

the words are not arranged alphabetically, but in the order of their occurrence in the play. Notwithstanding a few omissions and redundancies, some of which will be noticed hereafter, we consider this part of Mr Blomfield's work as extremely valuable; and we do not hesitate in recommending the imitation of it to all future editors of single Greek plays. Feeling, as we profess to feel, all possible respect for that department of the critical art, which consists in the restoration of corrupted passages, the proper arrangement of metres, and the discussion of questions of orthography and syntax, we cannot suppress a wish, that eminent scholars would devote a considerable part of their time and talents to the labour of mere interpretation. Most of the Latin classics have already received sufficient illustration; but the remains of the Greek writers are in a very different condition. In the present state of Greek literature, very tolerable scholars may read the best Greek classics in the best editions, assisted by the best Latin translations, without being secure from the danger of mistaking the sense of the author; or, at least, of losing the force and spirit of his expression, in almost every page. We will give an instance of the latter sort from the play before us. When the nymphs, who constitute the Chorus, recommend silence and submission to Prometheus, he answers, v. 936. *Σέβου, προσεύχου, θῶπτε τὸν κρατοῦντ' αἰεῖ.* Now, we apprehend, that nineteen schoolboys out of twenty, would either translate the words, *τὸν κρατοῦντ' αἰεῖ*, *him who rules for ever*,—that is to say, Jupiter, who is really the person in question; or would join *αἰεῖ* to *σέβου*, etc. Stanley, a man of considerable learning, took the line in the former sense, as appears by his translation:—*Cole, invoca, palpa istum aeternum gubernatorem.* The real sense of the passage has been pointed out by Mr Butler, whose observation is borrowed, with proper acknowledgement, by Mr Blomfield. The words, *τὸν κρατοῦντ' αἰεῖ*, mean, *whoever happens to be in power*. In the same sense, *οἱ αἰεῖ ἄρχοντες*, an expression which occurs not unfrequently, means, *the magistrates for the present year*; or, if the reader pleases, *the present ministry*.

Mr Blomfield's Latinity, although sufficiently fluent, and entirely devoid of affectation, is, upon the whole, rather deficient in correctness. We observe, for instance, that he frequently, perhaps always, uses the subjunctive mood after *etsi*. P. ii. *Etsi sine nomine editoris exierit.* P. 36. *Etsi a Stanleio praetermittatur.* P. 45. *Etsi πλάνος satis frequens sit.* P. 58. *Etsi εἰσάπαξ in hoc loco edi permiserit.* P. 72. *Etsi τὸ μὴ οὐ versum claudat.* P. 138. *Etsi Scholiastes Venet. Il. Ψ. 34. habeat,* etc. This construction is common enough among modern authors, and not without example among the ancients; but we apprehend the use of the indicative to be the more usual, and, consequently, the safer method.