

## CHAPTER XXI

## BRINSLEY, HOOLE, AND CLARKE

IT MAY NOT BE AMISS at this point to orient Brinsley and Hoole with regard to the sixteenth century, since they also give valuable evidence as to the continuity and cohesion of the tradition. Both accept without cavil the authors and the sequences of compositional forms they had inherited from the sixteenth century. Their interest is in the best methods of organization and the most effective teaching routines within this framework. Clarke may then be permitted to present the eighteenth century reaction against the poetic impracticalities of the sixteenth century.

Brinsley rides the particular hobby of grammatical translations as the cure for all ills the grammar school is heir to. For all the compositional processes and many of the conventional authors, he shows how he himself uses these grammatical translations. He begins with how to make children perfect in the accidence, and then in the grammar, whence he proceeds to the next process, that of construing, and advertizes his wares. He has completed, has in hand, or intends to take in hand *Pueriles Confabulatiunculæ*, *Sententiae Pueriles*, *Cato*, *Corderius' Dialogues*, *Aesop's Fables*, *Tullies Epistles* by Sturmius, *Tullies Offices*, with *De Amicitia*, *De Senectute*, *Paradoxes*, *Ovid De Tristibus*, *Metamorphoses*, *Virgil*, *Tullies Sentences*, *Aphthonius*, *Drax's Phrases*, *Flores Poetarum*, *Tully De Natura Deorum*, and *Terentius Christianus*. With exception of Drax and *Terentius Christianus*, these had been current texts for at least the last third of the sixteenth century. The regular lower school authors except Terence are here. At best, Brinsley could only tolerate a limited use of Terence; he did not encourage it.

For *Terence*, if you thinke good, and especially to furnish with English phrase to answer the Latine, and by reading out of the English into Latin, to helpe more speedily to obtaine the Latin phrase and style, Maister *Barnards* translation.

Provided alwayes, that this be with great caution, for auoyding all danger of corrupting their manners by lasciuiousnesse or otherwise; considering the pronenesse of our nature, like to tinder or gunpowder, if neuer so little a sparke fall into the same. The like caution is to be had for other, as *Horace*, *Iuuenal*, *Persius*, *Martial*, &c.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Brinsley, *Consolation* (1622), p. 64.