

PREFACE.

(*From the American Edition.*)

IN preparing this elementary grammar, it is assumed that pupils, before using it, have been trained in the primary schools and the lower classes of the grammar schools, to *use* language, both oral and written, in simple stories and descriptions, with considerable facility, and general correctness.

In the study of grammar, language becomes the object of study and investigation.

We take the sentence,—the only form of words expressing a complete thought,—and analyze it into its elements according to the part that each performs in expressing the thought. These elements into which all discourse may be resolved, we call the *parts of speech*.

Then the relation of the elements in a sentence must be known in order to determine the meaning.

In many cases the *arrangement* furnishes the only means of determining the relation of words and other elements of the sentence. In others, the relation is shown by inflections, auxiliaries, or connectives,