

27. Ooty is as healthy as any resort in India.

28. The pen is mightier than the sword.

## CHAPTER 11

### **ADJECTIVES USED AS NOUNS**

92. Adjectives are often used as Nouns.

(1) As Plural Nouns denoting a class of persons; as,

The cautious (= cautious persons) are not always cowards.

The rich (= rich people) know not how the poor (= poor people) live. The wicked (= wicked people) flee when no man pursueth, but the righteous (= righteous people) are bold as a lion. Blessed are the meek.

(2) As Singular Nouns denoting some abstract quality; as,

The future (= futurity) is unknown to us.

He is a lover of the beautiful (= beauty in general)

(3) Some Adjectives actually become Nouns, and are hence used in both numbers:- (a)

Those derived from Proper Nouns; as, Australians, Canadians, Italians.- (b) Some denoting persons; as, juniors, seniors, mortals, inferiors, superiors, nobles, criminals, savages, elders, minors.

(c) A few denoting things generally; as. secrets, totals, liquids, solids, valuables.

[Some adjectives are used as Nouns only in (the plural; as, valuables, eatables]

(4) In certain phrases; as,

In general; in future; in short; in secret; before long; at present; for good;

at best; through thick and thin; for better or for worse; in black and white;

right or wrong; from bad to worse; the long and short.

In future I shall charge you for medical advice. In short, we know nothing.

The negotiations were carried on in secret.

I shall see you before long. Before long,

he will be appointed to a higher post.

At present, he is in pecuniary difficulties.

I do not want any more at present.

He has left India for good.

At best we shall get no more dividend than five paise in a rupee.

At best he is a clever versifier : but a poet he is certainly not. It must be said to his credit that he stood by his friend through thick and thin. I must have your teams down in black and white.

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Right or wrong, my country.

I am afraid the young man is going from bad to worse.

The long and short of it is that I distrust you.

### **Nouns used as Adjectives**

93. The use of Nouns as Adjectives is very common in English; as, I