

truth they are incipient pronouns. *Little* is an adverb modifying *dream*. *By* may be understood, but *little* is here an old instrumental in which case adjectives were formerly freely used as adverbs.

*What* is a simple relative (originally an interrogative) pronoun, object of *said*, the antecedent being suppressed. As *what* has never altogether laid aside its 'interrogative syntax' the 'antecedent' if expressed must follow *what* or else *what* must be changed into the common relative *whi*'. '*What*, being simply the neuter of the interrogative *who*, ought consistently to be similarly used. As, therefore, *who* is used relatively, we may expect *what* to be used so likewise. And so it is; but inasmuch as the adjective *which* very early took the force of the relative pronoun, *what* was supplanted by *which* rarely used relatively. Even when it is, it generally stands before its antecedent (transitional use of *who*) thereby indicating its interrogative force, though the position of the antecedent is altered to suit a statement instead of a question. Shakesperian Grammar § 252.

*Good* seems to be an adjective used as a noun (really with the noun so long suppressed that the adjective has added its meaning to its own.) *Good* may also be parsed as an adverb (called by Earle the Flat Adverb.) 'Blows good (luck to) nobody' or 'blows good (=well) for nobody.'

*Full* is an adverb modifying *many*, and equivalent to *very*. We still retain it in 'full seldom,' 'full often,' &c. It was freely used in Early English. *Many* is an adjective qualifying flower. (Compare *multus vir, multa avis*.) This construction has already been discussed in the 'Desk.'

*Unseen* is a verbal adjective, a quasi-predicate of flower. 'To blush (it being) unseen.'

68. Since  $160 = 13^2 - 3^2$  or  $10 = 3\frac{1}{4}^2 - \frac{3}{4}^2$

Take a common chain (or tape line four rods long) and fasten the end at A the corner of the lot, measure  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a rod down the side, say to B, and there loop the chain round a stake; returning to the front of the lot walk along it until the chain is taut say at C; four times AC will be the side of a square acre.

69. ALL an adjective qualifying a noun understood, or an Adjective Pronoun object of *of*. *Not* a noun equivalent to *The whole*. *Better* is an adjective in the comparative degree predicated of the noun phrase 'To dwell in the 'midst of alarms.'

'It would be better to dwell. &c.'

70. 'To touch some part of his idol. Though he touch nought but its garment.' As is well known Horne Tooke asserted there were in English two words, *but*, of different derivation; the better,

class of modern grammarians, however, reject this view. See Abbott's Shakesperian Grammar Sections 118—130. Mr. Howell of Belleville, sends us the following excellent discussion, (He will pardon us remarking that his 'New Departure' is not new, but is involved in the discussion, whether BUT is the imperative or the past passive participle, i.e., whether it means *except* or *excepted*, 'except its garment' or 'its garment being excepted.'

"I must confess no slight inability to treat it thoroughly. It is often true that we teach as we ourselves were taught, and it has become a habit to suppose an ellipsis in any proposition in which the syntactical relations of its parts, are not readily perceived. Consequently I will say, 'He strained . . . greedy to touch, though *he might touch* but his idol's garment, or, 'though IT SHOULD BE but his idol's garment.' 'The 'but,' subordinate conjunction, introducing the dependent proposition 'he might touch but his idol's garment,' adverbial extension of the preceding proposition of which 'strained' is the grammatical predicate.

Eminent lexicographers and grammarians differ so much in relation to 'but' that an ordinary man can scarcely decide what view to adopt concerning it.

Let me say (1) 'though he might touch NOUGHT BUT his idol's garment'; or, (2) 'though he might BUT touch his idol's garment,' or, (3) 'though he might touch but his idol's garment.'

I. Worcester considers 'but' a preposition in 'all but one were lost' and as the above seems to be parallel 'but' is a preposition, but=excepting, holding an adjective relation to 'nought' and followed by the object 'garment,' but as 'garment' seems really the object of 'touch' I cannot agree to the above explanation, however convenient it may be in practice.

II. 'But,' is often considered an adverb signifying only. 'Though he might ONLY touch, &c.' 'But,' ('but touch,') adverb modifying 'touch.'

III. Yet, it seems that instead of modifying 'touch,' it limits the meaning of 'garment,' i.e.; 'touch the garment ONLY,' 'only' would here be called an adjective and why not as well call 'but' an adjective, if it in any way restricts the meaning of 'garment.' 'He might touch but (only) his idol's garment.' 'But,' ('but garment,') adjective limiting 'garment.' This new departure is perhaps as legitimate as either of the former methods of parsing.

Dr. Johnson always considers 'but' a conjunction, and in this case it may so be called without any great stretch of imagination.

'He might touch nought but his idol's garment.' 'But,' (nought but garment.) Co-ordinate conjunc-