

PART I.

GRAMMATICAL ERRORS.

THE PARTS OF SPEECH—THEIR FORMS AND USES.

NOUNS.

I.—WRONG PLURAL FORMS.

II.—WRONG POSSESSIVE FORMS.

I.—Wrong plural forms are used chiefly in the case of nouns in *f*, *fe*, *o*, or *y*, compound nouns, and some nouns of foreign origin. Note that

1. The following nouns in *f* or *fe* form the plural in *ves*; *beef*, *calf*, *elf*, *half*, *knife*, *leaf*, *life*, *loaf*, *self*, *shelf*, *sheaf*, *thief*, *wife*, *wolf*, and sometimes *staff* and *wharf*.

Other nouns in *f* or *fe* simply add *s*.

2. Most nouns in *o* in common use form the plural in *es*; as, *heroes*, *potatoes*.

Technical and uncommon words in *o*, also nouns in *oo*, simply add *s*; as, *folios*, *cuckoos*.

3. Common nouns in *y* preceded by a consonant or by *qu* form the plural in *ies*; as, *duties*, *soliloquies*.

Other common nouns and all proper nouns in *y* simply add *s*; as, *chimneys*, *Lucys*.

4. Most compound nouns take the sign of the plural at the end of the word; as, *pailfuls*, *mouse traps*, *governor-generals*, *on-lookers*.

There are a few exceptions, however; as, *brothers-in-law*, *cousins-german*, *goings-on*.

5. Foreign words, unless they come into common use, retain their original plural; as,