

that, and thou, &c. Future tense, *I will love, &c.* Potential tense, first person singular, *I may love, &c.* And the simple infinitive, *to love.*

Thus the above regular verbs, it may be observed that there are but six inflexions,—*lovest, loves, loveth, loved, lovedst, and loving*; and from the irregular verb *write*, we have seven inflexions, viz. *wriest, writes, writeth, wrote, wrotest, writing, written*; and in most other languages the inflexions are of a complex and varied character.

The above four parts of speech are what grammarians call the *declinable* ones, and by far the most important. The four others are *indeclinable*, and of much less consequence. We shall proceed briefly to enumerate them.

V.—THE ADVERB.

The Adverb is a word used along with a verb, to express some circumstance relating to it; that is, to qualify it, or define the manner *how*—as, she writes *badly*. Its derivation is from the Latin *ad verbum* (to the verb), which is its literal meaning. It is also used to modify an adjective—as, he is *very* generous. Sometimes it qualifies another adverb—as, she writes *admirably* well. Adverbs may be known by asking a question, How? When? or Where?—as, How does he conduct himself?—*Very* well, *admirably*. The adverb is to the verb or adjective what the adjective is to the noun—as in the examples, He is a *wise* man, he acts *wisely*, we perceive that the adjective *wise* qualifies the noun *man*, and the adverb *wisely* qualifies the verb *acts*; so on.

VI.—THE PREPOSITION.

The Preposition is a word placed before a noun or pronoun to show its relation to something previously mentioned—as, "William came *with* me,"—the word *with* showing the relation to the pronoun *me*. It is derived from the Latin word *prepositum* (placed before), and is easily distinguished by its making sense with any of the words *with, him, them*, placed after it—as, *with* me, *from* us, *to* him, *after* them, &c.

VII.—THE CONJUNCTION.

The Conjunction is a word used to connect words and parts of sentences—as, He went out; *but* she stayed at home, *that* her mother might not be left alone. The word is derived from the Latin *conjunctio* (a joining together), or *cum* and *juncto*, as in *with*.

VIII.—THE INTERJECTION.

This is a mere abrupt exclamation—as, *oh! alas! oh dear!* or any such expression to manifest sudden joy, grief, surprise, pain, or sarcasm. It is derived from the Latin *interjectum* (thrown between), as indicative of some word or expression thrown between the words of a sentence.

PARSING.

Immediately connected with the preceding parts of speech is the important operation of *Parsing*, which we shall now proceed briefly to illustrate.

Parsing is the act or exercise of resolving a sentence into the various *parts* of which it is composed, and accounting for its construction. For the sake of illustration we shall proceed to parse a simple sentence, containing the various parts of speech, and thus demonstrate the grammatical connexion of one part with another in the formation of a perfect sentence.

The sovereign who rules absolutely over his subjects is often, alas! capricious and tyrannical.

Who is the definite article;—*sovereign* is a noun substantive, of the masculine gender, nominative case, third person singular, and precedes the verb *is*;—*who* is a relative pronoun, of the nominative case, agreeing with its antecedent *sovereign*, and introduces the verb *rules*;—*rules* is a verb neuter, of the indicative mood, present tense, third person singular, and agrees with its nominative word *who* (according to