

FIRST STEPS  
IN  
GRAMMAR,  
FOR  
VERY YOUNG CHILDREN.  
IN  
AMUSING LESSONS.



LONDON:  
DARTON AND CO., HOLBORN HILL.

PRICE SIXPENCE, COLOURED.



*See little grammar  
with much love* 1845

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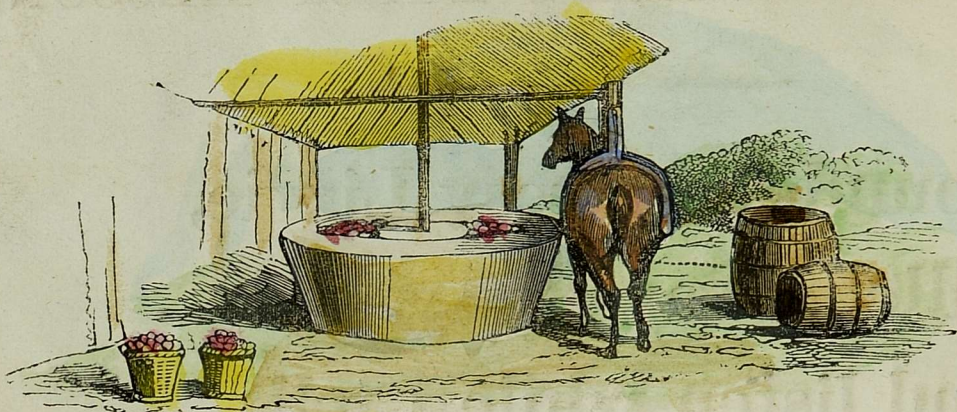


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## LITTLE LIZZIE'S FIRST LESSON.

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Little round faced rosy Lizzie,  
Never idle, always busy,  
Come and listen while I tell,  
Grammar stories. Listen *well*.  
A Noun then, little Lizzie dear,  
Is anything you see, or hear,  
Or feel, or taste, or smell. Thus hear :  
*Duck, goose and chicken, peacock, pen,*  
*Cow, horse and cart, house, stable, stack,*  
*And pig and porridge ; also Jack*  
(The farmer's name) a noun must be,  
For *men* we certainly can see.  
An Article, remember well,  
*A, an, or the,* is always found  
Before a Noun. *An* egg, *a* bell,  
*A* tree, *an* elephant, *the* ground.  
Now, little Lizzie run away,  
And learn some more another day.



## SECOND LESSON.—ADJECTIVES.

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Now for the Adjective. This word  
Tells you what kind of Noun it is ;  
Thus, for example—a *fine* Bird,  
A *pretty* book, my *little* Liz.  
I'll tell a tale, and you shall mark  
The Adjectives therein ; so hark !  
A man had once a *wild* crab-tree,  
And, wishing for some apples, he  
Grafted upon it a *young* shoot,  
From a *good* tree, which bore *nice* fruit,  
And thus in time the gardener got  
Such *splendid* apples ! This is what  
He did with them ; he gathered all,  
Both *round* and *rosy*, *large* and *small*,  
And made of them a *pleasant* drink.  
Now find the Adjectives. Just think  
Before you speak, my little maid,  
And you'll succeed without my aid.

SECOND LESSON—ADJECTIVES



And you'll succeed without my aid.



### THIRD LESSON.—VERBS.

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A Verb next : signifies to be,  
To do or bear. Attend to me.  
What are you doing now? “I’m sitting  
On my low stool, and you are knitting.”  
*Knitting* and *sitting* then, you see,  
Most certainly two verbs must be.  
Here is a story : Edward Wright  
*Lives* on a farm at Kircudbright ;  
He *ploughs* his land and *reaps* his corn,  
And *rises* early every morn.  
His little boy can *feed* the chicks,  
And *weed* the turnips, *chop* the sticks ;  
Can *help* his mother in the house,  
Can *shoot* a bird or *catch* a mouse.  
A clever little man is he,  
As all at Kircudbright may *see*.  
Now tell me, little Lizzie dear,  
How many verbs I’ve mentioned here.

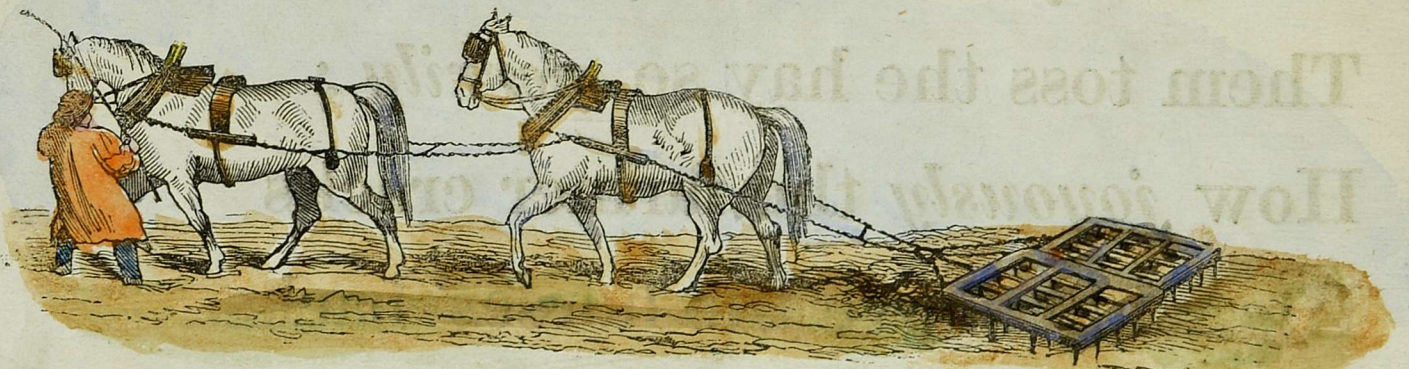
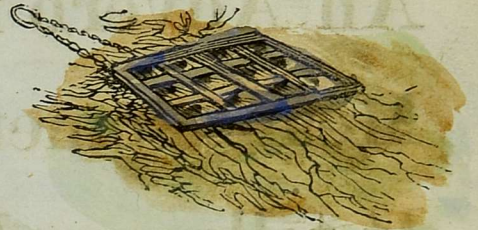
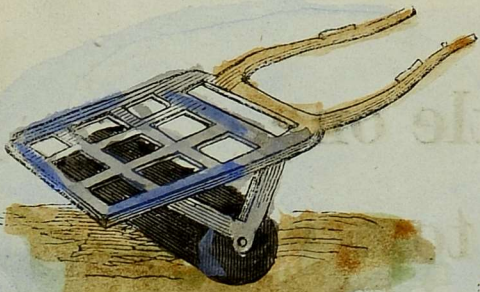


## FOURTH LESSON.—ADVERBS.

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An Adverb next, my little one,  
Means something added to a verb ;  
It tells you *how* the verb is done,  
As, “ *Quickly* gather me that herb.”  
*How* must you gather it, my child ?  
“ *Quickly.*” Then *quickly* understand  
The Adverb is. She *sweetly* smiled ;  
The ship sails *fast* to Negroland ;  
The sun shines *brightly* in the sky ;  
The haymakers so *swiftly* ply  
Their hayforks and their rakes ; and see  
Them toss the hay so *merrily* ;  
How *joyously* the farmer cracks  
His whip above the horses’ backs.  
Now try, my little maiden dear,  
To find me all the Adverbs here.

FOURTH LESSON.—ADVERBS.



## FIFTH LESSON.—PRONOUNS.

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Not long ago, we talk'd about  
The words called Nouns. Now we'll  
find out

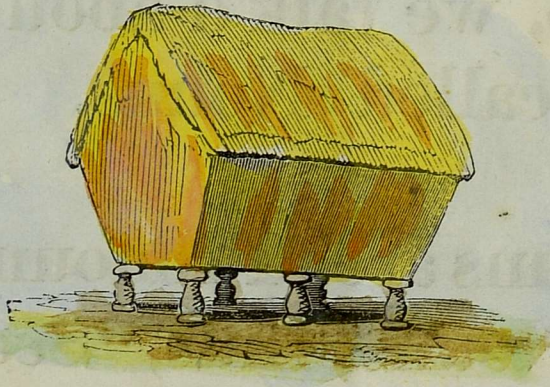
What Pronouns are. Pronouns are words  
Used *for* the Nouns; thus, "See those birds  
How beautiful *they* are!" 'Twould sound  
so strange

To say the same word over, so we change  
The Noun into a Pronoun. Listen now:  
*I* saw a man and *he* was at the plough;  
*He* had two fine strong horses; *they*  
were white;

*They* look'd so handsome in *their* harness  
bright.

And in another field a boy *I* found,  
So busy, harrowing the uneven ground,  
To make *it* nice and smooth. *His* cheeks  
were red,

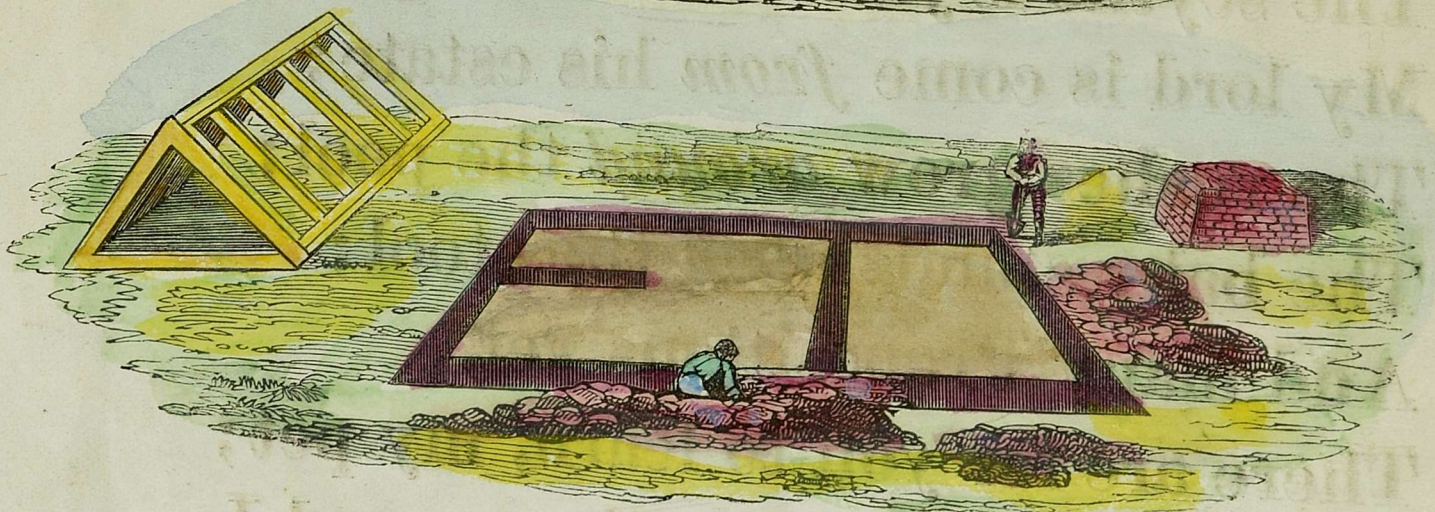
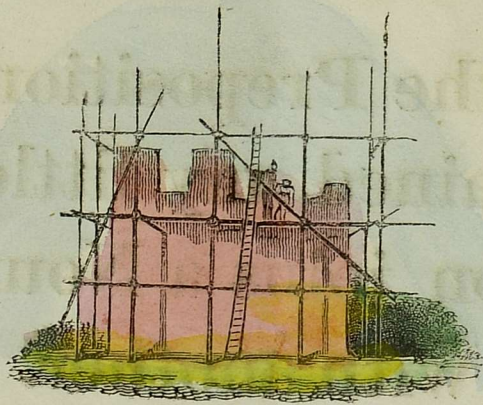
And oh, *he* look'd so happy, honest Ned!  
A roller too *I* saw, *it* was well worn;  
The farmer was there also, sowing corn.  
*His* wife takes care that *he* has all *he* needs,  
And bakes *her* bread the while *he* sows  
the seeds.



## SIXTH LESSON.—PREPOSITIONS.

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Now comes the Preposition. This  
Is soon explained, my little Liz.  
A Preposition joins a Noun  
Or Pronoun with another. × Thus,  
That corn is going *to* the town ;  
That stack of wheat belongs *to* us.  
The Prepositions also show  
*Where* Nouns and Pronouns are. The hoe  
Is *in* the garden-house. The man  
Is *on* the waggon. There is Ann  
Close *by* her mother, stooping down,  
To glean some corn *near* Reuben Brown ;  
The scythe is just *within* the gate ;  
My lord is come *from* his estate ;  
The rushes grow *around* the pool ;  
The baby stands *upon* the stool ;  
And many Prepositions yet,  
There are for you to learn, my pet ;  
But some day soon, both you and I,  
To understand the rest will try. †





## SEVENTH LESSON.—CONJUNCTIONS.

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Conjunctions are the words that join  
Words, sentences, or clauses ; thus :  
Look at this book, *and* this old coin ;  
I wish to ride, *but* 'tis too cold ;  
That brickmaker is thin *and* old ;  
My aunt's new house will soon be done,  
*If* we can hire the mason's son ;  
My cousin's house will be so small  
*That* there will not be room for all ;  
Don't go to see the brick-yards yet,  
*Because* the morning will be wet ;  
They make their bricks *and* tiles all square,  
*Therefore* I shall not buy mine there.  
Conjunctions many more than these  
There are ; so find some, if you please.

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An Interjection is a cry  
Of grief, or wonder, or dismay,  
Or any quick impulse : as *Fie !*  
*Oh ! Hark ! Alas ! Ah ! Bravo ! Heigh !*  
*Dear me ! Hurrah ! Halloo ! Ho ! Hi !*  
But now 'tis time for you to play ;  
So leave your books and run away.

## CONCLUSION.

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Now that Lizzie's Lesson's done,  
And she's gone to have some fun,  
Pray let you and I find out  
All that she has learnt about.

First then, Nouns are names of things,  
Persons, animals, and places ;  
Churn and butter ; ropes and rings ;  
London, Leonard ; fingers, faces.

An Article is always put

Before a Noun. *A* fire ; *the* soot.

A verb means bearing, being, doing,

As Ann *milks* Blanche, or Blanche is  
*chewing*.

Adverbs show how things are done :  
Jane walks *slowly* in the sun.

An Adjective shows of what kind  
The noun is : as a *gentle* mind.

Pronouns are used instead of nouns :

Those boys are pale, *they* live in towns,

A Preposition shows you where

Exactly things are : as, the chair

Is *by* the table *near* the door ;

And Conjunctions join together :

As, the window *and* the door ;

Never mind the wind *or* weather.

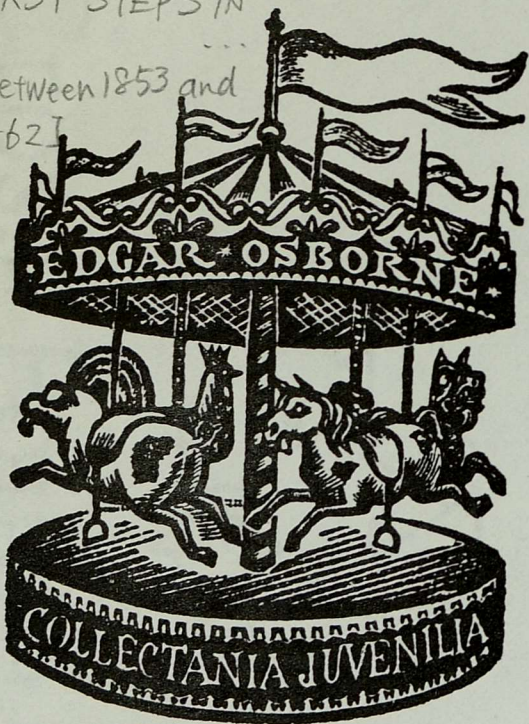
Now 'tis time that you and I,

Little friends, should say good-bye.

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FIRST STEPS IN

[between 1853 and  
1862]



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