Abstract

One of the greatest challenges in translating any work from a foreign language into English is correctly conveying the meaning of the author's thoughts and statements. It often involves a bit of interpretation and artistic license on the part of the translator. However, translating a work that is centuries old brings in even more difficulties with differences in vocabulary, syntax, content, and context. For my senior thesis, I translated Act II of French playwright Jean de la Taille's play *La Famine, ou Les Gabeonites*. I have translated the act on my own with the help of Randle Cotgrave's "A Dictionarie of the French and English Tongues" of 1611 and the Oxford-English Dictionary Online and later worked on improving that translation with a group of students and with Dr. Donald Gilman, an expert in the field of sixteenth-century French Literature. With the aid of these sources, I believe that I have produced a suitable translation.

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