

Still some, perhaps, like children say,
"With all this learning hence away !
No need of varied lore for us !"
To whom I say in answer thus :
Without some learning judgment lies,
When it assents, or when denies.
All at the mercy of each chance,
When any one will words advance.
As Bassus said of it of old,
(Which only shews the ancient mould),
Their " judgment then is divination,"
In private men, and in a nation.
Historic facts being unknown,
Mere guesswork it becomes alone.
A false translation then befools
E'en Romans, till they're Fortune's tools ;
While learning and linguistic lore
Would keep them happy as before.

KENELM HENRY DIGBY. *Ouranogaia*. Canto xv., vol. ii., p. 101.