

SYNTAX (from the Greek words *sun*, together, and *tasso*, to arrange, or *taxis*, order,) points out the *arrangement* of words in sentences, and the rules by which they are controlled.

PROSODY (from the Greek *pros*, for, and *ode*, verse,) treats of the art of *making verse*, and pronouncing words.

ORTHOGRAPHY.

ORTHOGRAPHY treats of **LETTERS, SYLLABLES,** and **WORDS.**

LETTERS.

A **LETTER** is the mark of a sound. The letters taken together are called the Alphabet.

There are twenty-six letters in the English alphabet:—a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z.

A letter that can produce a perfect sound by itself is called a *vowel*. The **VOWELS** are a, e, i, o, u, w, and y.

The remaining nineteen letters of the alphabet are called *consonants* (from the Latin *con*, together, and *sono*, to sound,) because they cannot sound *alone*, or without the assistance of the vowels; as b, c, d, &c., sound as be, ce, de, &c.

When a letter is not sounded in a word, it is called *mute*; as *a* in the word *beat*.

A **DIPHTHONG** (from the Greek *dis*, double, and *phthongos*, a sound,) is the union of two vowels in a syllable, so as to produce a *double sound*; as, *voice*.