

serait vrai.
it were true.

ses.
ngs.

me.

the Present

ADDENDUM

5

THE PERFECT INFINITIVE

Après avoir fait cela, il est parti. Après être venu. (16)
After doing (having done) that, he left. After coming (having come).
Je me lave après m' être levé. Après avoir examiné la maison.
I wash after getting (having got) up. After examining (having exam'd) the h.
et s' être promené à l' intérieur, il est parti. (17)
and having strolled in the inside, he left.

On the use of the Adjectives

We have already seen that French adjectives usually follow their nouns, there being a few exceptions that precede the noun.

Une belle rose. Un livre cher.
A pretty rose. A dear book.

Les plus belles roses. Les livres *les* plus chers.
The prettiest roses. The dearest books.

Un homme riche. L'homme *le* plus riche. L'homme *le* moins connu.
A rich man. The man the most rich. The man the least known.

Almost any noun in English can be used as an adjective by simply placing it before another noun, thus; a gold watch, an eye witness, a railway train, *The American Merchants' and Mechanics' Accident and Life Insurance Company*. And any noun used in the Possessive case is equivalent to an adjective. In French there is no Possessive, nor can French nouns be used as adjectives in the way above noticed. When no special adjectival form exists, a noun and a preposition is the only resort.

Un bouton d'or. Sac de papier. Chapeau de soie.
Button of gold (gold button). Paper bag. Silk hat.

Cuillère d'argent. Un habit d'enfant. L'habit de l'enfant.
Silver spoon. A child's coat. The child's coat (c. of the child)

Vêtements de femme. (18)
Woman's clothing.

Un verre à vin. Cuillère à café. Sac à papier. Brosse à dents.
Wine glass (g. for wine). Coffee spoon. Bag for paper. Tooth brush.

Poudre à canon. Vache à lait. Moulin à vent. Arme à feu.
Gun powder. Milk cow. Mill for wind (wind-mill). Fire arm.

Bateau à vapeur (à voiles). Salle à manger. De l'huile à brûler.
Steam-boat (for sails). Room for eating. Oil for burning.

(18) There is a difference between L'HABIT D'ENFANT, *the child's coat* (*coat suitable for any child*), and L'HABIT DE L'ENFANT, *the coat of the child*. The article limits or particularizes the second noun.

few verbs