

**THE VULGARITIES OF SPEECH
CORRECTED: WITH ELEGANT
EXPRESSIONS FOR PROVINCIAL AND
VULGAR ENGLISH, SCOTS, AND IRISH;
FOR THE USE OF THOSE WHO ARE
UNACQUAINTED WITH GRAMMAR**

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The vulgarities of speech corrected: with elegant expressions for provincial and vulgar English, Scots, and Irish; for the use of those who are unacquainted with grammar by Anonymous

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ANONYMOUS

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“Vulgar expressions imply either a very low turn of mind,
or low education, and low company.”

LORD CHESTERFIELD.

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MAIN

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TO

MISS MARIA EDGEWORTH,

WHOSE WORKS ON EDUCATION HAVE HAD SO MUCH
INFLUENCE ON THE SPIRIT OF THE AGE,

THIS LITTLE WORK,

WHICH IS INTENDED TO SUPPLY AN OBVIOUS VA-
CANCY IN

GRAMMATICAL EDUCATION,

IS INSCRIBED,

WITH THE HIGHEST RESPECT AND ESTEEM,

BY

THE AUTHOR.

4 THE VULGARITIES OF SPEECH CORRECTED.

assuming airs to which you have no right, and intruding into ranks where you cannot maintain your ground.

This is a very common mistake among many who have, by industry or good fortune, risen above their original station and prospects, and therefore imagine, very mistakingly, that they are entitled to take their place with the well bred and well educated. They may do so, without doubt, on the influence of their money or property, but they will infallibly expose themselves to be laughed at and ridiculed, by those whose breeding and education enable them to see their low expressions, vulgar pronunciation, and continual blunders in grammar, every time they join in conversation.

It is all very well for vulgar people of this description, who have risen in the world, to laugh among themselves at correct speaking, and to despise the knowledge of grammar because they have it not; but it is a known maxim in the affairs of the world, when a person is observed to talk with contempt of what is universally considered excellent, that he is eager to skreen his own obvious deficiency. In this way you may hear such people talk with contempt of learning French and Italian, and sneer at music; all which, there cannot be a

doubt, they would be the first to praise, were they themselves proficient in the same; nay, the very contempt of such persons is the best praise that can be bestowed upon any accomplishment. "Knowledge," says a popular writer, "in any art or science being always the fruits of observation or practice, gives, in proportion to its extent and usefulness, the possessor a just claim to respect. We do, indeed, often see all the outward marks of respect bestowed upon people, merely because they are rich and powerful; but these, while they are bestowed with pain, are received without pleasure. They drop from the tongue, or beam from the features, but have no communication with the heart. They are not the voluntary offering of admiration, or of gratitude; because, dishonesty and perfidy are crimes. To entitle a man to respect, there must be something of his own doing beyond the bounds of his well known duties and obligations." Of the accomplishments which do entitle to respect, there are none, I am convinced, that rank higher than correct speaking, and the avoiding of vulgarities.

To young people, in particular, and those who are rising in the world, this accomplishment will be of the most invaluable advan-