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☞ ADVERTISERS are earnestly requested to hand in their favors before 5 P. M., and as early in the day as practicable. Advertisements not inserted for a specified time will invariably be charged until ordered out

PHILADELPHIA NORTH AMERICAN.—Advertisements and subscriptions to the North American and United States Gazette, Philadelphia, received and forwarded from this office.

See next page for Telegraphic News.
For Local Matters see next page.

LETTER BOX.—The "*Gazette Letter Box*," has been removed from its old situation, a window nearer the Post Office.

Much less feeling, in relation to the *Scrip*, was evident yesterday, than the day previous. Many of our mechanics and manufacturers, and merchants still take it at par for goods, and some give change, where a reasonable amount is purchased. The councils of this city are acting promptly in the matter, and the councils of Allegheny will meet this evening, and will doubtless take some action in the premises.

The greatest difficulty in the whole matter is the present inconvenience to which the community is subjected, as it is abundantly *safe* to those who can afford to hold it. The taxes of the two cities, and of the county, water rents, &c., will absorb it rapidly, and much of it will, no doubt, be exchanged *for city* bonds.

The charge of Judge PATTON, in the resurrection case, which the reader will find in another column, is an eloquent production, and does honor both to the head and heart of its author. It will be read by all with pleasure and profit.

We take this occasion to remark, that Judge PATTON's course, of late, as evinced by his charges and decisions, has been such as to commend him to the thanks and esteem of the law-abiding and intelligent portion of the community. His wise, just, firm, and conservative course has been of essential benefit already, and we trust will be felt in years to come. An upright, firm, and judicious Judge, in the Court of Quarter Sessions, is truly, and we say, emphatically, "a terror to evil doers," and the influence of his decisions is widely felt.

PURGING THE DEMOCRACY.—We watch the progress of the *Mercury*, in its arduous work of purging the Locofoco party, in this county, from its "load of filth and rubbish," with no little interest, and we shall not fail to keep our readers well posted up in the movements intended to promote so desirable an end.

That paper, of yesterday, contains a communication pouring hot shot into the *Post*, and hitting hard in other quarters. We take an extract.

"In the first place, a set of *renegades* from all kinds of factions have *crept* in amongst us; they are made *exclusive leaders of the party*, and they have led it into all sorts of extravagancies and inconsistencies. In the next place, the elements of Agrarianism, Fourierism and Abolitionism have been suffered to enter so largely into the composition and doings of the party, and *some of its organs heretofore* have manifested such a *tearn sympathy for transgressors of the law, and violators of the peace of society*, that they have not been driven entirely from its ranks, and although I consider myself as good as most of its leaders, who were good whigs but a few short years ago, yet for some time past, I have stood aloof, and have had neither lot nor part in its proceedings, and I can point you out hundreds of others in the same situation."

This is plain talking, and hits right home. What *organ* it refers to, it is not difficult to determine; but we would like it better if those engaged in this work of purification would speak right out, and when they mean the *Post*, say so. However, we claim no right even to advise in this matter, as it is no concern of the glorious Whig party.—in whose fortunes, whether prosperous or adverse, it has been our life long pride and pleasure to share.—except in that general sense of viewing with satisfaction the improvement and purification of any party or association.

The writer, from whom we take the above extract, has a very significant postscript, in which a deeply interesting question is propounded to the editor for solution. When he solves the problem we may tell our readers.

FOR CALIFORNIA.

The St. Louis Republican of April 10, contains several items of interest in reference to the emigration to California. On the 10th the *Allegras* left that city for St. Joseph, with 200 California emigrants on board. The John Hancock, Embassy, Algonia, St. Ange, and several other steamers then in port, had more or less on board. It was computed that no less than 500 persons would leave that city on the 10th, destined for the gold region.

In the three days previous to the 10th over *one thousand* persons had arrived in St. Louis, from different quarters, bound for the gold regions, and several boats were due from the Ohio, loaded with passengers for the same destination.

The increased number of boats now plying on the Missouri river, has produced a great scarcity of pilots acquainted with the navigation of that stream, and good ones are almost impossible to be obtained. The most exhorbitant wages are asked say from $300 to 450 for the trip to St. Joseph occupying usually less than ten days.

A correspondent of the Republican, writing from Independence, of date April 5, says that for miles around small companies are in camp, patiently awaiting a sufficiency of grass to enable them to start upon their journey of golden expectation.

The supply of mules is good. American sell at from $55 to 65, as in quality. Very inferior Spanish mules have been sold at $35, while others, suitable for the trip, will range from $40 to 75.

The following paragraph is significant.

"Some of the boys have seen the elephant, and intend *returning*; others are already en route for *home*. Some have attempted to whip the "tiger," but instead, have been fleeced of their all, and unable to obtain an outfit. This place affords every facility for gambling, and the unsuspecting, before they are aware of it, are drawn into the meshes laid to entap them, where they are soon relieved of their funds."

OUR BOOK TABLE.

HUNT'S MERCHANTS' MAGAZINE, for April, is embellished with a fine engraved portrait, by Sartain, of Thos. T. Cope, Esq., a distinguished Merchant of Philadelphia. Its original articles, and various miscellaneous matters, is of the usual excellent and interesting character.

"THE PLOUGH, THE LOOM AND THE ANVIL"—The number for April has been on our table for some days. In looking it over, we were struck with the fact that far the largest part of its matter is devoted to the interests of agriculture. Our farmers would find it of great utility to them in their search after improvement in their noble calling.—J. R. Weldin, at Johnston & Stockton's, is Agent for the work.

LETTER FROM PANAMA.

The following is an extract of a letter from a Pittsburgher, to his friend in this city—

PANAMA, 17th March, 1849.

I have had a very pleasant passage so far, from New Orleans, on our way here. We stopped one day in Kingston, Jamaica, (Feb 5th) and arrived at Chagres on the 22 March, all well. Chagres is not the sickly place it has been represented to be, in the United States: It is situated on the sea shore, in a small bay, at the mouth of the Chagres river, surrounded by high mountains, having plenty of good water. We left Chagres (four of us) in a canoe, on the 4th Feb. for Gorgona, a small town on the Chagres river, from thence, after a stay of two days, we made a start across the Isthmus, about twenty-five miles, to Panama. We hired natives—a mixture of Negroes, Indians, and Spanish—to carry our baggage across the Isthmus, which is like going up hill and down again, all the way, except about four miles from Panama. The path, which you cannot call a road, is so narrow that a man and mule cannot pass each other in many places; it is blessed, however, with the best of drinking water, every two or three miles. We arrived in Panama, 10th March, all well, and our baggage safe. Panama has once been a very beautiful town; the houses are mostly built of stone and brick, plastered over on the outside. It is walled all round with a high and thick wall, surrounded by green mountains on the land side and islands on the sea. It contains about ten thousand inhabitants, and every thing was very cheap here until the Americans began to travel this way, which has raised the price of every thing. There are about two thousand people here now, waiting for means of transportation by sea, to San Francisco. I may have to stop here a month or six weeks, or be off in a week or ten days. We can live very cheap: the finest trout may be had for five to ten cents, and beef at ten cents per pound. The climate is very warm; but plenty of good water. Every body appears in good health. There has been but one death of an American since I came here, which was caused by imprudence. You would think, to look at the natives, they would never die; some of them appear to be at least a hundred years old, smart, and lively. I saw Mr. Fullerton and his company, from Pittsburgh, in New Orleans. They left in the steam ship Galveston, four days before me, and had not been heard from when I left Chagres. I will write again before I leave. I am waiting for a good ship or steamer.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Gazette

WASHINGTON, April 14, 1849.

The venerable editor of the Union comes out this morning with another doleful plaint. The grief of the father this time proceeds from the political extinction of his friend McCalla, Second Auditor. He is in sore tribulation because his friend was and is not—an office, and he will not be comforted.—His jeremiad over this lamentable event is singularly pathetic, and his agony is piled up to a very unusual height. But the pile is constructed in an artistical and taking manner. He first takes a portion of one of my letters, in which I promise more effective work in the great task of personal reformation in the civil departments of government which promise, by the way, has been amply redeemed, already. Then he extracts something to the same purport from another Whig paper; then he throws into the caldron a suitable sprinkling of his own indignation at such monstrous sentiments and finishes off the mixture, or to resume the imagery with which my description started, he caps the pyramid of horrors, by an account from some democratic local organ of the sacrifice of certain innocent disciples in some custom house, light house or post office. They were all cut off as clear as Malcolm's babes.

"All my pretty ones and their dam—"

This dismissal of McCalla is truly an awful dispensation. He is the same individual who made himself so particularly conspicuous in the late canvass in making speeches about the country for Cass and Butler, in presiding over Democratic meetings in the District and its vicinity, in getting up and managing minor Democratic organizations, and in harrangueing the Democratic club here, called the Jackson Association. Ee should not have remained in office 24 hours after Gen. Taylor's inauguration. He staked his office upon the issue of the contest, like Brown of the Post Office, Burke of the Patent Office, and hundreds of others who might be named as conspicuous here and in all the states of the Union, for impertinent and officious electioneering, and shameful neglect of duty while pursuing the business of mere partizans. But he does not resign, but on the contrary, as it has been rumored, specially requested, that he might be retained in office until September next. However that may be, he desired to visit his lady who lay ill in Virginia. He sent a note to Gen. Taylor, stating the necessity for his absence, and requesting that the Chief Clerk, Mr. Polk, should be authorized to act in his stead, while he was detained. General Taylor immediately, with his own hand, wrote a note giving him the required leave of absence and complying with his request as to Mr. Polk's acting. These incidents were mere matters of course, except the ready courtesy of Gen. Taylor, in sending immediately a special a special answer to Mr. McCalla's request.

He went to Virginia, staid some days, and when about to set out on his return, was informed by a telegraphic despatch, that Mr. Clayton, of Georgia, had arrived and entered upon the duties of the office of Second Auditor. Mr. McCalla well knew that the tender of the office he held had been made to Judge Clayton more than a month ago, and probably well knew that he had accepted it. Now, how can one repress his contempt at the idea of such a man, so circumstanced, raising a howl in the news papers about proscription? And when Father Ritchie's cases of proscription come to be analyzed, they will be all found to have about the same foundation as this of Mr McCalla.

There are some other curious stories, illustrative of the magnanimity of Democratic office-holders. It is said of Major Claiborne, of La., that he has held the situation of agent to preserve live oak timber in that state, through the whole of Polk's administration, and now throws it up and reports that it is a sinecure, and ought to be abolished. It is supposed that had there not been a strong probability of his being superceded, his conscience would not have pricked and spurred him on to act upon this opinion. Another case is given. Col. Gwinn, formerly a member of Congress, and I believe the same man whom Gen. Jackson persisted in making and keeping Marshal of Mississippi, in defiance of the rejection of the Senate, withal I may say, personally a very clever and popular man, has for a number of years held the place of Commissioner to superintend the building of the Custom House at New Orleans, salary $2,500 per annum. He wanted to go to California, and just about inauguration day he too discovered that the office was a sinecure, and threw it up. A Whig President having been chosen, then "honor pricks them on," to tell the truth, and if need be, shame the devil; but had Cass been elected, no one supposes that their honor would have pricked them so closely as to have loosened their hold upon the dugs of the Treasury.

The cabinet had a very long session to-day. It is rumored that Mr. Lawrence, Collector of New York, has sent on an intimation that he means to resign, and that he desires to be relieved as quickly as possible. If the report be true, no doubt the cabinet were engaged some time in conversing the claims and qualifications of the many different candidates.

It is said, too, with much probability that the recent disturbing and exciting news from Europe, foreshadowing so clearly the breaking out of a general war on that devoted Continent has engaged the anxious deliberations of the government—We have nothing in particular to do with their quarrels except to provide for the protection of our commerce, and to cause a due respect to be paid by all the conflicting parties to our rights as neutrals in the coming strife. It is well known how desperately these interests suffered in the wars which followed the French revolution. It is well to guard against such contingencies now.

JUNIUS.

FROM NEW YORK.

Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Gazette.

NEW YORK, April 14.

The week closes with little to make it remembered, if the Clay birth day celebration is left out of view. The events of the evening of the 12th, illustrated the apt remark of one of Pittsburgh's most distinguished citizens, who, in welcoming the venerable Statesman to the "Iron City," and the city's guest wanted not until death had separated him from the world to have fame award him his proper meed of praise. He received it warm from the undivided heart of a whole nation. So, on his birth night, the old fire was kindled, and the oldest truest, and most devoted Whigs rivalled each other in the desire to show how warmly their hearts beat towards the old chieftain. It is a memorable fact that the birthdays of two Statesmen only are celebrated in the United States, that of Washington and Henry Clay. Their constant virtues have given them a hold upon the hearts of the people that have failed to be secured by the achievements of all other men.

The week closes with a better feeling in money matters, and borrowers have favors granted upon easier terms than one and a half per cent a month. An arrangement has been made by the Secretary of the Treasury to anticipate the payment of another million of the Mexican Indemnity, due in June. The first draft has been paid, and the Sub-Treasury relieved of $334,000 to-day. Stocks have felt the impulse of such an addition of coin to the currency, and are higher. As the wants of merchants are now small for duties, this coin will keep in the banks longer than when Mr. Walker released it, and give substantial relief.

The "flying machine" is to be tested again next week. A working model, sixteen feet long, propelled by two small engines, has been built, and the navigation of "still air" will be accomplished.—Of this there is no doubt, but whether freight and passengers can be carried, is to be the result of experiments extending into the next century.

New York Hatters, at least the journeymen, have gone quite crazy at what they call the abuse of the apprentice system. All establishments that have over three are declared "foul," and no journeymen allowed to work there. It will soon be all over, for all labor must submit to the universal law of supply and demand. People will continue to wear hats, and the workmen who have been used as catspaws, will return like sensible men to their work.

A good deal of feeling has been caused here by the movement on the part of Philadelphia to tap the Erie road at Port Jervis. Such a step would injure New York, and have a tendency to divert trade from the Central Pennsylvania route.—The distance in point of cost on freight would be considerably cheaper, and the scheme is thus given an importance in the minds of merchants.

Messrs. Fox & Livingston have taken possession of the steamship building for the Havre Line, by the Ocean Steam Company, and will have the line in operation. They are entirely conversant with the Havre trade, and the mortifying failures of the other routes will not be experienced here. The completion of this enterprise will make the American Steam Marine equal to that of John Bull, in spite of the long strides he took while we were perfecting our swift-ness boats.

A Second Reply.

To Professor Elliott on defence of the course of study proposed for the Pittsburgh High School

PROF. ELLIOTT: My dear Sir

As you have left untouched the main points maintained in my late reply to your review of the report in which was proposed the establishment and plan of a city High School, it now only remains for me to supply the deficencies in that reply by some brief remarks on those points to which you call attention in your rejoinder. It was impossible within reasonable limits for me to express my assent to, or maintain my dissent from, every opinion advanced in your learned and courteous review. I aimed merely to disarm your review of the fundamental objections therein raised against the report. Let us next attend to the most important details of your rejoinder.

You deny having charged us with not providing for the cultivation of the heart in the course of study proposed for the High School. You certainly do say that you "see a materialistic philosophy in all the works and treatises on natural science" —That Humboldt's great compendium of physical science "recognizes no God"—"That powers and laws of nature, gases, and imponderable agents are substituted for the great creating and superintending mind"—and that "the report exalts these studies to the first importance, and casts into the shade those branches of study which are essential to the highest intellectual and moral developement" Now while I lay no claim to metaphysical acuteness, this language looks to me very much like a charge of neglecting to provide for the education of the heart. This phrase you are aware I used in quoting the objection of another gentleman, but regarding it as tantamount to the idea contained in the above quotations from your review, I chose to answer both under the same head. These quotations look to me also very much like an assertion that the study of the physical sciences has a tendency to produce materialism and infidelity. You say that you restricted this charge to the *exclusive* pursuit of these studies. But if Humboldt's encyclopedia of modern science recognizes no God, and if you find materialism in all the works and treatises on natural science, would there not be danger in introducing any of these works into a course of education? You would probably administer *physic* in minute quantities, and rely for the counteraction of the poison on large doses of *metaphysics*. I could quote other passages from your review of the same tenor as those above, but these are probably sufficient to justify me for having attempted a defence.

You remind me of your statement that you place very little value on any merely intellectual pursuit not even on theology itself, as a means of moral cultivation. This would seem to militate against the assertion of any great moral advantage from the studies of the ancient languages and metaphysics, which in other places you maintain. I do not however agree with your statement, and am not disposed to take advantage of your admission in the general argument. It seems to me that no man can thoroughly understand the laws of mind and matter without seeing that moral law is woven in the plan of the universe. And no man can be in true sympathy with nature, without rejoicing from any violation of her laws, as a violence done to his own being. It is true however, that as classical and professional studies have too generally been conducted, they have but little influence to lead men either to nature or to God. The course is one too much of conventionalism and fashion. We cannot see nature aright through colored glasses, nor converse with her in prescribed or borrowed language, nor serve her in a straight jacket. All her children are simple, honest and free—You make one remark which covers the whole ground of my argument on the exclusive study of natural studies. I did not notice it in my late reply, because it is so directly opposed to the general course of your reasoning, and I thought it fairer to confine myself to the tenor of your views. You say in your review, "Creation, with all its harmony of arrangement and beauty, is but an *effort* of mind, shall we not then study the wondrous cause?"—All that I had consumed pages in saying is here tersely expressed in this admirable sentence. But how, my dear sir, would you study a *cause* better than in its *effect*, especially the most subtle of all causes, mind? And in the study of creation is the study of the Creator, would you not be inclined to admit that this study, at least, may have a direct moral influence on the mind and heart? So thought the devout Linneus when he inscribed over the entrance to his cabinet in which were preserved the beautiful forms of vegetable and insect life—CAVE, DEUS ADEST *take heed, God is here.*

Your remark upon the German origin of my ideas and the heathenism of that people, is quite too much for an assertion, quite too little for an argument, and therefore if I may be permitted to return your own compliment, you had better have left it unmade. But you certainly ought not to despise gathering a few ideas from the birthplace of the Reformation, the country where your favorite studies of the classics and metaphysics are more fully cultivated than in any other part of Christendom. Bear in mind, I do not use the word in your *select* limitation, but only in the popular sense. And I seriously declare that several years residence in that country satisfied me, that so far as infidelity prevails there, it is owing to the cultivation of metaphysics apart from the teaching of physical science. Kant was no infidel, for he laid his foundation broad in the physical world. Other metaphysicians however carried their reason up on "probable evidence" so far that they became completely lost in a probable *f g*.

I am glad that you have cleared the ground for my proposition, that the natural sciences are the objects of knowledge, the means of training the mind. For I regard your reasoning on this point as either superficial or sophistical, and your opinion as altogether erroneous. I had no wish to evade the discussion of this question as you appear to think, and will now make such remarks as time in my power for not having attended to it before. I shall sustain the assertion that the study of the physical sciences is quite as valuable, as a means of training the mind, as the studies to which you have given the preference, and to which, even as objects of knowledge they possess a higher value, than is so much in their favor, I shall adopt your own reasoning on this subject, and simply object to your conclusion. "Science," you say, "is the comparison of phenomena, and the discovery of their agreement or disagreement, and exists in the mind. If it exist in the mind, how then can it be made an instrument in training the mind? Manifestly, by directing the mental powers to the comparison of phenomena, and the marking of their agreement or disagreement. This is the whole process of education. What phenomena ought first to be presented? Our senses will of course direct us first to those of the external world, and with these we will form our first acquaintance. But we cannot generalize nor reason without the use of language; at least, without its assistance, we cannot communicate our thoughts and conclusions to others. Language may, therefore, be considered as the vehicle of thought and an instrument of reasoning, and consequently, it ought to be the first in every system of education." Your definition of science is too scanty, but with your reasoning I so far agree. "Science is the comparison of phenomena, and the discovery of their agreement or disagreement," and "is to be made an instrument in training the mind by directing the mental powers to the comparison of these phenomena," &c. "This is the whole work of education." You next admit that the phenomena of the external world are those with which we form our first acquaintance. No ingenuity could have formed an argument more conclusive that the study of natural science is precisely fitted for the early training of the mind. Why then are you not willing to let us follow the course which God has marked out in the bestowment of our faculties, and first study those phenomena which we can first comprehend? What powerful reason can you have for so flatly contradicting yourself? Let me write your strange continuation. "But the physical sciences are rather to be studied as objects of knowledge, not as means of training the mind. There are some things which it would be well for us to study just for the mental discipline, even though we might forget them in a very short time. Physical science does not belong to these: its chief value consists in the principles and facts remembered." I confess myself baffled by the cross currents of this reasoning. I cannot follow it. It cannot be, because the facts with which physical science has to deal, first engage the attention and are brought within the comprehension of the youthful mind, that she be denied the benefit of training her powers of comparison, &c., by reasoning upon these facts. That would be a direct absurdity. Secondly, You will not infer that since some studies, not useful as objects of knowledge, are useful for mental discipline, therefore the pursuit of physical science being useful as an object of knowledge, is not useful for mental discipline. I shall not accuse you of having fallen into a sophism so shallow as this. Lastly, you will not maintain that the comparison and arrangement of the facts in physical science is not a mental exercise sufficient to task the mind to its utmost at every stage of its growth, that it does not begin with problems which the simplest child can comprehend, and ascend to those which the greatest intellects have not yet penetrated. I am very far from accusing you of such gross ignorance of the nature of scientific pursuits. How you ever came to your conclusion I must leave an unsolved and by me unsolvable mystery. I am designedly, thus explicit because you attach great importance to this argument of yours, and because other persons who would be judges in matters of education, have pronounced this position of yours, impregnable.

Leaving the negative course, let us turn to positive reasoning. The pursuit of science you say is the proper means of training the mental powers. What science or class of sciences is best adapted to become this instrument? The pursuit of every science, whether physical, mental or moral, requires the previous acquisition of language enough to serve as the vehicle of thought; but having acquired sufficient language for this purpose, how can we better train the mind to habits of comparison and generalization than in comparing the phenomena of the outward world, and in making those generalizations of these phenomena which the student is compelled to do at every step of his progress? The exercise of the powers of comparison and generalization are mental efforts in themselves of sufficient difficulty for the young mind, there is therefore a decided advantage in selecting for the cultivation of these powers, such objects as are visible and tangible, those objects with which, as you say, we make our first acquaintance, and these are the objects of natural science. The facts of dead languages and of metaphysics, could they be as easily comprehended, might answer the same purpose, but they are facts which the young mind can only imperfectly comprehend, and therefore its comparisons and generalizations are, after years of study, still very faulty. Indistinctness of ideas is naturally attended by weakness of interest, and therefore it is seldom the case that young persons apply themselves with full energy of mind in studying the phenomena of the dead languages.—Habits of inattention are very often acquired at this early stage of the study of the ancient languages from which the mind never recovers. The mind for years is overtaxed in the effort of comparing the phenomena of language, and is therefore not prepared for the exercise of comparing and arranging these phenomena till a later stage of its growth: till it has reached such a point in its developement that the object one which it is to reason come easily within its grasp. The objects of natural science, on the other hand, are easily comprehended by aid of the eye, ear and touch.—They interest the curiosity and engage the attention, and the mind at once proceeds to reason upon them with vigor and success. In pursuing these studies, the powers of attention, of memory, of comparison, of abstraction, of generalization, of reasoning, and even the habit of estimating probable evidence, are all put in requisition—with the great advantage that the undivided, unconfused, unmistified mind applies its full energies to the exercise of these powers.

From a boundless field of illustrations I will refer to two or three to show what kind of training the pursuit of physical science affords to the mind. There is not perhaps within the range of human thought, one study which will so directly and successfully train the mind to the power of strict logical reasoning from effect to cause and from cause to effect, as the study of physics. In a course of study on this science, the attention of the young mind is called to myriads of phenomenon or effects, tasking its powers to their fullest extent to classify and refer them all to their proper cause. Take for instance the infinitely varied effects of the law of gravitation as manifested in falling bodies, in atmospheric and liquid pressure, or consider the mental exercise required in referring the interesting effects of heat to the laws which they indicated; or the deduction of the mechanical powers from the laws of momentum and equilibrium or in examining the phenomena which depend upon the reflexion and refraction of light. And where will you find the power of comparison and of tracing analogies more fully called into exercise than in the studies of Botany and Chemistry! Chemistry and several other natural sciences have also enough to do with probable evidence. You will confess no doubt that the nomenclature of these sciences gives a sufficient exercise for the cultivation of memory. Indeed you complain of the severity of the task "of laying up in the memory the long catalogue of names descriptive of the Linnaen botany;" and seem to forget that when speaking of the study of language you adduce this very exercise of memorizing words as one of the prominent benefits to the mind. To remember the words of a dictionary is surely not a more interesting task than to remember the names which serve to classify the objects of natural science. The power to recollect words is however by far the least valuable office of memory, the recollection of qualities, properties, relations and principles, is the kind of memory which the physical sciences call into the most active exercise and this is a fundamental quality of an enlarged and symmetrical intellect.

My argument for the physical sciences is now completed. In the report we showed their comprehensive bearing upon, and indispensible application to, all the active pursuits of society, beyond even a disposition to cavil, in my reply to your review of the report, I exhibited the high intellectual and moral nature of the study, considering as they do the human mind with the course of all truth and wisdom, and lastly you have been so kind as to call on me now to prove them the true and natural instrument in the hands of the educator, to train and develope the most important powers of the youthful mind. We have just seen that in making the physical sciences a leading part of education we are following the course which nature has marked out, that their study affords the most direct and diversified cultivation of the mental powers, and that, as applied to these sciences there is no soundness in the distinction you have made between objects of knowledge and means of mental discipline.

And now, supposing it admitted that the present issue has been proven, perhaps you will say, judging from the narrow view you took of the objects of the report, that I would rely exclusively on the study of the physical sciences to develope all the powers of the mind, and I have therefore learned to anticipate you by declaring that there are some faculties which are best cultivated by other means. Such are the imagination, and taste as applied to literature. For these I admit, as I have done in every thing I have written on this subject, from first to last, that for those who have a large portion of their lives to devote to education the study of the ancient languages is desirable. At the same time, it is not indispensible. The English, and other modern languages, taught with sufficient care, give a very finished and refined education in every respect to which language is in any way conducive.

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Leaving the negative course, let us turn to positive reasoning. The pursuit of science you say is the proper means of training the mental powers. What science or class of sciences is best adapted to become this instrument? The pursuit of every science, whether physical, mental or moral, requires the previous acquisition of language enough to serve as the vehicle of thought; but having acquired sufficient language for this purpose, how can we better train the mind to habits of comparison and generalization than in comparing the phenomena of the outward world, and in making those generalizations of these phenomena which the student is compelled to do at every step of his progress? The exercise of the powers of comparison and generalization are mental efforts in themselves of sufficient difficulty for the young mind, there is therefore a decided advantage in selecting for the cultivation of these powers, such objects as are visible and tangible, those objects with which, as you say, we make our first acquaintance, and these are the objects of natural science. The facts of dead languages and of metaphysics, could they be as easily comprehended, might answer the same purpose, but they are facts which the young mind can only imperfectly comprehend, and therefore its comparisons and generalizations are, after years of study, still very faulty. Indistinctness of ideas is naturally attended by weakness of interest, and therefore it is seldom the case that young persons apply themselves with full energy of mind in studying the phenomena of the dead languages.—Habits of inattention are very often acquired at this early stage of the study of the ancient languages from which the mind never recovers. The mind for years is overtaxed in the effort of comparing the phenomena of language, and is therefore not prepared for the exercise of comparing and arranging these phenomena till a later stage of its growth: till it has reached such a point in its developement that the object one which it is to reason come easily within its grasp. The objects of natural science, on the other hand, are easily comprehended by aid of the eye, ear and touch.—They interest the curiosity and engage the attention, and the mind at once proceeds to reason upon them with vigor and success. In pursuing these studies, the powers of attention, of memory, of comparison, of abstraction, of generalization, of reasoning, and even the habit of estimating probable evidence, are all put in requisition—with the great advantage that the undivided, unconfused, unmistified mind applies its full energies to the exercise of these powers.

From a boundless field of illustrations I will refer to two or three to show what kind of training the pursuit of physical science affords to the mind. There is not perhaps within the range of human thought, one study which will so directly and successfully train the mind to the power of strict logical reasoning from effect to cause and from cause to effect, as the study of physics. In a course of study on this science, the attention of the young mind is called to myriads of phenomenon or effects, tasking its powers to their fullest extent to classify and refer them all to their proper cause. Take for instance the infinitely varied effects of the law of gravitation as manifested in falling bodies, in atmospheric and liquid pressure, or consider the mental exercise required in referring the interesting effects of heat to the laws which they indicated; or the deduction of the mechanical powers from the laws of momentum and equilibrium or in examining the phenomena which depend upon the reflexion and refraction of light. And where will you find the power of comparison and of tracing analogies more fully called into exercise than in the studies of Botany and Chemistry! Chemistry and several other natural sciences have also enough to do with probable evidence. You will confess no doubt that the nomenclature of these sciences gives a sufficient exercise for the cultivation of memory. Indeed you complain of the severity of the task "of laying up in the memory the long catalogue of names descriptive of the Linnaen botany;" and seem to forget that when speaking of the study of language you adduce this very exercise of memorizing words as one of the prominent benefits to the mind. To remember the words of a dictionary is surely not a more interesting task than to remember the names which serve to classify the objects of natural science. The power to recollect words is however by far the least valuable office of memory, the recollection of qualities, properties, relations and principles, is the kind of memory which the physical sciences call into the most active exercise and this is a fundamental quality of an enlarged and symmetrical intellect.

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