

*Pray thee, take care, that takest my book in hand,
To read it well; that is, to understand.*

—BEN JONSON: *Epigram I.*

Very ready we are to say of a book, "How good this is—that's exactly what I think!" But the right feeling is, "How strange that is! I never thought of that before, and yet I see it is true; or if I do not now, I hope I shall, some day." But whether thus submissively or not, at least be sure that you go to the author to get his meaning, not to find yours.—RUSKIN.