

although you may, with propriety, narrate all that is interesting with regard to the early portion of its modern history.

4. MODERN STATE.—After having thus sketched the history of your subject, either as it existed amongst the Egyptians, Turks, Romans, &c., or as in the dark ages of European story, you may proceed to give some account of its modern state, and may briefly review either those steps by which it has reached its present state of perfection, or those reverses by which it has degenerated from its pristine excellence.

5. UNIVERSALITY.—Under this division, show how that particular art or science of which you write, has existed or does still exist in various places throughout the world. After this general survey, you may particularize, under the head of

6. LOCALITY.—The state of your subject in any particular empire, country, county or even city.

7. ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES.—By some these are separated, but as the one is frequently contrasted with the other in the same sentence, it may perhaps be more advantageous to combine them under one division.

8. CONCLUSION.—Having thus treated pretty fully of your subject, you may now conclude, and although we should be the last in the world to recommend the adoption of a bombastic, inflated style, still we must confess that a well-written essay receives no small accession of effect by having a few of its concluding sentences graceful in expression, majestic in measure, and even musical in sound.