

sense and wisdom which often characterize the practical man, the real Philosophy that there is about him, though he may be somewhat deficient in theoretical knowledge, and to look on him with disfavour as one who picks *his* brains, and applies the results of long study and patient thought to his own uses and advantage, without acknowledgment and without gratitude. It may be well then to a Society like the present to endeavor to shew that such notions where they exist are founded on mistake ; that Theory and Practice fit one into the other like hand and glove, that if we would make any real discoveries in Physical Science, a philosophical turn of mind is equally necessary with a practical one, and that although scientific attainments are by no means to be undervalued, and are in many cases not to be dispensed with, yet also a practical man, if he will use eyes and ears, need not despair of sharing in the glory of discoveries which may well merit the epithet *scientific*, even though he may not possess very extensive theoretical knowledge. We will, therefore,

Continually increasing character of knowledge.

commence by tracing how the fountain of knowledge, like the gentle rivulet, diminutive at first, with difficulty avoiding rather than surmounting the stones and rocks of prejudice and misconception,