

the root the preterite of the verb "do." This suffix became abbreviated in A.S. to *de* or *te* and was attached to the root by a connecting vowel, *o* or *e*. In Modern English the suffix has become *d* or *t* and the connecting vowel is always *e*.

Strong plurals.—These are of two classes, 1st, those nouns which form their plural by the A. S. suffix *en*: *ox*, *oxen*; 2nd by a radical change: "*mon*," "*men*," "*mouse*," "*mice*." Terminations were added which modified the root, then the termination disappeared. When two vowels come together the tendency is to throw the last vowel back into the root. "*Mon*" (A. S. plural *ter*, *er*, *en*, *es*.)

Plu. manner in rapid speaking would be shortened to *menne*, then to *men*.

Passive Voice.—In all languages the passive voice has grown out of the reflexive form of the active voice. In Eng. we have no reflexive form of the verb (except two borrowed from the Scandinavian, *hisk* and *bask*), thus we have no distinct form for the past voice, we are forced to periphrasis to supply the want. We use the substantive verb as auxiliary in association with the past participle, though this combination does not always convey a passive sense, and presents several anomalies.

The termination "*ing*."—

1. A. S. indefinite infinitive, ended in "*an*."

2. A. S. gerundial infinitive, a dative case of the inf. ended in "*enne*" or "*anne*" with "*to*" prefixed.

3. A. S. verbal noun ended in "*ung*," was formed from many verbs, especially those ending "*ian*."

4. The imperfect participle in "*ende*," "*ande*." The two forms of the infinitive were soon used loosely, the part changed gradually into "*en*" and "*ing*," until at length people lost sight of the distinction originally existing among the four classes.

The modern result of all these

confusions is this, our modern participle often represents a latent verbal noun and an omitted preposition: "I shall go (a) fishing."

Construction of compound tenses.—

Active Voice.—To supply the place of our lost inflectional endings we make use of the aux. verbs, "*have*," "*shall*," "*will*" using "*have*" followed by the per. part. to form the perfect tenses and "*shall*" and "*will*" followed by the infinitive to form the future tenses.

In O. E. verbs which had no object took "*be*" as aux. to form the per. tenses, hence we have verbs of motion—"come," arrive and often conjugated with "*be*."

We discriminate between such expressions as "*he is come*," and "*he has come*," by saying that in the former we refer to the actor as seen in the act, in the latter to the fact of the coming, *i e* to the action.

There are three distinct relations to be expressed by *shall* and *will*.

1, Simple futurity. 2, Futurity with reference to something external. 3, Futurity with reference to something internal and the two latter depending on ideas of what we have to do, like to do, must do, ought to do, etc.

The Germans have three verbs to express these three relations; *werden* = to become (simple futurity), *sollen* = shall (obligation,) *wollen* = will (volition.)

The idea lying at the foundation of all future tenses is obligation and when *shall* is not ambiguous it is the proper tense to use to denote simple futurity.

The following are our idioms in direct sentences:—

I shall.	We shall.
Thou wilt.	Ye will (you will.)
He will.	They will.
Shall I.	Shall we
Shalt thou.	Shall ye (you.)
Will he.	Will they.

Dep. clauses.

When the two subjects are the same