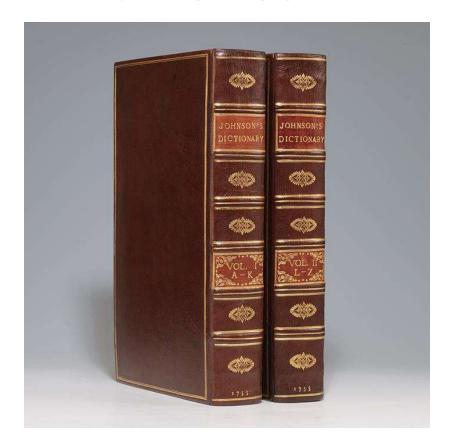
"Samuel Johnson's First Great Dictionary of the English Language", First Edition (1755), A Monumental Achievement

Curated by Stephen A. Batman Tuesday, September 30, 2025

Summary of this Particular Rare First Edition

Samuel Johnson, A Dictionary of the English Language, 1755



A

DICTIONARY

OF THE

ENGLISH LANGUAGE:

IN WHICH

The WORDS are deduced from their ORIGINALS,

AND

ILLUSTRATED in this DIFFERENT SIGNIFICATIONS

B-Y

EXAMPLES from the best WRITERS.

TO WHICH ARE PREFIXED,

A HISTORY of the LANGUAGE,

ANI

AN ENGLISH GRAMMAR.

BY SAMUEL JOHNSON, A.M.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. L

Can tabele niceum erebrie festet hunft i Analoki querrenque parent féricleire Adeleure, Er fine puedros entre, er hottere radigue festete Yorka menge home; quateria sergie republica, Ex territoria pilose fotos promodo Yrafia; Odoucea Go papole Neiro men, seque Parties en huma (pocodo viruleira sepra, Que pefini mentione Comultor stopo Cellujo,

Ren

LONDON

Printed by W. STRAHAN.

For J. and P. Knarron; T. and T. Longman; C. Hiron and L. Hawei;
A. Millari and R. and J. Dobilev.

MACCEV.

GRAMMAR

OF THE

ENGLISH TONGUE.

GRAMMAR, which is the set of obey words to be set of obey words to be properly, comparing four parts; Orthography, Spring, Spring, and Profesty.

Setting of the fault continues time a double family compared or the set of the fault continues time a double family or set of the fault or the implementation and call the real.

In the fellow and select of the parts of grammer 2 fellow the common pronouncies, orthogs stopping whether a first debelories makes and to describe the ferror. I represent have long those this method to be the delical as a debelor increasion, and do enterprehensively as in proceeding in the process that increases medical. I there is a the trans whendy is extract, and already undertained. I therefore the trans whendy increases, and already undertained. Typingue, and althous increasion, whole now rooms here (self-theory), and other increasion, whole now rooms here (self-theory) entering against the trilling analysis at maching arts as a new Hopping.

Options are to be set of ambieng laters are fil-later, and fillation into words. In the store teaches pre-viously the form and found of laters.

The letters of the English loopungs are,

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7 %	11	200	and before
200	A	Sec. 3.	market by the said
Commonly Azerra			
	or amount, that is,		
		15.60	application of the same of

To these may be added certain combinations of

On letter the momentally entiresed in our date, because ancienty and in formal in Latin words not completely numbered of a fact, as well not and a secretage fluid by the faces characters and in the letters, which had always deficient powers, here now possibly forgets, in Gries, Latin.

Vowels are five, a, c, l, o, p,

Such is the number generally received; but for r is is the practice to write y to the end of woods, as the forty, before r, as from dir, doing; from leastify, descriping in the worlds first, doin, you; and in words derived from the Greek, and written originally with u, as giften,

For a we often write to after a vowel, to make a diplehengs as rate, grow, circs, com, frankey, ive-The founds of all the letters are various.

In the sounds of all the letters are various.

In the form as the letters, I find not, this form as on antiquantal, one more enquest into the angular of their form as on antiquantal, one into the formous and products in the property, as a necessary and an attending a product of the organistic residence, an attending of products in known in the property of the control of the cont

OF VOWELS.

of has three founds, the fander, open, and brand, of fleeder is found in cooft words, as fore, more, and in words cooling in series, as systems, joination, generalise,

The a decides in the proper Friedlik a, yallal very judity by Reporting to the Architel Commission of department and a letter, as having a medical formal between the region and the A. The Friedlik have a familie formal between the word and the A. The Friedlik have a familie formal in Charles word party and in Charles The Manufacture.

If open is the a of the Italian, or neatly refembles it; at father, rather, congruentians, factor, plot.
If bound refembles the a of the German; as all, soil, soil,

More worth promound with a head over archedy written with its, to freely most; just see fill they freely most. This was probably the basis looks, the history arched to the northest distances, and in the refleck principalities; in most for may, death for head.

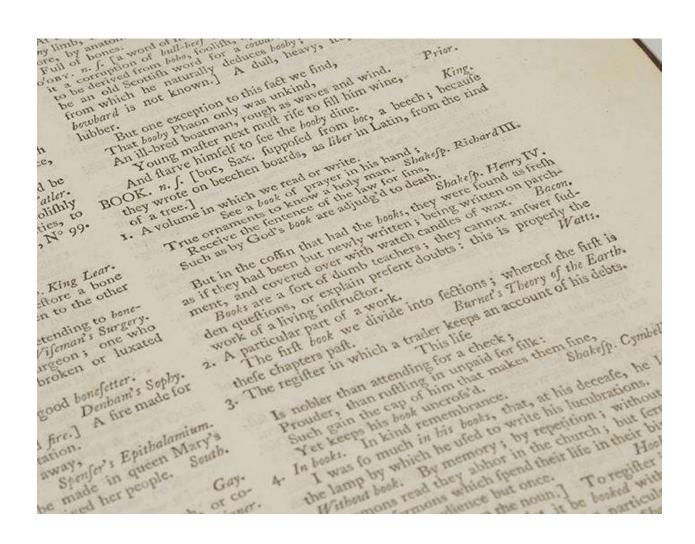
The floot a approaches to the a open, as graft.
The long of if protonged by a st the cold of the word, is always flooder, as grans, fame.

If forms a diphthrong only with I or y, and a or w. if or as, as in plans, ment, pay, if y, has only the found of the long and finder a, sail differs not in the promoculation from plans, soars,

if we are that the found of the German e, as rare,

we are see has the found of the German e, as rare,

E



"THE MOST AMAZING, ENDURING AND ENDEARING ONE-MAN FEAT": 1755 FIRST EDITION OF JOHNSON'S LANDMARK *DICTIONARY*

A Dictionary of the English Language: In Which the Words are Deduced from their Originals and Illustrated in their Different Significations by Examples from the best Writers. To Which Are Prefixed, A History of the Language, And an English Grammar

First edition of the first great dictionary of the English language, Johnson's "audacious attempt to tame his unruly native tongue... combining huge erudition with a steely wit and remarkable clarity of thought" (Hitchings, 3)—"Johnson's writings had, in philology, the effect which Newton's discoveries had in mathematics." Nicely bound in handsome period-style full Morocco.

"Johnson's Dictionary made him a superstar. To be sure, there had been dictionaries before his. The difference is that, while these were compiled, Johnson's was written... The glory of the book is that it is also a compendium of English literature, reprinting fine examples of words from the masters, often Shakespeare or Sir Francis Bacon. Johnson sought to 'intersperse with verdure and flowers the dusty desarts of barren philology'" (*Smithsonian Book of Books*).

"Dr. Johnson performed with his Dictionary the most amazing, enduring and endearing one-man feat in the field of lexicography... The preface ranks among Johnson's finest writings... It is the dictionary itself which justifies Noah Webster's statement that Johnson's writings had, in philology, the effect which Newton's discoveries had on mathematics" (PMM 201). Carlyle paid this tribute: "Had Johnson left nothing but his Dictionary, one might have traced there a great intellect, a genuine man" (Baugh et al., 992). Title pages printed in red and black. Courtney & Smith, 54. Grolier 100. Rothschild 1237.

Text near-fine, with just a bit of occasional light foxing; small marginal tear to last leaf, not affecting text, leaf bound in reverse. Period-style bindings are quite handsome.

JOHNSON, Samuel. A Dictionary of the English Language: In Which the Words are deduced from their Originals and Illustrated in their Different Significations by Examples from the best Writers. To Which Are Prefixed, A History of the Language, And an English Grammar. London: Printed by W. Strahan, for J. & P. Knapton, et al., 1755. Two volumes. Thick folio (11 by 17 inches), period-style full brown Morocco, elaborately gilt-decorated spines, raised bands, red Morocco spine labels. Each volume housed in a custom clamshell box.