

'*statesmanlike*,' and as in complete accordance with analogy—the adjective appropriate for the noun, and corresponding with '*man*' and '*manly*.' The word '*highth*,' which has been superseded by '*height*,' has the authority of Milton, (for example—'The highth of this great argument.' '*Paradise Lost*;) and has been restored by Landor and Hare: it has the advantage over the word by which it has been thrust aside, in that it preserves the connection with the adjective *high*, and also the analogy with the ending of the other terms of measurement.

Besides the consideration whether a word is in or out of the language, according to right authority, the student has to inquire into the true application of words, liable as they are, by carelessness or ignorance, to be perverted to spurious meanings. The verb '*to realize*,' for example, will be found in this dictionary with the true and authorized definition, as when it is rightly applied in '*realizing a wish—realizing a hope, a scheme, etc.*' But there is another use of the word, which is false to the definition and also to the best authorities, as when people talk of '*realizing an event—a state of things, etc.*'—thus making it a substitute for '*think, conceive, understand, etc.*' This is believed to be an American use of the word, unless perhaps it might be traced farther back to the puritans in England. Again, there is not unfrequently brought here an inaccurate and rather absurd use of a word, about which there seems to have been a kind of fashion in England, but which is thus strongly condemned by an English writer in the '*Philological Museum*:'

"That stupid modern vulgarism, by which we use the word *nice* to denote almost every mode of approbation for almost every variety of quality and from sheer poverty of thought, or fear of saying any thing definite wrap up every thing indiscriminately in this characteristic domino, speaking in the same breath of a *nice cheesecake, a nice tragedy, a nice oyster, a nice child, a nice man, a nice tree, a nice sermon, a nice day, a nice country*—as if a universal deluge of *niaiserie* (for *nice* seems originally to have been only *niais*) had whelmed the whole island—this vulgarism has already taken root even in the lowest classes, and one hears ploughboys talking of *nice weather*, and sailors of *a nice sea*." P. 650. To this comment it is only necessary to add, by way of contrast to such in discriminate use of the word, what Swift—with characteristic coarseness and equally characteristic accuracy of language—said, that '*a nice man is a man of nasty ideas*.'

Another example may be cited from the "*Guesses at Truth*," where it is remarked as "*a whimsical incongruity, at the very time when strongly marked outlines of character are fading away, every man, woman*