

in my change of feeling and sentiment; which if I had previously understood in all its meaning when I commenced the pursuits of learning, my repugnance to study would have been in a great measure subdued. The sentiment is "*Radix doctrinae amara, fructus dulcis.*" The root of learning is bitter, the fruit is sweet. Endeavour to understand this, and endeavour to keep it always in remembrance. The prospect of enjoying the sweet fruit of learning will render you submissive to swallow every decoction of its bitter root. At the end of my Latin Grammar there is an emblematical representation of learning: a tree hanging luxuriantly with fruit, and some boys at the root eating the bitter, while others are upon the branches plucking the fruit. You are one of the boys at the root knowing nothing but the nausea and bitterness of learning, but I am on the branches of the tree, enjoying a sweet repast of delicious fruit. I experience now the great benefits of Grammatical knowledge. Its advantages are above all value. It frees us from many mortifications in our common intercourse with the world. It enables us to correspond with our distant friends in a manner creditable to ourselves and satisfactory to them. It opens up the sense of many passages in the works we read, which otherwise would very probably be misunderstood, or remain unintelligible mysteries. It elevates us in the estimation of all who know us. It is the gate through which we must pass to any of the learned professions—It is in short the gate through which we must pass to all other knowledge. Do you think that the immortal Newton would ever have scanned the celestial motions and reduced them all to a nice mathematical calculation, had he not first plodded through Grammar? Do you think that Dugald Stewart, of mo-