

times ; whether it be men or miles, or days, that we are numbering.

So it is also with Grammar. The Nouns and Verbs and other Parts of Speech that Grammar treats of, may relate to very different subjects, and may be found in various kinds of Compositions ; such as works of Science, History, Poetry, &c., but the rules of Grammar are the same in all.

So also the art of Writing (and the same may be said of Printing) is in itself the same, however different may be the kinds of subject-matter it is employed on.

Now the same is the case (as has been above said) with Reasoning. We may be employed in reasoning on human affairs, or on Mathematics, or on Natural-history or Chemistry, or other subjects widely different from each other. But in every case the Reasoning-process is, in itself, the same.

§ 3. Any Debate [or Disputation,] when you are endeavouring to bring others over to your opinion, is *one* of the occasions on which Reasoning is employed ; and the word “arguing” is by some persons understood as having reference *only* to cases where there is a *dispute* between those who are maintaining opposite opinions. But this is a mistake. At least, it is a mistake to suppose that the use of “Arguments”—if we understand by that, the use of Reasoning—is confined to the case of *disputes* ; or even that this is the *principal* employment of it. There is no set of men less engaged in dispute and controversy than Mathematicians ; who are the most constantly occupied in Reasoning. They establish all their propositions by the most exact proofs ; so complete as not even to admit of any dispute.

And in all other subjects likewise, a sensible man, when he wishes to make up his mind on any question will always seek for some sufficient “Reason” [or “Argument”] on which to found his conclusion.

Thus, a Judge, before whom any case is tried is occupied in weighing the Arguments on both sides, that are brought forward by the respective Advocates. He (no less than they) is engaged in Reasoning ; though the Advocates are *disputing* and the Judge is not.