

against swindlers. Besides, it will have the advantage of making your journal not only an archive for stories, but also a treasure for the students of dialects. The study of dialects, I feel certain, is full of promise; and I still hold as strongly as ever that, in order to know what language is, we must study it in its dialects, which alone represent the real natural life of language. Only here again moderation is essential, as also is the practice of that art which is the secret of all true art and of all true knowledge—viz., *the art of distinguishing what is really important from what is unimportant*. Without that art, collectors of dialects and collectors of stories may fill whole libraries with their volumes; but real knowledge—the knowledge that gives us clear ideas, and strengthens and sharpens the mind for new work—will be impeded rather than advanced.

“The really essential points on which a scientific study of popular stories can, and ought to, throw light are not many. What we want to know is:

“(1) Whether these stories exist in many places, and are, therefore, a natural product of the human mind in its growth from savagery to culture.

“(2) Whether we can trace their history from modern to ancient times, and follow up their migration from East to West.

“(3) Whether we can understand their origin or *raison d'être* by discovering their first formation in the mythopoetic stratum of human language and human thought.

“These are the three momentous questions; everything else is curious only, unless it serves directly or indirectly to throw light on them. To be able to suppress what is merely curious in order to make room for what is really important seems to me the test of the true scholar in every field of research. To do this requires great self-denial on the part of a student, and even greater firmness on the part of an editor of such a journal as you contemplate.”

COMPARATIVE CLASSIFICATION OF THE CASES IN LATIN AND GREEK.

A NOTE FOR TEACHERS.

A table such as the following will be of little value to mere beginners. The time has not yet come for them to attempt a scientific study of language, and it will be sufficient for them to connect the English symbols that they find in grammars with the