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- Mrs Dangle* Mr Dangle, here are two very civil gentlemen trying to make themselves understood, and I don't know which is the interpreter.
- Mr Dangle* Egad, I think the interpreter is the hardest to be understood of the two.¹
- Mr Coleridge* [T]hese forces should be assumed to be both alike infinite, both alike indestructible. The problem will then be to discover the result or product of two such forces.²
- Mr De Quincey* The unit itself that should facilitate [...] becomes itself elusive of the mental grasp: it comes in as an interpreter; and (as in some other cases) the interpreter is hardest to be understood of the two.³
- Mr Benjamin* If the original does not exist for the reader's sake, how could the translation be understood on this premise? [...] There is a philosophical genius that is characterised by a yearning for that language which manifests itself in translation.⁴

¹ Richard Brinsley Sheridan, *The Critic: Or, a Tragedy Rehearsed: A Farce*, ed. G. A. Aitken (London: J. M. Dent, 1897), 31–2.

² BL, 299.

³ System of the Heavens, 15.401.

⁴ Walter Benjamin, 'The Task of the Translator: An Introduction to the Translation of Baudelaire's *Tableaux Parisiens*', *Illuminations*, trans. Harry Zorn (London: Pimlico, 1999), 71; 76.