

THAT You should have a competent knowledge of this subject, is evident, not indeed to be contentious

“ *says he*, and to those who embraced it, are due our grateful
 “ acknowledgments for the learning that is at present in the world.
 “ The Infidels educated in Christian countries owe what learning
 “ they have to Christianity; and act the part of those brutes,
 “ which when they have sucked the dam, turn about and strike
 “ her.—— To whom are we indebted for the knowledge of
 “ antiquities, sacred and secular, for every thing that is called,
 “ *philology*, or the *Literæ humaniores*? To Christians. To whom
 “ for Grammars and Dictionaries of the learned languages? To
 “ Christians. To whom for Chronology, and the continua-
 “ tion of History through many Centuries? To Christians. To
 “ whom for rational systems of Morality and of Natural Religion?
 “ To Christians. To whom for improvements in Natural Philo-
 “ sophy? To Christians. To whom for Metaphysical researches
 “ carried as far as the subject will permit? To Christians. To
 “ whom for the moral rules to be observed by nations in war and
 “ peace? To Christians. To whom for *Jurisprudence*, and for po-
 “ litical knowledge, and for settling the rights of subjects, both
 “ civil and religious, upon a proper foundation? To Christians.
 “ Not to Atheists or Deists, some of whom have been known ad-
 “ vocates of tyranny. To whom for the great work of Reforma-
 “ tion? To Christians. Let me add; and very often to Christian
 “ Divines.—— Great Britain in this and the last Century hath
 “ produced Deistical or Atheistical writers; as Herbert, Hobbes,
 “ Toland, Shaftsbury, Collins, Mandeville, Woolston, Tindal,
 “ Morgan, Chubb, Bolinbroke, Hume, and some who are ano-
 “ nymous. I shall not enter into a detail of the various things
 “ which are justly censurable in these Authors; but keeping the
 “ present subject in view, I observe that some of them have been
 “ ignorant and illiterate; most of them a sort of half-scholars
 “ and retailers of second-hand wares; none of them eminently
 “ learned, or contributors to the advancement of erudition and
 “ knowledge in any material article.” JORTIN’S Sermons,
 Vol. VII. p. 372. 373. Edit. 1772:

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