

(j) For his sake, empires had risen, and flourished, and decayed.

(i) (j) And feeling all along the garden wall,

Lest he should swoon and tumble  
and be found,

Crept to the gate, and open'd it,  
and closed.

(i) (d) I sat and looked and listened, and thought how many thousand years ago the same thing was going on in honour of Bumbastis.

(k) The colleges, the clergy, the lawyers, the wealthy merchants, were against me.

(l) All great works of genius come from deep, lonely thought.

(i) Punish, guide, instruct the boy.

(m) Lydgate's conceit was of the arrogant sort, never simpering, never impertinent, but massive in its claims and benevolently contemptuous.

In the example under (j), some writers would omit the commas. Their omission would be more usual in a colloquial than in an oratorical style, such as that of the passage in Macaulay from which the sentence is taken.

## II.

### WORDS IN APPPOSITION.

A comma is put between two words or phrases which are in apposition with each other (a), unless they are used as a compound name or a single phrase (b). Instead of a comma, the dash [—] alone (c), or combined with the comma (d), is sometimes used.

(a) Above all, I should speak of *Washington*, the youthful Virginian colonel.

(a) Next to the capital stood *Bristol*, then the first English seaport, and *Norwich*, then the first English manufacturing town.

(b) On the seventeenth of November, 1558, after a brief but most disastrous reign, *Queen Mary* died.

(b) *Ward Room*, *Franklin Schoolhouse*, *Washington Street*, Boston.

(c) This point represents a second thought—an emendation.

(c) Do I want an arm when I have three right arms—*this* (putting forward his left one), and Ball and Troubridge?

(d) The two principles of which we have hitherto spoken,—*Sacrifice* and Truth.

(d) He considered fine writing to be an addition from without to the matter treated of,—a sort of ornament superinduced.

In a sentence constructed like the first one under (c), the dash is preferable to the comma; for the dash indicates unmistakably that the two expressions between which it stands are in apposition, whereas the comma might leave room for a momentary doubt whether "an emendation" was the second term in a series, of which "a second thought" was the first term. A similar remark can be made about the second sentence under (c).

Where, as in the sentences under (d), the words in apposition are separated from each other by several other words, the dash indicates the construction more clearly than the comma would do.

## III.

### VOCATIVE WORDS.

Vocative words or expressions are separated from the context by one comma, when they occur at the beginning (a) or at the end (b) of a sentence; by two commas when they occur in the body of a sentence (c).

(a) Mark Antony, here, take you Cæsar's body.

(b) What would you, *Desdemona*?

(c) Mr. Adams and Mr. Jefferson, fellow-citizens, were successively Presidents of the United States.

(c) I remain, Sir, your obedient.

(c) No sir, I thank you.

## IV.

### ADVERBS AND ADVERBIAL EXPRESSIONS.

Adverbial (a), participial (b), adjectival (c), or absolute (d) expressions