

EXERCISE XV.

Give a full and distinct sound to the italicized *consonants*.

B-ow, *d*-are, *f*-ame, *g*-ave, *h*-orse, *j*-ew, *k*-ite, *l*-ord, *m*-an, *n*-o, *p* it
g-ueer, *r*-ow, *s*-ir, *t*-ake, *v*-ow, *w*-oe, *y*-e, *th*-ose, *th*-umb, *wh*-at, *sh*-ow,
ch-urch.

LESSON XXX.

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| 1. TR'NY; <i>adj.</i> very small; little; puny. | 4. PER'SON-AGE; <i>n.</i> a person of importance. |
| 3. SA-LUTE'; <i>n.</i> greeting. | 5. PEER'ING; <i>adj.</i> just coming up. |
| 3. MUN'DANE; <i>adj.</i> belonging to the world. | 6. CUM'BER-ER; <i>n.</i> one who hinders or is troublesome. |
| 4. RE-TORT'; <i>n.</i> to make a severe reply. | 6. VAUNT'ING; <i>adj.</i> vainly boasting. |

THE PEBBLE AND THE ACORN.—A FABLE.

PRONOUNCE correctly. Do not say *per-son-ij* for *per-son-age*; *sub-ju'd* for *sub-du'd*; *to-ward'* for *to'ward*; *for-git* for *for-get*; *yet* for *yet*.

1. "I AM a Pebble! and yield to none!"
 Were the swelling words of a tiny stone;
 "Nor time nor seasons can alter me;
 I am ⁺abiding, while ages flee.
 The ⁺pelting hail and the ⁺driveling rain
 Have tried to soften me, long, in vain;
 And the tender dew has sought to melt
 Or touch my heart; but it was not felt."
2. "There's none that can tell about my birth
 For I'm as old as the big, round earth.
 The children of men arise, and pass
 Out of the world', like blades of grass;
 And many a foot on me has trod',
 That's gone from sight, and under the ⁺sod!
 I am a Pebble! but who art thou',
 Rattling along from the restless bough?"

3. The Acorn was shocked at this rude salute,
 And lay, for a moment, abashed and mute[^];
 She never before had been so near[^]
 This gravelly ball, the mundane [^]sphere[^];
 And she felt, for a time, at a loss to know
 How to answer a thing so coarse and low.
4. But to give reproof of a nobler sort
 Than the angry look[^], or keen retort[^],
 At length, she said, in a gentle tone:
 "Since it has happened that I am thrown
 From the lighter element, where I grew,
 Down to another, so hard and new,
 And beside a [^]personage so [^]august[^],
 Abased, I will cover my head in dust[^],
 And quickly retire from the sight of one
 Whom time[^], nor season[^], nor storm[^], nor sun[^],
 Nor the gentle dew[^], nor the grinding heel[^],
 Has ever subdued, or made to feel[^]!"
 And soon, in the earth, she sunk away
 From the comfortless spot where the Pebble lay.
5. But it was not long ere the soil was broke
 By the peering head of an infant oak[^]:
 And, as it arose, and its branches spread,
 The Pebble looked up, and wondering said:
 "A *modest Acorn*[^]! never to tell
 What was enclosed in its simple shell[^]!
 That the pride of the forest was folded up
 In the narrow space of its little cup[^]!
 And meekly to sink in the darksome earth,
 Which proves that nothing could hide its worth!
6. "And O! how many will tread on me,
 To come and admire the beautiful tree,
 Whose head is [^]towering toward the sky,
 Above such a worthless thing as I[^]!
 Useless and vain, a cumberer here,
 I have been idling from year to year;
 But never, from this, shall a vaunting word
 From the humble Pebble again be heard,

Till something, without me or within,
 Shall show the purpose for which I have been."
 The Pebble its vow could not forget,
 And it lies there wrapped in silence yet.

EXERCISES.—What was the Pebble's boast? How did the Acorn feel? What did the Acorn say? What did it do? What did it become? What did the Pebble then say? What is the moral of this fable?

What words in the fourth paragraph form a commencing series? Give the reasons for the other inflections marked.

LESSON XXXI.

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| <p>1. AT-TEST'; <i>v.</i> to bear witness to.</p> <p>3. AC'TION; <i>n.</i> a claim made before a court.</p> <p>3. AS-SIZ'ES; <i>n.</i> a court of justice.</p> <p>6. PLAINT'IFF; <i>n.</i> the person who commences a suit at court.</p> <p>7. PRE-CA'RI-OUS; <i>adj.</i> uncertain.</p> <p>7. JU'RY-MAN; <i>n.</i> one who serves on a jury, and whose business it is to hear the evidence and decide which party is right in any given case.</p> <p>7. EX-CEPT'; <i>v.</i> to object.</p> | <p>10. DEX'TROUS; <i>a.</i> skillful; artful.</p> <p>10. AD-DU'CED; <i>v.</i> brought forward in argument.</p> <p>11. PLEAD'ER; <i>n.</i> one that argues in a court of justice. [oath.</p> <p>11. DE-POS'ED; <i>v.</i> gave evidence on</p> <p>11. VER'DICT; <i>n.</i> the decision of a jury concerning the matter referred to them. [of a jury.</p> <p>12. FORE'MAN; <i>n.</i> the chief man</p> <p>14. DEM-ON-STRA'TION; <i>n.</i> certain proof. [ing.</p> <p>15. SOPH'IST-RY; <i>n.</i> false reason-</p> |
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THE JUST JUDGE.

PRONOUNCE correctly the following words in this lesson. Do not say *fel-ler* for *fel-low*; *ven-tur* nor *ven-tshur* for *vent-ure*, (pro. *vent-yur*); *stim-my-la-ted* for *stim-u-la-ted*; *thou-sun* for *thou-sand*; *back-wud* for *back-ward*; *for-ud* for *for-ward*; *ig-ner-unt* for *ig-norant*; *el-er-quence* for *el-o-quence*; *lev-un* for *e-lev-en*, (pro. *e-lev'n*).

1. A GENTLEMAN who possessed an estate worth about five hundred a year, in the eastern part of England, had two sons. The eldest, being of a ^trambling disposition, went abroad. After several years, his father died; when the younger son, destroying his will, seized

upon the estate. He gave out that his elder brother was dead, and †bribed false witnesses to attest the truth of it.

2. In the course of time, the elder brother returned; but came home in †destitute circumstances. His younger brother repulsed him with scorn, and told him that he was an †impostor and a cheat. He asserted that his real brother was dead long ago; and he could bring witnesses to prove it. The poor fellow, having neither money nor friends, was in a sad situation. He went round the parish making complaints, and, at last, to a lawyer, who, when he had heard the poor man's story, replied, "You have nothing to give me. If I undertake your cause and lose it, it will bring me into †disgrace, as all the wealth and †evidence are on your brother's side.

3. "However, I will undertake it on this condition; you shall enter into an †obligation to pay me one thousand guineas, if I gain the estate for you. If I lose it, I know the consequences; and I venture with my eyes open." Accordingly, he entered an action against the younger brother, which was to be tried at the next general assizes at Chelmsford, in Essex.

4. The lawyer, having engaged in the cause of the young man, and being †stimulated by the prospect of a thousand guineas, set his wits to work to contrive the best method to gain his end. At last, he hit upon this happy thought, that he would consult the first judge of his age, Lord Chief-Justice Hale. Accordingly, he hastened up to London, and laid open the cause, and all its circumstances. The judge, who was a great lover of justice, heard the case attentively, and promised him all the assistance in his power.

5. The lawyer having taken leave, the judge contrived matters so as to finish all his business at the King's Bench, before the assizes began at Chelmsford. When within a short distance of the place, he dismissed his man and horses, and sought a single house. He found one occupied by a miller. After some conversation, and making himself quite agreeable, he proposed

to the miller to change *clothes* with him. As the judge had a very good suit on, the man had no reason to object.

6. Accordingly, the Judge shifted from top to toe, and put on a complete suit of the miller's best. Armed with a miller's hat, and shoes, and stick, he walked to Chelmsford, and procured good lodgings, suitable for the assizes, that should come on next day. When the trials came on, he walked like an ignorant country fellow, backward and forward, along the county hall. He observed narrowly what passed around him; and when the court began to fill, he found out the poor fellow who was the plaintiff.

7. As soon as he came into the hall, the miller drew up to him. "Honest friend," said he, "how is your cause like to go to-day?" "Why, my cause is in a very precarious situation, and, if I lose it, I am ruined for life." "Well, honest friend," replied the miller, "will you take my advice? I will let you into a *secret*, which perhaps you do not *know*; every Englishman has the right and privilege to except against any one jurymen out of the whole twelve; now do you insist upon your privilege, without giving a reason, and, if possible, get me chosen in his room, and I will do you all the service in my power."

8. Accordingly, when the clerk had called over the names of the jurymen, the plaintiff excepted to one of them. The judge on the bench was highly offended at this liberty. "What do you mean," said he, "by excepting against *that* gentleman?" "I mean, my lord, to assert my privilege as an Englishman, without giving a reason why."

9. The judge, who had been highly bribed, in order to conceal it by a show of candor, and having a confidence in the superiority of his party, said, "Well, sir, as you claim your privilege in one instance, I will grant it. Whom would you wish to have in the room of that man excepted?" After a short time, taken in consideration, "My lord," says he, "I wish to have an honest man chosen in;" and looking round the court—"my

lord, there is that *miller* in the court; we will have *him*, if you please." Accordingly, the miller was chosen in.

10. As soon as the clerk of the court had given them all their oaths, a dextrous little fellow came into the apartment, and slipped ten golden guineas into the hands of each of eleven jurymen, and gave the miller but five. He observed that they were all bribed as well as himself, and said to his next neighbor, in a soft whisper, "How much have *you* got?" "Ten pieces," said he. But he concealed what he had got himself. The cause was opened by the plaintiff's counsel; and all the scraps of evidence they could pick up were adduced in his favor.

11. The younger brother was provided with a great number of witnesses and pleaders, all plentifully bribed, as well as the judge. The witnesses deposed, that they were in the self-same country when the brother died, and saw him buried. The counselors pleaded upon this *accumulated* *evidence*; and every thing went with a full tide in favor of the younger brother. The judge summed up the evidence with great gravity and deliberation; "and now, gentlemen of the jury," said he, "lay your heads together, and bring in your verdict as you shall deem most just."

12. They waited but for a few minutes, before they determined in favor of the younger brother. The judge said, "Gentlemen, are you agreed? and who shall speak for you?" "We are all agreed, my lord," replied one, "and our foreman shall speak for us." "Hold, my lord," replied the miller; "we are *not* all agreed." "Why?" said the judge, in a very surly manner, "what's the matter with *you*? What reasons have *you* for disagreeing?"

13. "I have several reasons, my lord," replied the miller: "the first is, they have given to each of these gentlemen of the jury *ten* broad pieces of gold, and to me but *five*; which, you know, is not fair. Besides, I have many objections to make to the false reasonings of the pleaders, and the *contradictory* evidence of the wit-

nesses." Upon this, the miller began a discourse, which discovered such a vast penetration of judgment, such †extensive knowledge of law, and was expressed with such manly and energetic eloquence, that it astonished the judge and the whole court.

14. As he was going on with his powerful demonstrations, the judge, in great surprise, stopped him. "Where did you come from, and who are you?" "I came from Westminster Hall," replied the miller; "my name is Matthew Hale; I am Lord Chief-Justice of the King's Bench. I have observed the †iniquity of your proceedings this day; therefore, come down from a seat which you are not worthy to hold. You are one of the corrupt parties in this iniquitous business. I will come up this moment and try the cause all over again."

15. Accordingly, Sir Matthew went up, with his miller's dress and hat on, began the trial from its very commencement, and searched every circumstance of truth and falsehood. He evinced the elder brother's title to the estate, from the contradictory evidence of the witnesses, and the false reasoning of the pleaders; †unraveled all the sophistry to the very bottom, and gained a complete victory in favor of truth and justice.

EXERCISES.—What were the circumstances under which the younger brother took possession of his father's estate? How did he treat his elder brother upon his return? What did the elder brother do? What plan did Chief-Justice Hale pursue? What influenced him to take all this trouble?

EXERCISE XVI.

In the following words, sound the last consonant distinctly.

(After such exercises as this, it will be necessary to guard against a drawing style of reading).

Or-*b*, ai-*d*, fa-*g*, Geor-*ge*, a-*ll*, ai-*m*, ow-*n*, li-*p*, wa-*r*, hi-*ss*, ha-*t*, gi-*ve*, a-*dd*, so-*ng*, brea-*th*, tru-*th*, pu-*sh*, bir-*ch*.

Mo-*b*, la-*d*, ru-*f*, ha-*g*, ca-*ge*, ta-*ck*, fi-*ll*, ri-*m*, si-*n*, ho-*p*, fa-*r*, pa-*ce*, hi-*t*, ha-*ve*, ha-*s*, pa-*ng*, ba-*nk*, soo-*the*, pi-*th*, wi-*sh*, ri-*ch*.