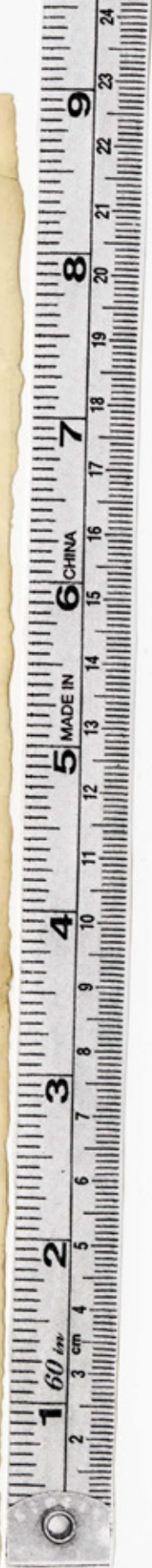


It is almost too late to praise the great  
Dictionary of Dr. Webster. That work has been  
so long an acknowledged standard, that it is  
equally useless to deny its authority, or to con-  
firm it by commendation. The sagacity of our  
distinguished lexicographer in definition, his discrim-  
ination between nice distinctions of meaning and his  
happy statement of them, ~~at its least & was~~  
cannot be surpassed. Dr. W. has done more to give  
precision - changes to <sup>than any other name</sup>  
the labors of recent editors have added  
much to the value of the work. The <sup>treatment of</sup> synonyms  
by Dr. Goodrich ~~is~~ <sup>is</sup> the most valuable in the  
language; ~~and as for any peculiarities of Dr.~~  
~~Webster's system, those which have not already~~  
been adopted in the language, are exhibited  
in the recent editions ~~with a just regard~~ <sup>with a strict</sup> ~~to~~ <sup>to</sup> a ~~strict~~ <sup>strict</sup> ~~reference~~ <sup>reference</sup>  
to scholarly conservatism, or to the prompt accept-  
ance of the fixed facts of language.

[1862?]





It is almost too late to praise the great <sup>in</sup> List of  
Dr. W. that work has so long been an acknowledged and  
so highly esteemed here abroad that it would be equally  
useless to excellence can no more be confirmed by  
commendation than it can be impaired by disparagement.

The <sup>labors of</sup> recent editors have added much to the value  
of the work. The treatment of symptoms by Dr G. is regarded  
as the best in the language.

1862  
Nobody can question the fact of Dr. W.'s sagacity  
I am expecting to have <sup>the 1<sup>st</sup> of Dec.</sup>  
I can obtain leave of absence from duties  
here to visit Europe but that it  
college. but this is no time for going abroad for any  
thing short of the common welfare of our country  
but I believe I could not be engaged in a higher  
service. than that which I

I shall acquiesce in your decision how to serve  
you here or in the field, and if you wish to  
communicate with me or for a person intimate, you have  
only to command.  
truly your obed. servant  
J. A. McLean