not afford the mental discipline. But no competent judge ever imagined that a translation, especially a translation of an ancient Classic, gave an adequate idea of the original. The facts, it is true, may be exhibited in our tongue, but their nature and exquisite beauties can never be expressed in another language, so must therefore be hidden treasure to all except those who can hold communion with the original writer in his own tongue.

But if this knowledge of language is obtained simply by an acquaintance with a foreign language, why, it may be asked, do we prefer the Ancient Classics to the many classic modern languages? The answer— if it is necessary to study a different language or languages from our own to understand thoroughly the essential principles and soundness of our vernacular tongue, certainly it is wise to select the purest and most perfect language in our reach; it is acknowledged without a blush by every nation.