

tives, and verbs may be formed, and from these again new nouns, adjectives, and verbs, and so on, not quite ad infinitum.

An important question arises here respecting a dictionary of the language. According to all precedent, a dictionary that omits numbers of words that have a distinct meaning by themselves, and form an integral portion of the language, is deemed defective. Should not all these niceties of the language, be fully explained in the grammar, but exhibited to the eye in the dictionary? I find twenty words in Liddell & Scott's Greek Dictionary under the word *lagos* a hare, and forty or fifty under the word for a mountain, *oros*, and about sixty under *anthropos*, a man; and hundreds are repeated under the inseparable prepositions, and larger dictionaries give every noun, adjective, adverb, &c., and repeat the long lists of words when *mis*, *un*, &c., are to be prefixed, even when the prefix does not, as in Greek and Micmac, change the form of either the principal word, or the affix. Because the affix is glued or soldered to the word (if I may use English instead of Greek and Latin), and the two parts form but a single word, it seems more necessary to put them all in.

Now, if this be proper in English, where no change is made in either the principal word or the prefix or suffix, nor any union vowel required, it would certainly seem to be much more necessary where all the portions of the compound have to be adjusted for the sake of euphony, and a union vowel, not always one and the same, continually inserted between the parts, so that they may fit harmoniously. The advice and suggestions of the learned are earnestly solicited on this point. If the work is done at all, should it not be done well, though a trifle be added to the cost thereby?

One more remark. When people are told that the number of words in an Indian language mounts up to forty thousand or so, they sometimes open their eyes with astonishment, and enquire if all these words are really in use? Now that would be a difficult point to determine, but probably they are not used often, many of them, and some of them never by any one Indian. But what then? Are there not scores of words in every dictionary of every language that scores of people never use, and cannot understand? A few hundred words answer for all the common purposes of life: a few thou-