

gratitude to the men whose diligent labours have thus restored to us the pronunciation of the ancients. But will this improved method of sounding vowels and consonants in a way strange to English ears be of any assistance to us in making Latin the "handmaid" of English?

Even if it be not true that the approach to the true pronunciation of Latin furnished by the Roman method is "so far away that were Cicero—I beg his pardon—were Kikero to come to life again and hear some of us at this *near* pronunciation, he would either not be able to understand us or immediately die of an apoplexy of chagrin or laughter;" that the introduction of the Roman method into our schools would and could have no other effect than to uselessly disturb the existing condition of things; that there is an evident lack of internal uniformity in the pronunciation which results from an adoption of this method; that there is something in the rumour that some of the advocates of the Roman pronunciation have now an inclination to recede from the stand taken so confidently by them a few years ago; even if these things be *not* true, there is a better argument than is to be found in any of them against the use of the Roman method of pronunciation in our schools. It is this: Will it help us to make the most educational capital possible out of the analogies between the two languages—Latin and English? Will the person who hears the English word *Ciceronian* understand its significance as well if he has been taught that the Roman orator was called *Kikero*, as he would if, like most of us here, he knew of him as Cicero? Will he as readily grasp the meaning of the expression, "So-and-so is a very Cræsus" if he has never heard of the Lydian king except as *Kroisoos*? Or take almost any word derived from the Latin. For instance, will the child who is acquainted with the Latin noun *vigil* or the one who has only heard of *wiggle* get the better conception of the English word *vigil*, or the more readily understand the poet when he says, "So they in heaven their odes and *vigils* tuned"?

My examples may not be the best that might have been used to illustrate my meaning; but I think they will suffice to show that in selecting our method of Latin pronunciation we should, if we understand aright why we teach Latin at all, choose that one which gives the greatest