

70. The feminines of this declension have also several kinds of modification of vowels; some cannot be modified, some have a doubled form of declension after this or the former specimen, as:

	<i>Present Declension:</i>	<i>Former Declension: [stock]</i>
<i>Sing. Nom. Acc.</i> hnot (<i>nut</i>)	staung	mörk (<i>wood</i>) staung (<i>stake</i> ,
<i>Dat.</i> hnot	staung	mörku staung
<i>Gen.</i> hnotar	steingr	markar stángar
<i>Plur. Nom. Acc.</i> hnetr	steingr	markir stángir
<i>Dat.</i> hnotum	staungum	mörkum staungum
<i>Gen.</i> hnota;	stánga;	marka; stánga.

The modification in *staung*, *steingr* is in reality the same, as in *mörk*, *merk* (67) as it is merely a mechanical consequence of *ng*, the *ö* changes into *au* and *e* into *ei*, we also often find *stöng*, *stangar*, *stengr* (34).

The words which are declined in two ways like *mörk* and *staung* are chiefly the following:

strönd (*strand*), *rönd* (*edge*) *spaung*, *taung*, *haunk*.

A difference of signification is only accidental, as:

önd, *Plur.* *endr* the *duck* — *önd*, *Plur.* *andir*, a *spirit*, *ghost* (dan.: en *Änd*.)

Strönd, *rönd*, *önd* receive in the *Gen. Sing.* always *strandar*, *randar*, *andar*; so that *önd*, *spirit*, differs only in one case in the singular, and two cases in the Plural from *önd*, *duck*, *Dat. Sing.* *öndu*, *Nom. and Acc. Plur.* *andir*.

71. Some accented monosyllables deviate by contraction, if the final syllable begins with a vowel, so that *á* absorbs *a*, *u* but *ó*, *ú*, absorbs only the *u*; as:

tá, *ten*, *G.* *tár* (for *táar*) — *Plur.* *tær*, *D.* *tám* (for *táum*)

kló, *claw*, *G.* *klóar* — *Plur.* *klær*, *klóm*, *klóa*

á, *sheep* (*hunfár*), *Gen.* — *Plur.* *ær*.

kú, *cow*, *G.* *kýr* — *Plur.* *kýr*.

These forms *ær* and *kýr* we find in the modern language given to the *Sing. Nom.*; so that both these words are in the *Sing. Nom.* and *Plur. Nom.* and *Acc.* the same.

Others blend the *r* of the Plural with the final letter, as *brún*, *Plur.* *brýnn* (*Egilss. S. 306* and in the *Edda Helgakv. Haddsk. 19*) now we say *brýn*, or *brýr*; *mús* forms the *Plur.* in *mýss* or *mýs*; *dýrr* or *dýr*, *door*, is only found