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things in it, were not braced and girt together with a strong frame work of mathematical rea-It is something," he continues, "for soning. men to learn what proof is and what it is not." The work in mathematics at Alexandria or Syracuse two thousand years ago, is as perfect in its kind and as direct and unerring in its appeal to our intelligence, as if it had been done yesterday at Berlin or Göttingen by one of our own contemporaries. In kindred language, Cayley, working forward as well as backward, and not unmindful. let us hope, of the Sylvestrian school upon this side of the Atlantic, in which he had been a master and a guest, thus concluded the address from which I have already quoted.

"Mathematics have steadily advanced from the time of the Greek geometers. Nothing is lost or wasted; the achievements of Euclid, Archimedes and Apollonius are as admirable now as they were in their own days. Descartes' method of co-ordinates is a possession forever. But mathematics have never been cultivated more zealously and diligently, or with greater success than in this century—in the last half of it or at the present time; the advances made have been enormous, the actual field is boundless, the future full of hope. In regard to pure mathematics we may most confidently say,

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