HISTORICAL OUTLINE.

THE various languages spoken by mankind admit of being grouped together in certain great families, the members of each of which resemble each other more or less closely in the words used to express ideas, and in the grammatical framework of forms and inflexions by which the words are combined. One of these families of languages has been called the Indo-European, or Aryan family. It includes the Sanscrit, Persian, Slavonian, Latin, Greek, Keltic, and Teutonic languages. The Teutonic branch of this family is divided into two principal stocks, the Scandinavian and the German; and the German stock is again subdivided into High German languages (spoken in the mountainous districts of the south of Germany) and Low German languages (spoken in the northern lowlands of Germany). English belongs to the Low German branch of the Teutonic stock, and is akin to Frisian, Dutch, Flemish, Platt-Deutsch, and Mœso-Gothic.

The inhabitants of Gaul and Britain, when those countries were invaded by the Romans, were of Keltie race, and spoke various dialects of the Keltie group of languages.

The conquered Gauls adopted the Latin language, and the Franks and Normans, who at a later time established themselves in the country, adopted the language of the people they conquered. Thus it has come about that French is for the most part a corrupted form of Latin, belonging to that group of languages which is called 'Romanee.'

The Keltic inhabitants of Britain did not adopt the Latin language, but retained their own Keltic dialects. One of these is still spoken by the Keltic inhabitants of Wales.

English is the language brought into England by the Saxons and Angles, who in the fifth century conquered and dispossessed the British or Keltic inhabitants, and drove the remnants of them into the remote mountainous corners of the island, especially Wales, Cornwall (which was called West Wales), and Strathclyde (comprising Cumberland, Westmoreland, and the Western Lowlands of Scotland). They were a Teutonic race, coming from the lowland region in the northwestern part of Germany. The name Angle appears to have belonged at first only to one division of these Teutonic invaders; but in course of time, though long before the Norman Conquest, it was

R

08—110 (1—121

111

12-126

27-131

32—134 35—139

140

11-143

14-152

3-157

38-166

67, 168

59-176

78--180

31 192

3-198

95-197

201

01-216

17-220

21-226

227

•

28-–<u>2</u>66

68-280

81-293

94-312

13-315

16-347

48 – 370

71-413

age 110

age 120