

inflected European and Semitic tongues. Are inflections then a sign of mental ability or were the ancestral Delawares and Sahaptins equal in mental power to the fathers of Aryan speech? Again, in endeavoring to account for the position of the adjective, Mr. Byrne lays down the hypothesis, that those nations which think much of the nature of things put the adjective before the substantive. Do the Iroquois, the more considerate race, who place the adjective last, think less of the nature of things than the Algoquins who place it first; or the Italians than the Magyars? The reviewer cites the English language to prove that it is the imagination that tends to throw the adjective last. In prose it generally precedes, in poetry and poetic description it tends to follow. The more active the play of the imagination the stronger is this tendency, *e.g.*—

“Adieu, adieu! my native shore

Fades o'er the waters *blue*.—BYRON.

“Announced by prophet *sooth* and *old*,

Doomed, doubtless, for achievement *bold*.—SCOTT.

“Meadows *trim* and daises *pie'd*,

Shallow brooks and rivers *wide*.—MILTON.

Both Iroquois and Italians are imaginative, and emphatically in this respect the children of Nature as it is spread before them. Their cases support the latter hypothesis. The Japanese, on the other hand, a highly imaginative race, always place the adjective and the adjectival phrase first.

A further interesting course of investigation would be the study of these results, in the light of the principles enunciated in Herbert Spencer's *Philosophy of Style*.

WASTE IN WHEAT CROPS.—Dr. Paley asserts in the *Contemporary Review* that experiments show that one simple grain of wheat will normally produce seven ear-bearing stalks. The single blade spears into three, then into five or more side shoots, every one of which, transplanted, will form a new plant. Each ear, under average conditions, will contain from sixty to seventy grains. Therefore, as the yield from one grain there is a possibility of four hundred grains, or a fair average of three hundred. That means that one bushel should produce three hundred. But