UNIQUE UNPUBLISHED MS. "OF AN UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE"

1. [NEWTON, SIR ISAAC.] Autograph Manuscript entitled "Of an Universall Language." In English, unfinished. Written in a minute hand on eight pp., and preceded by a draft of the earlier part of the work, on seven pp. In all, 15 pp., sewed.

UNPUBLISHED. This ingenious attempt to construct a universal language on a philosophical basis, begins with a short Introduction: "The dialects of several languages so much differing, a general language cannot bee so fully deduced from them as from ye natures of things which is ye same to all nations, and by such all language was at ye first compos'd. Now ye frame of being is made up of severall substances (bodys and spirits) each of which are in this or that state, case or condition: An ye use of language is yt one man may signify to another in yt state any substance is, bath beene, shall bee, may bee, should bee, is wished to bee, is commanded to bee, &c. This much as an Introduction to yt follows: . . ."

Then come eleven sections under the following headings:

(1) "Of the Letters," (a table of letters and diphthongs arranged phonetically, the exact sound of each being illustrated by a common word in which it occurs) and "of the names of things."
(2) "Conjugations of degrees."
(3) "Conjugations touching action forme and Relation."
(4) "Some other Conjugations."
(5) "Of the Numbers of things."
(6) "The Cases or States of things.
(7) "The Time when a thing is in its case."
(8) "The quantity and number of Times."
(9) "Of Epithets."
(10) "Of ye Order of Words in a sentence, and of severall things put in ye same case."
(11) "Of ye moods."

The main principle of the scheme is the formation of words from arbitrary roots by the addition of prefixes or suffixes which modify the meaning to any degree within, and including the two opposites, much as was later done in the development of the international language of Esperanto. They are used also to denote corelated objects or ideas, and in this Newton appears to have anticipated, or to be indebted to, the association theories of his great friend John Locke.

The first page of the manuscript displays a genealogical tree drawn by Newton, showing his descent through four generations. At the end is a list (not in Newton's hand) of English equivalents for Latin legal phrases.
By one of these Genus species, every one, act et proxinas, nihilique.

Subject to denote qf other. Or to denote a fellow sit melius, nisi quo, nihilque.

Object at pars aliquam.

Relation, principalis, melius, and. Sistit salutem, ultimum, in.

Forma, efficiet. Accipio. Denominet a quo, per quem, ad quem.

Object. Subject, internal, or external, sign. Circumstance.

Graduated Contraries, least, very little, much, more.

Inclined, little perpendicular, very little perpendicular, very.

Good, bad, right, left.

Informant one as raven, od. (white, black).

Contradictory as in finite, non, an indefinite nor done, or quod non est.

Belong to numbers.

Note of Quantity. Universall, particular, singular. Anuis. aliquis. He.

The conjugations of 5 may be conjugated by 3. of 7 by 6, and 7 by 6.

Not 56, nor 69, nor 63.
Of An Universal Language.

The dialect of each language being so divers and often
arbitrary, a general language cannot be so fully deduced from
them as from the nature of things themselves and is to all nations
by such all language was at first composed.

Now the frame of beings is made up of several substances (bodies
or spirits), each of which are in this or that state, case, or condition.

And the use of language is that one may signify to
another in what state any substance is liable to be, shall the maybe
should be, is wished to be, is commanded to be, etc. These (and
such like) considerations may be an induction to the following
rules.

Of the Names of Things.

Gather in each language an alphabetical table of all
substances (as of Engineers, Men, etc., here). The parts
are states or affections (as glory, beauty, love, etc.) that
against which a word is designed to signify.

In the table of the same language and
universall language. And let the names of the same sort of
things begin with the same letter. As of Instruments, etc.; Beasts,
wild. The sounds passions, etc. etc.

Which Table may be much abbreviated by the following rules.

1. Let the names of substances and their concrete affections end in (ad).
2. That the name of a thing signify its action producing a change.
3. The name of a thing signify its most eminent action, as change to final
   (ad into ad).
4. By an agent name to signify its patient.

For it will not be necessary to put in the Table both concrete and
names, as both good, goodness, man, manhood, beast, beastliness, house, dwelling,
thing, etc. Besides, the language becomes thereby very comprehensible.
each tale may be much abbreviated by some following conjunction with from which any being impossible serves to bring it upon to it.

**Conjugation of conjunction.**

1. When the forms are put indefinitely, its name shall begin with _o._
2. When it is in one or more real extremes, its name begins in (_-o_).
3. When its excess is indefinitely towards its extreme, in (-0).
4. When its excess is but little, its name ends in (_p-0_).
5. When pretty much (_-o_).
6. When very much (_-o_).
7. When exceedingly (_-o_).
8. When its excess is infinitely towards its base real extreme (_-o_).
9. When its excess is but little to its extreme or direct first is little.
10. When it is much.

The other in (-e_0).

**Conjugations of action or other relations.**

1. Let its name of its remote causes or agents, end in (_e_)
2. If its principal, cause or agent, or relation or other subject end in (_o_)
3. If its mediating cause in (_-o_).
4. If its action, fundament of relation, or subjects forms, end in (_e_)
5. If its matter, patient or correlate, end in (_o_).
6. If its terminus a quo, end in (_o_).
7. If its medium per quem, end in (_o_).
8. If its terminus ad quem, end in (_o_).
9. If its forms produced in its matter, end in (_o_).
10. If its effect, end in (_o_).
11. If its intermediate, end in (_o_).

Very much or great

Much or great

Pretty much or mild

Little or small

Very little or small

All of it

Some quantity

Any quantity

None or not
The Cases or States in which things stand related to one another.

Having spoken of ye have names of things I come to show how to express ye most general cases in which things stand related.

Case 1. Of subordination. When one thing comprehends another or something more a class genus to species, speak its Individual or any concrete Adjunct as its subject. Let ye larger word end in ( - ) or subordinate word end in ( - )

Case 2. Of relation. The relation being between any Subject or its Predicate. The subject shall end in ( - ) (The Predicate in ( - )

Arms or cause ( - ) (cause mediate or direct)

Case 2. Of relation. Twint ye efficient cause or Agent ( - )

6. The final cause or End ( - ) o3. The Matter or Patient ( - )

2. The Action ( - )

4. The form or new change produced in the matter ( - )

5. The effect of Matter thus or thus newly changed or formed ( - )

The argument or quarrel ( - )

8. The medium (per quod) through which the local motion or illumination proceeds.

Case 3. Of Relation. Twint ye Possessor ( - )

1. The The Possession ( - )

2. The Twint Kinsman ( - ) or kin.

3. Country and Countryman ( - ) or town and townsman.

In general. The Subject of ye relation is the Relation ( - ) or the Foundation or reason of ye relation ( - )

The Term ( - ) or Correlate ( - )

Or ye great most or least of all ( - ).

Summum or Minimum or Quod.

Genus that is common predicative ( - ) in ye same degree. Or the one ( - )

more ye one ( - ) or ( - ) or ( - ) less.

Or ye one ( - ) less ye one ( - )

more ye one ( - ) less ( - ) more.

Another way more ( - ) or ( - ) or ( - ) doth soe much the ( - )

ye other ( - ) doth.

Or ye a thing doth partake of its predicate not ( - )

least of all ( - ) little ( - ) in a mean degree ( - ) much ( - ) most ( - )
The Modes of Speech.

The next thing is ye several modes of speech whereby we express in what manner a proposition is to be understood as whether it be necessary, possible, contingent, impossible, command, desire, inquir, lawful or unlawful, &c. And this may be signified by some particle placed in ye beginning of ye sentence. As (to) for ye Necessary Mode, (for) for ye contingent, (possible) for ye imperative, (to) for ye affirmative, (for) for ye necessary, (for) for ye negative; nor before ye Negative Indicative. But before ye Indicative, contingent, mode place an particle: Nor before ye Negative Indicative. Nor before ye mode.

Of ye Compound modes of speech, or Divides.

The chief subject of ye sentence ending in ye Combination of speech about ye same thing.

1. Transition of speech from one thing to another
2. Coming more, or less, particularly to ye business spoken of, whether in explaining or reading from one into more general terms
3. Proceeding from things less to ye purpose, and things more to ye purpose, or things less to ye purpose, and things more to ye purpose, or things less necessary to things more necessary or less probable, or things more probable, or in explaining, explaining.

1. Ye Condition of ye preceding sentence
2. Consequent to ye following sentence
3. Cause of ye following sentence, whether it be efficient or final
4. Effect of ye preceding sentence
5. Ye times in both sentences are ye same
6. Ye time of ye sentence
7. Ye place of ye sentence
8. Ye place of ye sentence
9. Ye place of ye sentence
10. Ye word ending in is spoken of ye following sentence.
Of an Universal Language.

The dialects of small languages so much differing at general Language cannot be so fully reduced from them as from the nature of things themselves, as is the same to all nations. All by all, all language was at first composed. Now, frame of things is made up of several substances (bodies and spirits) each of which are in this or that state, case or condition; and, use of language is in our man may signify to another in its state and substance, each alone, shall one, may one should be, or is wished to be, is commanded to be, etc.: Thus much as an introduction to the

1 Of the Names of Things.

In each language gather an alphabetical table of all substances (as thing, horse, man, tree, my thing, this thing, that thing, good thing, great thing, etc.) against each of we set, its name designed to signify its same thing in the Universal Language. Also gather an alphabetical table of its words of its Universal Language against each of we set, its words of its same significance in each language. It may be convenient to let its same sorts of things begin with its same letter, as Instrument, etc.

Which tables will be much abridged by its following conjugations, and from its name of any thing impose names to things, akin to it.
2. Conceptions of degrees, which signify if it is capable of being so excellently in one of its more real extremes, &c.

1. Exceeding much
2. Exceeding little
3. Very much
4. Very little
5. Indifferently
6. Exceeding little
7. Very
8. Indifferently in one of its other less notable extremes &c.
9. Very little
10. Indifferently
11. Exceeding much
12. Very much
13. Indifferently
14. Very
15. Indifferently
16. Very much
17. Very little
18. Indifferently

The mediocrity in forms being once known there is no difficulty in conceiving their extremes & degrees. Thus of mediocrity twist heats & colds are warmer or colder than of their bodies. Twist good & bad an indifferent twist peace & war & such dissensions twist nations that they can neither be said to be in perfect peace or war. Twist views &c. Snakes, twist contrary inclinations of lines &c. &c. Twist contrary proverbs.

Example. If tor signify a thing it is hot or cold or warm

Thus is utor, hot. ouutor, exceeding hot. uutor, very hot. autor, pretty hot. utor, very little hot. inutor, exceeding little hot. elor, warm. etor, exceeding little cold. etuor, very little cold. utor, indifferent cold. etuor, very cold. ouutor, excessive cold. elor, cold. autor, neither very hot nor cold. utor, pretty hot or pretty cold. etor, very hot or very cold.
If things made by art, ye extremas are things made excellently & curiously. If things made badly or bunglingly, or the men are things made indifferently bewray, well or ill, or as they are most usually made.

Of natural things ye extremas are things of more of ordinary perfection in their kind, or ye means are things of common ordinary perfection of excellence.

If ye be prefixed to ye gradual letters they signify ye quality of ye thing. The extremas being [affirmative or negativ] quality, ye means [not quantity]. As in time, any moment being ye mean ye precedent time is one extremas ye following time ye other. Ih

How to define ye word of any case by a Periphrasis.

ye part of a thing as limits how far any thing is in the case of, how far can not go up to ye alien object, sight, circumstances beside time &c. A Case for all such cases.
Conjugations looking on action, forms of Relation

Having the name of denoting an efficient cause or agent; or a creature; or any concrete thing, y t. is, y e subject of any form:

1. The remit efficient cause or agent.
2. The mediating cause, or instrument.
3. The action, foundation of Relation; or abstract, or forms of y t. thing.
4. The matter, or object, or correlate.
5. The terminus a quo.
6. The medium per quod.
7. The terminus ad quem.
8. The effect.
9. The subordinate end.
10. The chief end.

Example: "If tol signify a painter; y t. is, tol t. his hir t. persuasion, moving him to paint, tol t. y e cloth, pensil, colour, other painting instruments, tol t. his painting, tol t. y e thing whose picture his paint hold. y e form or abstract nature of y e thing described. Tol t. a blank as unpainted cloth or paper, tol t. y e imperfect picture. Tol t. y e picture, perfected, y e is tol t. hold. y e forms of y e picture, as colour, mixt. y e thing described. Tol t. y e ends as to please, y e fancy. Tol t. y e chief end as to perpetuate y e memory of y e person painted.

2. If din is man then din is manhood. So of good, thing, goodness.

3. If bath is faster than bath is darkness. Bath, son of bath, sonness.

Some Other Conjugations

By y e thing to signify its most ordinary voice or sound.

By y e Instrument to signify its effect.

By y e effect to signify its place where it is most properly.

By a vegetable use to signify its fresh. See cause and effect.

To signify y e age of things. See degrees.
The Cases or Stages of Things.

In every sentence there is one term more eminent y² y² vest and if call y² subject of y² sentence, whether it be y² principal efficient cause or agent, in an action, or y² subject of any relation or a thing compared with other things, or y² subject of any predicate whatsoever. Which subject always ends in y² numerals with or without.

- An efficient cause or agent
- A mediating cause or instrument
- A middle or other predicate of y² subject
- Matter, patient, or Correlate or object
- Forms of y² matter, patient or correlate
- Terminus a quo
- Terminus post quem
- Ex qua
- Ex quin
- In quin
- In quin
- Form produced, or forms of y² effect
- An effect
- Coordinate and desigend, so will add y² end obtained
- A correlative and desigend obtained
- Equally partaking of y² common predicate with y² subject
- Partaking of y² predicate more y² y² subject
- Partaking of it lesser y² y² subject
- Their difference or excess one about y² other in y² predicate
- The same of their participations in y² predicate
- So much y² more partaking of y² predicate by how much y² lesser y² subject doth not partake of the contrast.
Of y° Order of Words in a sentence, & of several things put in y° same case.

The words in a sentence may perhaps be best set in y° order in which their cases are set downe, but this is but a description of y° speakers only let these things ever be set together and are in y° same case (viz: when we compare by [iv]) and of several things some one (perhaps we know not which) is spoken of, set y° particle (or) before them, in which sense we use corollaries, and further belongs to y° precedent word.

Of y° Circumstances, Time & Place etc. proper to any case are set immediately after y° case on its epistle

Of y° modes.

The letter (c or s) set in y° midst of y° word, or next after y° name it selfe, before y° numrable vowels or conjunctionall consonants, signifies y° thing to be necessarily in y° state or case in which it is: [c] or [s] set in y° place shows it to be so contingently. But if neither [c] nor [s] be in set in y° place, y° mode is indicative (i.e. showing y° state of a thing to be either necessary or contingent, but not declaring which.

The number of y° thing being [None], this indicative mode of the species y° necessary or contingent modes are changed into y° negative indicative mode. y° species of impossible or possible mode.

As for other Modes or rather Combinations in speech: Set y° letter [c] annexed to y° subject signify y° Sentence is y° speakers command, [c] if it is his desire, [c] if it is his question, [c] if it is lawful, [c] if it is inc
7. The time when a thing is in its case.

The chief time in a sentence is by of y' action or other predicate of y' subject, and may be thus.

1. As long since as in reason is possible.
2. A long while since.
3. An indefinite while since.
4. A little while since.
5. As little a while since as in reason is possible.
6. At y' present time.
7. As little a while thereafter as in reason is possible.
8. A little while thereafter.
9. A pretty while first.
10. A long while thereafter.
11. So long first as in reason is possible.
12. Indefinitely first.
13. Thereafter.
14. When y' subject of y' sentence is or exists.

Subject.

The subject, if patient or correlat have y' same time with y' subject's predicate, will therefore need not be expressed. But to express y' times of other cases.

Very much longer since.

A little longer since.

A long since.

Half since.

Almost so long since.

A quarter so long since or less.

A year so long first.

About 1/2 so long first.

About 3/4 so long first.

So long first as y' present time.

A little longer first.

Very much longer first.

Indefinitely first.

Thereafter.

Longer since y' that diff.

Not so long since as y' difference.

Not so long first as y' difference.

Longer first.

A little longer as y' difference comes to be.

When both y' thing of subject does exist.
The quantity and number of Times

Always, very long while, or long while
A pretty while, a little while, a very little
Never

Sometimes indefinitely, whether it be always, long, or little, etc.

The number of Times

Very often, often, indifferent often, seldom, very seldom
Often, after y'n once, once or other, once only
Very often, often, indifferent often, seldom, very seldom
Often, after y'n once, once or other, but once

Of Epithets

When you would distinguish, illustrate, or any ways describe any termes or things in your sentence by some distinct or other epithete, that description shall be expressed in a perfect sentence immediately following the thing described; in such sentence instead of the things name put [he] in y'n same degree, number, case, time, or quantity or number of times, which y'n things name should have in that sentence. And to distinguish this from y'n main sentence: place [he] in its beginning next after y'll thing described of to its end annex y'n particle [ye].

If the epithete may be expressed in one word, to its end add the better [he] and set it after the things name. Which epithete may have its degree number time at case, as well it is related to y'n thing whose epithete it is.
De Formis rei Naturae. Latinae versionis

Bis sex centum areae planta transire iucres

Quot sunt sex DC formas tot sunt carmen vivum

1. These changes of these versus many are
cub. y2 degrees contained in y2 grave.
2. These changes of these versus and the
cub. y2 degrees contained y2 in grave.
I will [make] the to doors. Begam to hot factors.

Make you turn this in Latin.

[Handwritten text in Latin]

I will [make] you friends(3).

I would be lost to make the boat, or [some text]

He makes a mouth to write.

I will make good to fill up.

He makes much of me.

What did you make of this year's crop?

Make a loggo.

Make the bed.

Make hast.

To make water.

To make an osso.

To make water.

[More handwritten text in Latin]

You shall not make

And belivons that tails.
You make a fool of me!
I am made into a king!
I make a stoop about nothing!
I will make an end.
I am going no more to lay downs.
I see no more of his exploits.
I say nothing for fear.
I bought it for no more old ghost.
Is it it was thou
It is not thou ranst fronde
I am found.
What is your good for?
Who will go with me?
Ah, my poor old holt
My poor king.
A pretty poet.
A little fellow.
A poor geni's beast.
A small heart.
A pretty well.
I poor man.
Some what more of all.
A birthwall.

A summer apple.
Household apple.

Ludis me, pro tribuo habebo!
Regem sum reddit.

In multitudine redeam
Abfolam.
Suman
His deus essent dabis
Propat famosa,
Carot motu,
Ego sum in 
Quo sum in, qui me tor
Valo
Pallat
Ego non utilis ost
Luis non eum ibit?
Ego ibit
Polla mea.
Regulus.
Potaatar.
Romulus.
Lurodium.
Cortulam.
Agulus.
Hosfistula.
Pustula.
Post Specifies.
Tumidus.
Rubus Rutilis.
Pudere pomum.
Ros domoscure.
Tantis octabatus
Pallidior
Subnivis sub nivibus
In summis aedis
In me taniste
Ultima tota
Ad se trum annum
Quasi in olim a voce
Primâ luna
Rutilia rotundâ
In modâ mbo
Quarta lunar ā natu
Ad sum qui fort
Hæc tua domus ostendita
Tu in suis inquiri atque
Sagaciter evide manus
Ipsi ipsi factus sunt tua
Hæc tu in manu.
Tu inquit
Ad eum inquit homo
Illâ inquit
Ipsi inquit, aquam fami
liam inquit,
qui nantis unavii
Non habet quo vesto
Sed ad suspensum
saeculorum ad dolorem suae.

sunt opit atmodum dulce,

do studiorum studendi gratia

destat nimirum ad hunc

inevitque praevisi fation

Commone tibi filium doctum

boni ut regna

dev tot ut absa

Hesio, quid faciam.

Praemisse famulum qui

quaerat.

Tuo fons, quos meditas,

dedit nihili librum legendum

Nom legorum) at indignum

tum tibi standam quem

quemam se aures

Hean non adducor, sed

nun sediit

Vonisti solocius opinio

prodieram fasae permissa

si illo abijt, quae

Eusus: usque dum salutif

sit plantis, quas vivat

pomum matutum

si altus eri qui hanc radit

sit quaestum, quam variat

vitum us
About to fall
How do to承接 to be prais'd
God should have been punisht
The better gain by thy words
T'other time did about man
Something:
But for ye one time
Thow do not a day build
Tomah tomah
You cannot satisfy nothing
But cost me at
What shall I do to dants but play
Good do nothing but play
I sent no letters but to you
Nothing but what was well
Advise of what from him
I cannot but no do
It no by one
Fromm dear to dear
Word for word
Take heed you did it not
See you some bathed
Thou maist be good
God is about these miles of
Why wilt not you?
I am foe to stando
With oute variety
I am witty doft
You ran to me with him
At his master sort
Till by ad day be light
For this tanto
Thow may begons for all men
Quintus
Prandus oft
Plontorus est
Alator quantum dotion
Tanto magnior
Do magnulum et dividem
Mas tantum virt
Mullus oft dies quinque non
Ad vos continent
Hicul libri scripti quiet
Quod alius est fallacia
Mi in opifice
Hicul mi in ludum
Hullus dedit litteras
Pro longum ad
Hicul mi in condictum
Stabat et opus ord
Hon postum Equipessto
Sigilat in
Christum
Post in
Sorbus
Ras et
Libat abas
Amusus trium abost
Quin surgis
Ab modum trium
Et ha in sequor
Sum in tuo odio
Alculum potest unum
Ab domino nutum
Ab laeum dom
Ear do raufa
First ab oboe yom
Out of own short
shall not be for thy profit
Considering the words,
so that thou may est potent enough
wist it at last from here
according to thy wisdom art
my patience is long
in me not about
Nor is it one of parts for.
So is it of kings round about
So was thy foot man
Before all before
My power much
About ten talents
work for work
All my house
In this right hand
It is to be found among
Among all dopest

Anno.
How is present
This day hour
None was an other
What employment in it
Here is a pen for thee to write
If my man hold on of
You should have knowledge of
Lay it burden upon me.
I will go and seek the to a
In & geotobed support man
I show thy self a man
He will prove a straggler
He is had an expert divine
He is reported to be a

Aedit nope
I had rather go on foot than on 20s
he is sick of a quartam fevers

does him in a rivet (row)
ardly of the water
in a whole step and
which way
my thing
there is a thing I would to do.

These are some of my son.
These are a dying of the holism

Sore is not rooms for me.
You hand too to too glad
I beseech you if the sick must
will not hide from study.
Roasting hide God from wandering
Buoy must hide me from wandering

What trade and get
Let of sick at all its being

This was more too dogs jingled
At least my master

You for what kind of man

I am master of none among sagred numbers are it than

I had get more of a money
A note of nothing
As at time of day.

And much more for much credit
This poor piece of ale should
The way is much of Saint Loug.

[Latin text]

Sunt qui offerunt
Est quo me male labor
Non est ubi sed dam
Est quid judas
Quae mea mea nobis vort
Dei trahimis
Per nos non labat quos minus fidem
Hic est quis qui quos minus fidem
Anglia mam, dixit etc. qua
Cuius est ubi sedam

Rerum quid fit hominum

Coret

Coret

Quantum est unda terrum fidel

Coret

Coret
Dominus est simillimus
Non est solvendo (sub. idoneum)
La portant que co.figurando ignifera
(sub: idonea)

Tibi me proprium meo est
Confite illum hon

Queso labellis libenter in hoc: meum
Edeo ut tuum uter consilium

Ehbo ab Ebi

Non intellego illi
Salvumque aliis et me

Aduxi me ab illonis philosophorum

Civitatem esse spectum
Soldium gaudii gaudium

Non ludor ludor et

Sorritam non spectum

O let torum

Dolo, torum victor

Sorritam non spectum

Sorritam non spectum

Ponam vos monst

He is not able to pay

They must give fit to publish this

The nearest to our man living

This is not wise about it

I will take a same round of dog

Consider thee

The man understand sense

Dear brother you

Shall borrow of him the book

Knew not not

As it may agree occur

You will be hastily glad

That promises he would play

This was a sign unto

I was a sign unto

At end among his small man

What he did then to support

They know not my way

Get smote of fashion

I am forever for you

I don't it

The day will sail me

You are sent to be punished
Today's thoughts:

Hands off! Steadfastly
wrestle out of troubles.

Mind on this:
To question his good things,
sooner you are old.

Stir for subtlety to obey:
Enigmas command.

Mortem ortam hanc
Gl/yyyy m/anm
Alter tis/it ubi
Sudor chor unum
Cin hor unum
Colorata fugam
Ltt ann/or um sp/lo
Fifty Blank Pages Not Scanned.

The manuscript is composed of bifolia stitched together with a work written at either end. Of its 76 pages, 50 are blank. These are the reverse of nos. 8, 9, and 12-17, and 42 pages between the works.