PREFACE.

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scurity by the difficult terms peculiar to it. In no science, perhaps, is this more remarkably the case than in Grammar : the terms employed are so abstruse, that, unless accurately and intelligibly explained, many persons of experience and moderate capacity cannot understand them. Could this inconvenience be thoroughly and efficiently removed, the principles of Grammar might be adapted to the humblest ability; for were the nature of the various parts of speech clearly shown, the mind would recognize its own operations, and perceive that Grammar is nothing else than a delineation of those rules which we observe in the expression of every thought by words. As the English language has received its greatest improvements from men of classical knowledge, and as we cannot clearly understand the true meaning and force of the terms made use of in Grammar without tracing them to their origin, the derivation of the words of importance have been given throughout, with the plain meaning attached to each. Under the head of Orthography, a list of directions for using CAPITALS and italics has been added. Under Etymology, considerable improvements and corrections have been made in almost all the 'parts of speech.' Under Syntax, within thirteen rules and their notes, will be found sufficient instruction on the concord and government of the English tongue. Under Prosody, the various rules to be observed in