

can ever pronounce like a native, though he may have been trained for many years under the best of masters. The fact, then, that we can never expect to reproduce exactly the same tones with which Cicero spoke his orations affords no reasonable ground for discarding the Latin pronunciation. Ritschl answered years ago the objection he knew would be made in these words:—"Suppose we are not sure of one or two sounds, is that any reason why we should pronounce *all* in a way we know to be *entschieden grundfalsch*?" Granted that our organs of speech are by habit not capable of reproducing the fine intonation and accent of the Roman, this fact furnishes no better argument for relinquishing the approximate Latin pronunciation than that we should give up entirely the study of the literature of Greece and Rome, since we, under our changed conditions and modes of life and thought, cannot appreciate as the Greek and Roman appreciated the scenes their historians depicted or the sentiments their poets breathed.

We observe, in the second place, that during the past quarter of a century substantial advances have been made in every department of Latin scholarship, and more especially in the science of grammar and the historic development of forms. The once prevalent mechanical method of treating the science of language has given place to scientific correctness. The "New Grammar" endeavors to set down the sure results of comparative philology, but admits no doctrines which are not universally accepted by scholars, and for which convincing evidence is still lacking. But so important have been the discoveries in this branch of science, that it may safely be said that in no study have there been made more radical changes within the last generation than in this. With this so-called "New Grammar," the Latin pronunciation is intimately, if not indissolubly, linked. In the more advanced and critical study of the language, a knowledge of this pronunciation is indispensable for its intelligent interpretation and a comprehension of its true and natural development. And not only is philologico-linguistic research promoted thereby, but a better appreciation of the metre in poetry and rhythm in prose can be gained by approximating our utterance of it to that of the Roman.

Again, by the Latin Method, we shall approach the Continental pronunciations, without sacrificing scientific accuracy or humiliating ourselves by seeking a foreign substitute. We have in it a basis for an International pronunciation, and the only one which the whole English race and the educated world are likely to adopt; for, if the question be asked: What pronuncia-