

ration. This last opinion is incompatible with the political events which have been going on for the last century. In every kingdom of Europe we find either schools for disseminating and teaching the English language established; or those who can afford it, send their children to England for the purpose of being instructed in it. The celebrity of the British armies and the spreading of her soldiers over many of the nations of Continental Europe during the late wars has diffused her language and a taste for the study of it among all those nations. Her widely extended colonies; and the dispersing of her missionaries over them; has made England as it were the mother country of the standard language of the present day in the East and West. Even where she has ceased to possess the authority of a parent state over a colony, once formed by her, their native language has been preserved by the colonists, and by them will be diffused over their future possessions and transmitted from sire to son. The continued efflux of emigration, which is yearly pouring out from England to remote countries will extend and preserve her language; so that to speak of a dread of its duration is absurd; when it extends to almost the highest latitudes yet discovered in both hemispheres and surrounds the habitable globe, like its equator.

Against the objection of its being liable to fluctuate; the best argument is found in Mr. Benson's remarks on the above passage from Pope, when he justly observes that "as long as our admirable version of the Bible continues to be read in Churches, there will remain a perpetual standard for the English language." And here we may refer our readers to Dr. Johnson's preface to his Dictionary, a work which has justly commanded the admiration of all the learned men since his days, and wherein he appears to entertain the same opinion.

The second objection urged by foreigners as well as natives against the English language, is its being composed of derivatives from other languages: on this account they say it is a medley, and has no right to be considered a language of itself. The best reply to this is the fact allowed by all foreigners, namely that the English language is of all others the most difficult to acquire a knowledge of. This at once proves it to be something more than a medley, and that it has other claims to be considered a language, for if altogether composed of derivatives from others, where would be the difficulty of learning the English, to the scholar who had previously studied the languages from which it is formed. There is no language in the known world (the Hebrew alone excepted,) but has its origin by derivation from some others. But what is adduced as a blemish in the English language on this score, constitutes its greatest beauty and forms one of the most powerful arguments which can be adduced in its behalf. We have in the formation of the English, culled the flowers from other languages and rejected the weeds. The greater antiquity which other languages may boast, has been taken advantage of to form the English; and where superior taste founded upon mental cultivation enabled men to discover the blemishes and appreciate the beauties of other languages, they made their selection and formed this the most expressive, of the feelings and the best calculated to depict the emotions of the mind of all others. The Spanish lan-