

ship, the first requisite is that words closely connected in thought be placed together and that words distinct in thought be kept apart ; the second is that phrases or clauses similar in significance should be similar in form ; the third is that when the order of words and the form of constructions prove inadequate to define the relation of a word or a clause to the context, connectives should denote that relation with precision.

III. The principle of emphasis, as applied to the sentence, demands that the words that arrest the eye should be those to which the writer wishes to direct our attention. As in the case of the paragraph, the most prominent parts of a sentence are the end and the beginning. In general, then, care should be taken that the most important words of the sentence should be placed in these positions.

WORDS

We have, in preceding chapters, noted several classes of words that must not be used in our compositions : 1. Vulgarisms. 2. Slang. 3. Colloquialisms. 4. Provincialisms. 5. Foreign or dialect expressions for which there is no good English equivalent. 6. Archaisms, or obsolete words. 7. Newly coined words. But, besides avoiding these undesirable words, we must see to it that our language is so chosen as to appeal to the best taste and to express our meaning in the clearest and most forcible way possible. In order to accomplish this, we must avoid the use of hackneyed expressions, of all forms of fine writing, of ambiguous language, of words used without due regard to their precise meaning, and of unnecessary repetitions ; we must aim, too, at choosing only such words as express our meaning in the most definite form possible.