

them, or better still, consign them to the wastebasket or the stove. Dictated by ignorance or self-interest, they tend more effectually to mislead and discourage the student, than to improve him in his up-hill work, at a time when ignorance of the language he is studying, precludes the possibility of discriminating between good and bad methods, and so, merit the censure of all friends of education.

There is a universal realization of the fact, that a conversational knowledge of either English or French is very inadequately provided for in houses of education; and so it is. So rare is it to find French spoken in England, that anyone speaking it like his mother tongue is looked upon as a prodigy. But linguistic discipline is at last about to undergo such a readjustment as modern views call for. This work, which is thoroughly modern, will, I hope be found adapted to the wants of our age.

It has been often asserted that foreign languages can only be learned abroad. I, however, differ from this opinion, and think, on the contrary, that a proper method at home, places the learner in a more favorable position for acquiring a foreign language than social intercourse in the country in which it is spoken. For admitting, what is far from being always the case, that he mixes much with the natives, he has no chance of understanding them for a long time; because the rapidity of ordinary conversation does not permit the oral expression to be accom-