

(some only, as Burmese, Chinese, Siamese, Annamese), some African tongues (as Fulah, Nuba, Kunama, Barea, Somali, Niam-niam), Dravidian (except where Sanskrit has influenced), Caucasian (some only as Lezghi, Ude, Georgian, Mingrelian, Lazic, Suanio), Basque, Negro Languages of W. Africa (as Serer, Nupe, Soninké, Mandingo, Serechule, Basa, Grebo, Kuru etc.), Kham-Bushman, Nicobarese and Andamanese. The distinction of *animate* and *inanimate* so characteristic of American tongues appears also in several old-world languages, as :—Caucasian (Abchas, Kasikumuk, Artschi, Hürkan, Tschetschenz, Thusi, etc.), Dravidian, etc. The Khasia, Tibetan, and Hürkan and Avar are of especial value for our study of this subject. It is in the American languages taken in connection with these that the solution of the problem is to be found. To the American tongues, considered in this respect, M. Lucien Adam and M. Raoul de la Grasserie, have devoted considerable attention. The probability of the distinction between animate and inanimate having preceded that of male and female is very great. The able essay of M. de La Grasserie (*Revue de Linguistique*, XIX, 96-102) throws considerable light upon the subject. The following scheme shows the ideas of M. de La Grasserie, regarding the origin and development of Grammatical Gender :

I. Ego (animal)—non-ego. II. animate (homo)—inanimate (vitalistic distinction). III. rational — irrational (rationalistic). IV. andric—metandric (conception of man as superior in intelligence and dignity to woman). V. Meidzobiotic—meiobiotic (conception of greater or less intensity of vitality). VI. Masculine—Feminine.

Man first distinguished the *ego* and the *non-ego*, and along with this the *like-me* and the *unlike-me*. Then he separated the animate and the inanimate into two great groups, himself included in the first. The next step was to discover the rationalistic distinction between himself and the other animals ; this led to his esteeming himself higher in dignity and intelligence to woman, and again to a distinction based upon the degree of intensity of vitality which finally led up to the differentiation of masculine and feminine. Instead of there having been one original sex-distinction from which grammatical gender and all other genders arose, there have been many more, more in some languages than others, and not until all these categories have been examined and searched into can the problem of the origin of Grammatical Gender be solved.