

have to be carried to a new line. While it is sometimes employed to join the constituent parts of compound and derivative words, a very considerable number of the former, particularly those which form compound nouns, having coalesced so closely in pronunciation they are presented as one word.

The distinction between a compound and a derivative word may be thus briefly stated: The former consists of two or more simple words which are separately and commonly used, whereas the latter is made up of simple words, or portions of words, which are not each separately current.

In compound words we find it laid down as a rule, that when each of the words retains its original accent, they should be united by a hyphen, as in "The all'-wise' God," and "In'cense-breath'ing morn." The exceptions to this principle are not very numerous, and consist chiefly of a few compounds in common use, such as *everlasting* and *not'withstanding*, which are universally written as one word; of such as terminate in *monger*, as *bor'oughmong'er* and *ironmong'er*; and of almost all those beginning with the prepositions *over* and *under*, as *o'verbal'ance* and *un'dertak'ing*. The words "all'-wise" and "in'cense-breathing," "bookseller" and "nobleman," are compounds because they severally represent not two separate ideas, but one compound idea. The formations which enter into the composition of "all'-wise" and "in'cense-breath'ing" retain the same accents as they had before these compounds were formed; but, as they could not be readily distinguished if printed closely together, it only remained to join them together by a hyphen to show that they are compounds. On the other hand, the simple words forming the compounds "bookseller" and "nobleman" do not both retain the accents which are heard in the phrases "a *seller of books*," "a *man who is noble*," but so perfectly coalesce in pronunciation as to form one unbroken, continuous word with a single accent—*book'seller*, *no'bleman*. Hence, when the word has only one accent, its parts are consolidated and should be written or printed without the hyphen, as in "A fortunate *book'seller*," "A mean *no'bleman*."

The exceptions to this principle are quite numerous, and the rules which we find laid down may be briefly stated as follows: 1. Those in which the first of the primitive words ends and the second begins with the same letter, as in

*glow-worm*, etc. Although the word *oft times* is generally used without the hyphen. 2. Those in which the first of two primitives ends and the second begins with a vowel, as in *peace'offer'ing*. 3. Those whose meaning would be obscured, or whose pronunciation would be less easily known by the consolidation of the simples as in *ass'-head*, *pots'-herb*, *soap'-house*, and *first-rate*. The reason for the division of these and similar primitives is, that the *s*, *t*, and *p* are pronounced separately from the *h* following them, and the *st* from the *r*; whereas in their usual state of combination, *sh*, *th*, *ph*, and *str* are not pronounced with one impulse of the voice. 4. All compounds ending with the word *tree* and *book*, as in *beech'-tree*, *date'-tree* and *day'-book*, *shop'-book*. 5. Nouns formed of a verb and an adverb or preposition, as a *break'-down*, a *start up*, or of a present participle and a noun, as *dwell'ing-place*, *hum'ming-bird*. 6. Adjectives or epithets which are formed in a great variety of ways, as *air'-built*, *heart'-broken*; *first'-born*, *one'-legged*, *two'-leaved*; *ill'-bred*, *above'-said*, *down'-trodden*; *church'-going*, *brain'-racking*, *good'-looking*, *hard'-working*; *grown'-up*, *unlooked'-for*, *unheard'-of*.

In a preceding paragraph we said that a compound word represented a compound idea, not two ideas. This definition Dr. Latham illustrates by the expression "a *sharp-edged instrument*," which means an instrument with sharp edges; whereas a *sharp edged instrument* denotes an instrument that is sharp and has edges. It may not be practicable to apply the remark in each and all cases; but it is certain that compounds have often a signification very different from that which the same words convey when written apart, and that this difference should be indicated by the mode of exhibiting them. Thus, *blackbird* is properly written as one word, because it represents a particular species of birds; whereas a *black bird* means any bird that is black. A *glass-house* is a house in which glass is made, while a *glass house* is a house made of glass. The *goodman* of the house may, for aught we know, be a very bad man; and a *good man* may, for certain reasons, have no claim whatever to the civility implied in the use of the compound; yet both terms, if correctly written, will be understood. *Forget me not* literally expresses an earnest desire, on the part of a speaker or a writer, that he should be remembered; but, in a metaphorical sense, the same words, when combined,—