

"He was about seventy five fathoms long," &c. Other objects are spoken of as "she," not only boats and vessels, but a locomotive. Of this old usage we have a remnant in the universal use of the feminine for ships.

Another old form still common is the use of the singular *thee* and *thou*, where now the plural *you* is commonly employed. With this is joined what is still common in parts of England, the use of the nominative for the objective, and to some extent the reverse.

Some peculiarities may be noticed also in the formation of the past tense of verbs. Thus the present *saw* becomes in the past *sove*, and *dive* in like manner *dove*. But the very general usage is to follow the old English practice of adding "ed." Thus they say *runned* for ran, *sidd* for saw, *hurtted* for hurt, *fallled* for fell, *comed* for came, even *sen'd* for sent, and *goeld* for went. This last however is true English, retained in Scotland in *gaed*, while *went* does not belong to the verb at all, but is the past of another verb to *wend*. More curious still is the use of *doned* for did or done. Perhaps however this is not common.

The use of the letter "a" as a prefix to participles or participial nouns to express on action still going on, is still retained, as a-walking, a-hunting, etc.

Again in some places there is retained in some words the sound of *e* at the end where it is now omitted in English. Thus "hand" and "hands" are pronounced as if written "hande" and "handes." This is old English. We find it in Coverdale's version of the Bible, Tyndale's New Testament, which however sometimes has "honde" and "hondes," and Cranmers.

A number of words written with *ay* and with most English speaking having the long sound of *a*, are in Newfoundland sounded as if written with a *g*. Thus they say w'y, aw'y, pr'y, pr'yer, b'y, for away, pray, prayer, bay. So n'yebors for neighbors. This pronunciation is still retained in Scotland, and R. Lowell refers to it as in Chaucer, and quotes it as an example of the *lastingness* of linguistic peculiarities.

In their names of objects of natural history we find the retention of a number of old English words. Thus whortleberries or blueberries are called *hurts*, nearly the same as the old English whurts or whorts, marked in the dictionaries as obsolete. Then they call a flea a *lopp*, the Anglo-Saxon *loppe* from *lope* to leap, and wasps they call *waps*, which is the same with the Anglo-Saxon *waps* and the low German *wepsk*. A