peck" and "pint," words of measure. "Mothers-in-law" is correct; for the word "mother" is the fundamental, or distinguishing, part of the compound. For a similar reason, "men-of-war" and "sail-lofts" are correct.

I.	II.
In the establishment were twenty man-clerks and ten woman-clerks.	In the establishment were twenty *men-clerks* and ten *women-clerks*.

"Man-clerks" and "woman-clerks" are preferable to *men-clerks* and *women-clerks;* for "clerk" is the fundamental, or distinguishing, part of the compound. In "maid-servants" the same rule holds; but "men-servants" and "women-servants," which are in the King James translation of the Bible, are still supported by good use.

I.	II.
This happened between the twenty-second and the twenty-third year of his life.	This happened between the twenty-second and the twenty-third *years* of his life.

In this example, the singular form of the noun is preferable to the plural, because "year" is understood after "the twenty-second." The plural may, however, be used if "the" before "twenty-third" is omitted.

Be careful to put every noun in the proper number.

Nouns of Foreign Origin. — Ignorant writers misuse nouns of foreign origin.

I.	II.
I am sorry to say that I am not an alumnus of this University.	I am sorry to say that I am not an *alumni* of this University.
I don't care for proctors now; I'm an alumnus.	I don't care for proctors now; I'm an *alumnum*.
The water is full of animalcules.	The water is full of *animalculæ*.
On examination, I found a bacterium.	On examination, I found a *bacteria*.
The study of English should be a part of every college curriculum.	The study of English should be a part of every college *curricula*.
These scanty data are all we have.	*This* scanty data *is* all we have.
It was a dictum of the judge.	It was a *dicta* of the judge.

I.	II.
We have seen bad writers before, but we have never seen one who could crowd so many grammatical errata[1] into a single sentence.	We have seen bad writers before, but we have never seen one who could crowd so many grammatical *erratum* into a single sentence.
This is an important erratum.	This is an important *errata*.
I never met so many ignoramuses.	I never met so many *ignorami*.
This is a panacea.	This is a universal *panaceum*.
This was a remarkable phenomenon.	This was a remarkable *phenomena*.
In that lower stratum of society, man is a brute to the wife who angers him.	In that lower *strata* of society, man is a brute to the wife who angers him.
The tableau was beautiful.	The *tableaux* was beautiful.
Here was the terminus of the road.	Here was the *termini* of the road.
The vertebra was dislocated.	The *vertebræ* was dislocated.

Between "formulas" and "formulæ," "memoranda" and "memorandums," "radii" and "radiuses," "syllabuses" and "syllabi," usage is divided; but it seems to favor in each pair the form first named.

Never use a NOUN OF FOREIGN ORIGIN, *unless you know how to use it.*

Forms in -ess. — "Abbess," "actress," "countess," and "duchess" are in good use. A few years ago the same might have been said of "authoress" and "poetess;" but since so many women have entered the field of letters there has been a disposition to call them "authors" or "poets." *Editress* has never had any vogue, and *writeress* has been used by no one, I believe, except by Thackeray in fun. *Conductress*, *paintress*, and *sculptress* are to be found in old writers, and are still sometimes seen; but the best modern usage is against them. Since women have taken the management of large hotels in England, *manageress* has come into vogue there; but it may be doubted whether it will secure a place in the language. *Doctress*, *instructress*, and *preceptress* are not in good use. *Surgeoness* and *teacheress* I have never seen; but they are no worse than *dudess* or "the celebrated *globe-trottress*."

[1] "Errors in grammar" is the proper expression.

Forms in -ist. — Some nouns in "ist" — *e. g.*, "machinist," "pianist," "violinist" — are in good use; others, if they ever were in good use, are not so now: *e. g.*, *harpist* for "harper;" or they have not yet come into good use: *e. g.*, *pokerist* for "poker-player," *poloist* for "polo-player," *polkist* for "polka-dancer." Others are simply vulgar: *e. g.*, *walkist* for "walker," *fightist* for "fighter."

Abbreviated Forms. — Good use adopts some abbreviated forms, but brands as barbarisms many others.

Some of those condemned by "The Spectator" at the beginning of the last century are current still: *e. g.*, *hyp* for "hypochondria," *incog* for "incognito," *phiz* for "physiognomy," *poz* for "positive." Others — *e. g.*, *plenipo* for "plenipotentiary," *rep* for "reputation" — have disappeared; but their places have been more than filled: *e. g.*, *ad* for "advertisement," *cap* for "captain," *co-ed* for "female student at a co-educational college," *compo* for "composition," *confab* for "confabulation," *curios* for "curiosities," *cute* for "acute," *exam* for "examination," *gent* for "gentleman," *gym* for "gymnasium," *hum* for "humbug," *mins* for "minutes," *pants* ("the trade name," it is said) for "pantaloons"

("trousers" is far preferable), *pard* for "partner," *ped* for "pedestrian," *perks* for "perquisites," *phone* for "telephone," *photo* for "photograph," *prelim* for "preliminary examination," *prex* for "president," *prof* for "professor," *quad* for "quadrangle," *spec* for "speculation," *typo* for "typographer," *varsity* for "university."

On the other hand, some abbreviated forms — *e. g.*, "cab" from "cabriolet," "chum" from "chamber-fellow" or (perhaps) "chamber-mate," "consols" from "consolidated annuities," "hack" from "hackney-coach," "mob" from *mobile vulgus*, "penult" from "penultima," "proxy" and "proctor" from "procuracy" and "procurator," "van" from "vanguard" — have established themselves.

Misused Nouns. — As the number of nouns in the language is very large, the opportunities to use those which do not exactly express the meaning, instead of those which do, are many, — so many, indeed, that the task of enumerating all the cases in which nouns may be mistaken for one another must be left to makers of dictionaries or of books of synonyms. All that can be attempted here is to note some of the pitfalls which lie in the way of unpractised writers.

Few of us, it is to be hoped, need to be warned against confounding *allegory* with "alligator," as Mrs. Malaprop does in "The Rivals," or *asterisks* with "hysterics," as Winifred Jenkins does in "Humphrey Clinker;" but blunders a little less gross are not uncommon.

I.	II.
There are constant drafts on the resources of the Government.	There are constant *appeals* upon the resources of the Government.
Is the rocking-chair an article (or, Is the rocking-chair) peculiar to America?	Is the rocking-chair a *device* peculiar to America?

No one who knows what "device" means calls a rocking-chair a *device*.

I.	II.
That sunbeam played a great part in the landscape.	That sunbeam was a mighty *factor* in the landscape.

In school and college compositions one often finds *factor*, —a word which fills an important place in the study of mathematics, but which might well be confined to a sense suggestive, directly or indirectly, of problems of some sort.

I.	II.
Abundant leisure is a striking circumstance of their life.	Abundant leisure is a striking *feature* of their life.
He's building a beautiful house.	He's building a beautiful *home*.
The person in question entered, his hands full of letters.	The *party* in question entered, his hands full of letters.

"Person" is correct, *party* incorrect; for the reference is not to a "party" of men, nor to one man considered as a "party" to a suit or to a legal document, or in any way as distinct from, or opposed to, another "party," but to a man as an individual. "Punch" illustrates the wrong use of *party* thus: —

Obliging Railway Official. Any luggage, Miss?

Lady. No; I was waiting for a party who were to have come by this train.

O. R. O. A Party, Miss? Ah, let me see — [*confidentially*] with whiskers?

I.	II.
I remember two fields of their activity, — the stock-exchange and the senate-chamber.	I remember two *phases* of their work, — the stock-exchange and the senate-chamber.
Each article I mentioned, even the light-blue stockings.	Each *point* I mentioned, even the light-blue stockings.

I.	II.
A bubble in bursting caused the ruin of speculations caught within its influence.	A bubble in bursting caused the ruin of speculations caught within its *scope*.
The river tumbles over the cliffs in a succession of splendid cataracts.	The river tumbles over the cliffs in a *series* of splendid cataracts.
I cannot believe his assertion that he is ignorant of the subject.	I cannot believe his *statement* that he is ignorant of the subject.

An "assertion" is a declaration, or affirmation, of facts or opinions; a "statement" is a formal embodiment in language of facts or opinions, a setting down in detail of particulars. A man may "state" why he is ignorant of a subject; he "asserts" or "affirms" that he is ignorant.

I.	II.
The magazine was successful from the start.	The magazine was *a success* from the start.

We may properly say that a magazine has "success," but not that it is *a success*.

I.	II.
A carriage with two horses was driven rapidly round the corner.	A *team* with two horses was being driven rapidly around the corner.

Team is improperly used to include the carriage. It means "two or more animals working together." "Football team" is, therefore, correct.

I.	II.
That the workingman has so far realized his advantages is a proof of his intelligence.	That the workingman has so far realized his advantages is a *tribute* to his intelligence.
The testimony of men of middle age is decisive as to the value of college friendship.	The *verdict* of men of middle age is decisive as to the value of college friendship.

"Men of middle age" give their views as individuals; "testimony," not *verdict*, is therefore the proper word. "Verdict" may be used of other decisions than those of a jury, — *e. g.*, "he was condemned by the verdict of the public," — but it should be confined to the decisions of men acting, or thought of as acting, as a body.

I.	II.
Smoking is not permitted in this compartment unless all the passengers concur.	Smoking is not permitted in this compartment unless *the whole* of the passengers concur.

The whole means a thing from which no part is wanting; it fixes the attention on a thing as entire: "all" refers to individual persons or things. It would be proper, though unusual, to say that the whole of each passenger went against smoking.

Two nouns may look, or sound, so much alike as to be confounded one with the other by careless writers.

I.	II.
His apparent acceptance of the situation was feigned.	His apparent *acceptation* of the situation was feigned.
In a sudden access of grief, she rushed from the room.	In a sudden *accession* of grief, she rushed from the room.
The speeches and acts of Rosalind were alike charming.	The speeches and *actions* of Rosalind were alike charming.
In "The English Humorists," the author is awe-struck by the genius of Swift, but is disgusted by his acts.	In "The English Humorists," the author is awe-stricken by the genius of Swift, but disgusted with his *actions*.
Elizabeth sees Mr. Collins's resolution, and does everything in her power to dissuade him by acts.	Elizabeth sees Mr. Collins' resolution, and does everything in her power to dissuade him by *actions*.

In the last three examples, "acts" is preferable to *actions;* for the writer is speaking of things done, not of pro-

cesses of doing. This distinction is not always observed; but careful writers usually observe it.

I.	II.
The leaves thicken with the advance of the season.	The leaves thicken with the *advancement* of the season.

In this example, "advance" is preferable to *advancement;* for the season is spoken of as moving, not as being moved, forward.

I.	II.
All this goes a long way to secure advancement under the party system.	All this goes a long way to secure *advance* under the party system.

In this example, "advancement" is preferable to *advance;* for the office-holder is represented as being advanced, not as advancing.

I.	II.
The citizen has little time to think about political problems. Engrossing all his working hours, his vocation leaves him only stray moments for this fundamental duty.	The citizen has little time to think about political problems. Engrossing all his working hours, his *avocation* leaves him only stray moments for this fundamental duty.

In this example, "vocation" is preferable to *avocation;* for the writer is referring to the regular business, or calling, of "the citizen," not to his by-work or amusement, that which occupies his "stray moments." "Heaven," says Thomas Fuller, "is his vocation, and therefore he counts earthly employments avocations."

In modern English, there has been a disposition to use the plural, *avocations*, in the sense of "vocations," — pursuits in the nature of business. It is so used by Macaulay and Buckle. Till very recently, our own Thanksgiving Proclamations recommended good citizens to "abstain from their usual avocations." Of late, however, the tendency to use *avocations*

in the sense of "vocations" seems to be less strong than it was; and it should not be encouraged.

I.	II.
No library pretends to completeness. He sacrificed clearness to conciseness.	No library pretends to *completion.* He sacrificed clearness to *concision.*

Concision, in the sense of "conciseness," is not without authority; but "conciseness" is the better word, not only because it has the best use in its favor, but also because "concision" has other meanings.

I.	II.
Mr. S. is the helper of poor students.	Mr. S. is the *helpmate* of poor students.

Helpmate in the sense of "helper" is no longer in good use.

I.	II.
An ambitious woman announces an expurgated edition of the ploughman bard's poems, with no crudities of expression, no expletives, no vulgarisms, and no allusions to alcohol. The observance of the centenarian birthday was general.	An ambitious woman announces "an expurgated edition of the ploughman bard's poems, with no crudities of expression, no expletives, no vulgarisms, and no *illusions* to alcohol." The *observation* of the centenarian birthday was general.

Observation would imply that "the centenarian birthday" was not celebrated, but looked at.

I.	II.
Though she gossiped with her neighbors, she did not like to be under their observation.	Though she gossiped with her neighbors, she liked not to be under their *observance.*

What she disliked was to be looked at with curiosity, not to be treated with ceremonious attention.

I.	II.
When he proposed a second time to Elizabeth, his proposal was accepted.	When he proposed a second time to Elizabeth, his *proposition* was accepted.
The professor was lecturing on the domestic relations of the lower animals.	The professor was lecturing on the domestic *relationships* which exist among the lower animals.
Mrs. Smith was full of solicitude for the welfare of her husband.	Mrs. Smith was full of *solicitation* for the welfare of her husband.
Although the standard is high, the number of students increases rapidly.	Although the *standardship* is high, the number of students increases rapidly.
The influx of people of lower standards crushed out pleasant companionships and the stimulus of common aspirations after mental culture and moral excellence.	The influx of people of lower standards crushed out the pleasant companionships and the *stimulation* of mutual aspirations after mental *cultivation* and moral excellence.

Other nouns that are sometimes confounded with one another or that are otherwise misused are —

ability and capacity.
adherence and adhesion.
argument and plea.
conscience and consciousness.
egotism and egoism, egotist and egoist.
emigration and immigration.
enormity and enormousness.
esteem, estimate, and estimation.
falseness and falsity.
identity and identification.
invention and discovery.
limit and limitation.
negligence and neglect.
novice and novitiate.
organism and organization.
product and production.
prominence and predominance.
recipe and receipt.
requirement, requisition, and requisite.
resort and resource.
sewage and sewerage.
site and situation.
specialty and speciality.
stimulant and stimulus.
unity and union.
visitor and visitant.

Beware of misusing nouns.

Nouns and **Not Nouns.** — "Ready writers" sometimes invent nouns for themselves, or adopt the inventions of other "ready writers."

I.	II.
A despatch has been received from America.	A *cablegram* has been received from America.

"Telegram," though objected to at first as an irregular formation, has established itself in the language as a convenient word. *Cablegram* has not yet established itself, and the necessity for its introduction is far from apparent. There is a further important difference between the two words: "telegram" is formed from two Greek words; *cablegram* is a hybrid, "cable" coming from the French, "-gram" from the Greek.

I.	II.
This was a singular combination.	This was a singular *combine*.

There is no necessity, and there can be no excuse, for this use of *combine*. The word, so often seen in American journals, is rarely, if ever, found in English publications. "Really, *combine*," says "The Spectator" (March 12, 1892), "is a little too barbaric [*i. e.* barbarous] a word."

I.	II.
There was a conflict between his duties and his pleasures.	There was a *confliction* between his duties and his pleasures.

Though *confliction* has been employed by at least one modern philosopher of distinction, it is not in good use. It sometimes appears in college compositions.

Other examples of nouns that are not nouns in good use are —

I.	II.
This was a terrible disappointment.	This was a terrible *disappoint.*
The list of the invited was long.	The list of *invites* was long.
No one knows what the labor party will do.	No one knows what the *laborites* will do.
I would come for sixteen dollars a week to start with; but I should expect a rise before long.	I would come for sixteen dollars a week to start; but I would expect a *raise* before long.
To protect buyers from deception, the name is woven at each repetition of the pattern.	To protect buyers from deception, the name is woven at each *repeat* of the pattern.
He was one of the most industrious collegians.	He was one of the most industrious *collegiates.*

Collegiate was once a noun, but is now in good use as an adjective only.

I.	II.
An elective course in foot-ball ought to be offered by the college.	An *elective* in foot-ball ought to be offered by the college.
It is said that four new optional courses will be offered.	It is said that four new *optionals* will be offered.

Elective exists as a noun in the dialect of some colleges, and *optional* in that of others; but neither is supported by the best usage.

Other examples of the unwarrantable use of adjectives as nouns are —

I.	II.
Last night I dined at Memorial Hall.	Last night I dined at *Memorial.*
Another horse has been killed by an electric car.	Another horse has been killed by an *electric.*
It came by the last freight train.	It came by the last *freight.*
I sent you a postal card to-day.	I sent you a *postal* to-day.

I.	II.
Imagine Gulliver's amazement on beholding himself surrounded by a host of small human beings (or, dwarfs) of about the size of his middle finger.	Imagine Gulliver's amazement on beholding himself surrounded by a host of small *humans* about the size of his middle finger.
Mr. Bennett thinks that an editorial article (or, a leader) is in the highest style of composition known.	Mr. Bennett thinks that "an *editorial*" is the highest style of composition known.

The last sentence as originally written appears in "The Spectator" (May 7, 1864) in a review of "Manhattan," an American novel. It would be interesting to know when *editorial* was first used as a noun. The word is so common now in America, and so convenient, — "leader" being rarely used here, — that there is danger of its establishing itself in the language. *Editorialet* may appear next, as *leaderette* has appeared in England.

Avoid nouns that are not in good use.