

which will be explained more fully in the chapters on the declensions.

1. **Masculine** are the names of male beings, of rivers, of winds, and of months, except the rivers *Albula*, *Allia*, *Lethe*, *Matrona*, and *Styx*, which are feminine.
2. **Feminine** are the names of female beings, and most of the names of towns, trees, countries, islands, and precious stones.
3. **Neuter** are all indeclinable nouns, and such words as, without being real substantives, are used as such, as for example the infinitives of verbs.

NOTE 1.—Properly speaking, the names of all inanimate objects ought to be neuter, as is the case in English; but, owing to a certain process of personification and for other reasons, in Latin as in most other languages, some of these names have become masculine and others feminine, and their genders must be ascertained from their terminations. See the chapters on the declensions.

NOTE 2.—Some substantives denoting living beings have two forms, one for the male and the other for the female: as *filius*, a son, and *filia*, a daughter; *rex*, a king, and *regina*, a queen; *avus*, a grandfather, and *avia*, a grandmother; *lupus*, a wolf, and *lupa*, a she-wolf; *equus*, a horse, and *equa*, a mare. But most names of animals have only one form for both the male and the female; and when the sex is to be specially indicated, it is done by the addition of the words *mas* (male) and *femina* (female).

CHAPTER IV.

THE DECLENSIONS.

§ 13. Declension consists of certain changes in the termination of nouns, to express the relations in which they stand to other words in a sentence. Such relations are generally expressed in English by prepositions: as *patr-is domus*, the house of the father, or the father's house; *patr-i*, to or for a father; *patr-e*, from, by, or with a father.

§ 14. There are in Latin six relations which can be expressed by terminations, or, as it is commonly expressed, there are six cases, viz:—

1. The **Nominative**, denoting the person or thing spoken of, that is, the **subject** of a sentence: as *equus currit*, the horse runs,