

PREFACE.

The Old Norsk or Icelandic and the Anglo-Saxon may be termed the parents of the English Language, and their Knowledge is not only highly useful but absolutely necessary to every educated Englishman who looks upon his language with the eye of a historian and philosopher. Nothing is more interesting than to look back to these two sources from whence the english tongue is derived, and a thorough knowledge of English is only possible by being acquainted with its origin.

These languages together with Anglo-Norman, early German, ancient, mediæval and modern English, ought to be regularly studied.

By adapting Rask's abridgement we have indicated a simple method of learning Icelandic, which we hope will be found generally useful.

The Editor.

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