

In his preface to his Icelandic grammar, Dr. G. W. DASENT says: "Putting aside the study of Old Norse for the sake of its magnificent literature, and considering it merely as an accessory help for the English student, we shall find it of immense advantage, not only in tracing the rise of words and idioms, but still more in clearing up many dark points in our early history; in fact, so highly do I value it in this respect, that I cannot imagine it possible to write a satisfactory history of the Anglo-Saxon period without a thorough knowledge of the Old Norse literature."

DR. DASENT, in his introduction to Cleasby's and Vigfusson's Icelandic Dictionary, says of Iceland: "No other country in Europe possesses an ancient vernacular to be compared with this." And again: "Whether in a literary or in a philological point of view, no literature in Europe in the middle ages can compete in interest with that of Iceland. It is not certainly *in forma pauperis* that she appears at the tribunal of learning." In another place he remarks: "In it (the Dictionary) the English student now possesses a key to that rich store of knowledge which the early literature of Iceland possesses. He may read the Eddas and Sagas, which contain sources of delight and treasures of learning such as no other language but that of Iceland possesses."

The distinguished German scholar, ETTMÜLLER, in comparing the literature of the Anglo-Saxons with that of the Icelanders, says: "Neither the Goths, nor the Germans, nor the French, can be compared with the Anglo-Saxons in the cultivation of letters. By the *Scandinavians alone*, they are not only equaled, but also sur-