

CASE.

In English, substantives have three cases, the Nominative, the Possessive, and the Objective.*

The nominative case simply expresses the name of a thing, or the subject of a verb; as, "The boy plays;" "The girls learn."

The possessive case expresses the relation of property or possession; and has an apostrophe, with the letter *s* coming after it; as, "The scholar's duty;" "My father's house."

When the plural ends in *s*, the other *s* is omitted, but the apostrophe is retained; as, "On eagles' wings;" "The drapers' company."

Sometimes also, when the singular terminates in *s*, the apostrophic *s* is not added; as, "For goodness' sake;" "For righteousness' sake."

The objective case expresses the object of an action, or of a relation; and generally follows a verb active, or a preposition; as, "John assists Charles;" "They live in London."

English substantives are declined in the following manner:

	<i>Singular.</i>	<i>Plural.</i>
<i>Nominative Case.</i>	A mother.	Mothers.
<i>Possessive Case.</i>	A mother's.	Mothers'.
<i>Objective Case.</i>	A mother.	Mothers.
	<i>Singular.</i>	<i>Plural.</i>
<i>Nominative Case.</i>	The man.	The men.
<i>Possessive Case.</i>	The man's.	The men's.
<i>Objective Case.</i>	The man.	The men.

* On the propriety of this objective case, see the larger grammar, twelfth or any subsequent edition, pp. 54, 55.