

and firmly established. Derivatives, whose name is legion, are being traced back to a few original stocks. No study more bracing or interesting than to pursue the same stem-letters through the various languages that compose what is now termed the great Aryan family, as these are being brought to the surface by philological explorers, and find that these symbols represent fundamental ideas precisely identical. While our Lexicons are being revolutionized by the results of these researches, a process similar and equally sweeping, is changing the aspect of our Grammars. *Mediate* relation of subordinate to principal words is being resolved into *immediate* dependence. The inflections found in old Asiatic tongues are seen to throw light on the forms which modify the speech of the great European nations of the ancient world. Terminational syllables are thus discovered to spring from pronominal affixes, by means of which a people in their primitive state of rudeness express their ideas of relation. To these philological researches the strictest Inductive reasoning must be applied. In pursuing these analogies caution must be exercised against rash or hasty conclusions. Apparent harmonies must not be confounded with real connections. By no more invigorating or fascinating exercise can the mind be formed to habits of exact thought, accurate perception, and keen analysis.

Here arises the question—to what source can we trace the impetus which has thus been given to philological research? To what operating cause does the Classical Department owe this activity and progress? Mainly to that knowledge of ancient Asiatic tongues, which was first introduced into Britain at the close of the last century, and is now so generally diffused among European scholars. Foremost among these explorers into the sacred literature of Eastern nations was Sir William Jones, one of the most accomplish-