

exists in all of the dialects of the Six Nations. We shall frequently meet with compound words in which the characters of the original elements are so entirely changed, or so little left of them, that it will require the utmost caution to keep clear of error. It may be better, when such cases occur, not to attempt an analysis, rather than incur the risk of misleading in the matter.

As an example of this tendency to run words together, as well as showing how the possessive of nouns is formed, we have :—

My apple = *Ah-kwa-hih*, which is evidently a compound of the pronoun *My* = *Ah-kwa-wenh* and *Apple* = *Ka-hih*, but instead of using the full form *Ah-kwa-wenh* + *Ka-hih*, we have the last syllable of the pronoun and the first of the noun elided, and we get *Ah-kwa-hih*.

So in the second and third persons we have *Thy apple* = *Sa-hih*, from *Sa-wenh* + *Ka-hih*.

Thy apple	= <i>Sa-hih</i>	from <i>Sa-wenh</i> + <i>Ka-hih</i> .
His apple	= <i>Ra-o-hih</i>	“ <i>Ra-o-wenh</i> + <i>Ka-hih</i> .
{ Her apple	= <i>Ah-ko-hih</i>	“ <i>Ah-ko-wenh</i> + <i>Ka-hih</i> .
{ Her or its apple	= <i>A-o-hih</i>	“ <i>A-o-wenh</i> + <i>Ka-hih</i> .

Dual.

Plural.

Our apple *Un-kyahih*.

Unkwa-hih.

Your apple *Ja-hih*.

Se-wa-hih.

Male—Their apple *Ra-o-na-hih*.Male—*Ra-o-na-hih*.Neuter or female—Their apple *A-o-na-hih*.Female or N.—*A-o-na-hih*.

The rule which may be deduced from the above, with reference to the formation of the possessive case of nouns, I think will be found general. In many cases, however, we shall find that the final syllable of the pronominal part of a compound word, or rather of the possessive, is modified, doubtless for the sake of euphony, and according to certain general rules.

Take any number of words, as *Bow* = *Ah-en-nah*, *Arrow* = *Ka-yen-kwi-reh*, *Tommahawk* = *Ah-do-kenh*, *Knife* = *Ah-sa-reh*, *Shoes* = *Ah-dah*, and form their possessive cases, and we shall, I think, find that the same general rule applies to all, *e.g.* :—

My bow	<i>Ah-kwa-en-nah</i> .
Thy bow	<i>Sa-en-nah</i> .
His bow	<i>Ra-o-en-nah</i> .
Her bow	<i>Ah-ko-en-nah</i> .
Her or its bow	<i>A-o-en-nah</i> .

In this example we find that precisely the same rule applies as in the first instance given, and we need go no further than the singular,