eurichment, and positive increase of personal competency, in whatever sphere of duty the observer may be acting.

And the subject which, amongst a host of others, I thought might conveniently have a large amount of light thrown on it by such extensive collections as those to be met with at the present day in Great Britain and on the continent of Europe, was Natu al Science, in some one or other, or all, of its divisions, of Mechanical Philosophy, Chemistry and Physiology.

Natural Science is a subject which is now more or less attended to in all our schools, I believe; but of course only its most elementary principles are expounded there; and the appliances for illustration are, of necessity, circumscribed and meagre.

A few days, or even hours, judicionsly spent in some such collection as that which was to be seen in the Universal Exhibition at Paris, by a youth familiarized with and interested in the elementary principles of Natural Science, might be productive to him of results of life-long importance. Not only, in a general way, would his mental view be likely to be widened, but his profession or career might be happily decided by an extra impulse there given to a taste, tendency or talent; and a hint, or idea, caught from things and processes then for the first time seen, might lead in practice afterwards to fame and riches, and to the increase of a country's resources.

With the hope that even a rapid *sketch* of that collection may, here and there, contribute slightly to like positive results, I now proceed with my proposed annotations, purposing to add afterwards a brief notice of the Museum at Oxford, and of one or two other kindred establishments.

The Champ de Mars in Paris, the plot of ground on which the Exhibition of 1867 took place, is an area of 103½ acres. The whole of this space was required for the purpose, and fifty acres more in the island of Billancourt, a few miles down the Seine. In Billancourt the agricultural objects were to be seen, and experiments in scientific agriculture were performed. Here competitive experiments with ploughs and other instruments worked by steam were carried on, exhibiting the comparative effects of animal and machine labour, and showing the possibility of the application of mechanical force to cultivation even on a small scale. Here were machines for drill-sowing and reaping in operation. Grass was cut, turned over and raked, and made up into heaps, by machinery. Here was a miniature dairy-farm, on which