

of literary and historical study, but that today is as generally discarded in these fields as the practice of bleeding patients has been in medicine.

For many centuries bleeding was the common treatment for almost any disease. I have heard it said that George Washington was bled to death practically to death, by his physicians. A century ago millions of leeches were purchased for the ~~purpose~~ purpose of drawing blood out of sick people. Today great sums are expended in making blood available to put into the sick.

Thought in the medical field in this regard respect has completely reversed itself. ~~For~~ To a lesser, and yet very similar degree, thought has reversed itself in the field of literary and historical criticism.

In order to see how great is the change that has occurred it is well to notice certain aspects of the attitudes which began to be common in the literary field at about 1750, came into great attention in 1795, and continued to be extremely widespread until approximately 1930, but are now to a very great extent discarded. (New par?) I would like to ~~look~~ look at four aspects, three of which were common in the general literary and historical field, a fourth which became extremely common toward the end of the period in the ~~Biblical~~ Biblical field, and like the others, survives in that field to the present day, and then to take one of the special fields of literary study and to note some of its important meaning for the Biblical field.

The first of these aspects at which I would like to look is that of skepticism regarding ancient records. Toward the end of the eighteenth century people began to question myths and fables that had come down from antiquity and that were proving unreliable in the light of the greater amount of ancient material that had become available. This proper attitude soon was carried to a great extreme. In 1895 appeared Wolf's ~~Prolegomena~~ Prologomena, a famous introduction to the study of Homer. In this book Wolf said that