

or pronouncing either a Classical or a Scripture Proper Name, both are generally given.

In every department of the Work, the Compiler is aware that it is chargeable with many faults of both plan and execution. He nevertheless hopes that, as a school-book, it will be found superior to any dictionary at present in use. He can at least say for himself, and for the Publishers, that no labour or expense has been spared to make it serve the purpose for which it is designed. It was all carefully written by the Compiler's own hand, and the utmost attention was paid to accuracy while it was passing through the press. Nothing has been inserted without authority, and every word has been verified. As has been already stated, the Compiler has not, in any case, deferred merely to his own opinion, but has throughout proceeded on the principle of being guided by the majority of competent authorities. Of course he has exercised his own judgment in deciding what authorities he considered competent; but he is confident that his judgment will be ratified by that of the public, when he adds, that the lexicographers whom he has chiefly followed are, for the authenticity, spelling, derivation, and explanation of words, Johnson, Todd, Richardson, and Webster; for pronunciation, Walker, Jones, Perry, Fulton, Worcester, and Smart; and for Anglo-Saxon roots, Bosworth. To these authors, and to the authors of the various other works which he has consulted, he desires to make the most ample acknowledgments.

With these explanations, the Compiler commits his Dictionary to the public, in the hope that it will receive that approbation, of which, by the labour of several years, he has endeavoured to make it worthy.

EDINBURGH, *September 1844.*