

been contended that the deaf mutes learn from using pantomime to write in an unenglish manner; "nay sir," said Dr. Johnston of a dancing dog, "the creature, it is true dances ill, but the wonder is that it should dance at all;" the same might with truth be said of mutes with regard to their use of English."

There is no doubt that much disappointment is often felt by the earnest teacher in the results which have followed much painstaking labor. He sees his pupils continually making blunders in the inversion of words, using wrong tenses and giving an entirely different meaning to a sentence by substituting one auxiliary verb for another and in the use of idioms only applicable in certain cases and in a certain sense. Like the foreigner who, having an imperfect knowledge of English, shouted on falling into a river, "I will be drowned and no one shall help me," which probably conveyed to the bystanders an entirely different meaning to what he had intended.

The tendency of deaf mutes is to invert the order of the words they employ

As Music of Academy for Academy of Music.

Gravity of attraction for attraction of Gravity.

Stampage posts for postage stamps.

Sugar maple for maple sugar.

Pencil slates for slate pencils.

How are you old, etc.

The misplacing and omission of adjectives is another common mistake.

As An old fine oak; a young good man; I like summer than the winter, etc.

Too many negatives are often used.

As Nobody cannot go to the city to day.

None of us has not been sick this year.

Numerous mistakes are made in idioms and words that are nearly synonymous, in the use of prepositions, and in the nicer distinctions of language.

As He turned over a new leaf, is sometimes written, He turned over new leaves. A perfect gentleman is expressed as a perfect man. Mary swept on the floor. Summer is warm weather. A birthday of Queen Victoria will be on 24th May, etc