

purest forms of Inductive reasoning—thence are enabled to lay down, not as hypotheses, but as solid conclusions, the laws which governed their development. As we survey a wide-spreading tree, with its numerous branches and countless twigs all springing from a single stock, we observe in these the results and evidences of a vigorous life coursing its fibrous channels: so in these manifold inflections, intricate ramifications, and varied processes of word-growth, we delight to study the forthputtings of human thought in its complex operations.

Gentlemen! I desire you to seek in the Classical room *three* things, as objects specially deserving of attainment. First, gain an acquaintance, if not extensive, yet so far as it goes thorough, with the *literature* of the ancient Greeks and Romans. Well worthy of the profoundest study are the productions bequeathed to us by these noble nations! In those days and among those peoples were intellectual giants. In their brain-furnaces were forged works, which for massive grandeur, colossal power, and classic elegance have never been excelled—probably never will be equalled, so long as time endures, in the departments of philosophy and art. Deem not this the language of wild enthusiasm. We give a reason for this opinion. Heaven ordained a special destiny for the Greeks in the history of the world. Before God would provide for the race a Saviour, every opportunity must be given to man to achieve salvation for himself. Fair play demanded that he should possess full facilities for solving this problem. The best appliances must be furnished to him—he must be placed in the most advantageous circumstances for making the bold experiment—he must be endowed with intellectual abilities of the very highest order and most powerful calibre, so as to ensure to the attempt the highest possible chance of success. To that gifted people who drew