Tongue or different branch of language obey the same great laws. These laws are exhibited most clearly in the best specimen of language and can there be studied to the best advantage. So this all will agree.

Then the course for the student in reality is to apply himself unremittingly to the study of authors whose writings furnish these best specimens of composition, language which possesses the essential properties of correctness, conciseness, force of expression and beauty of style. He will recommend the careful study of our English classics—Shakespeare, Scott, Milton, Addison, Pope, Young, Gibbon—Shawe; because these authors afford us language of great beauty and strength. But learned men are almost unanimous in asserting that the great principles of language are never thoroughly mastered until those purist of all tongues, Greek and Latin are acquired. Let us concede this as an assertion, perhaps too broad but not well maintained, but certain it is, that, if we are in...