

The remaining parts of speech and many numerals are not capable of any inflection, but remain the same in all circumstances.

§ 9. In declension and conjugation the inflected or changeable part of a word must be carefully distinguished from the part which remains unchanged. This latter is called the **Stem**, and consists of that part of a word which remains unaltered in all circumstances, e.g., *pleb-s*, *pleb-is*, *pleb-e*, where *s*, *is*, and *e* are the terminations, and *pleb* the stem; *audi-o*, *audi-vi*, *audi-tum*, *audi-re*, where the stem is *audi*, and the terminations are *o*, *vi*, *tum*, and *re*.

CHAPTER III.

SUBSTANTIVES AND THEIR GENDERS.

§ 10. Substantives are names given to persons or things, because they have certain qualities or properties in common, and such names are called *common nouns*; but if they are names belonging to only one person or thing, they are called *proper names*. Thus, *equus*, a horse, *canis*, a dog, *homo*, a man, are common nouns; but *Cæsar*, *Vesuvius*, *Roma*, *Tiberis*, are proper names. But if more than one person or place bears the same name, it is a mere accident, and not because they have any qualities in common.

§ 11. Common nouns again may be divided into *concrete* and *abstract* nouns, the former denoting things which we perceive by means of our senses, and the latter those things which we conceive only by the mind as distinct existences. Thus, *domus*, a house, *arbor*, a tree, are names of concrete things; but *virtus*, manliness, *justitia*, justice, *venustas*, beauty, are abstract terms.

§ 12. All substantives are either of the masculine, feminine, or neuter gender. The gender of any given substantive may be ascertained partly from its meaning, and partly from its termination. The following general rules may be laid down,