is from forty to sixty per cent. greater than that of London or New York. Human accidents by rail or on shipboard, shipwrecks, conflagration, large and small, one might consider matters of accident and chance, and yet they occur with such regularity, that underwriters of marine, fire, life and accident insurance, are able to evolve the laws of their occurence, on which they base rates. Thus an accumulation of historical facts govern an important part of human economy. However difficult it may be to predict what any individual man may do, still in all departments of human efforts, in all countries where statistics are recorded, there is a uniformity in the mental process of men in the aggregate. The field is so wide for enquiry, investigation, speculation and adventure, that probably none of the natural sciences equal it in the alluring possibility for achievements.

An historian's study is a sort of warehouse wherein he collects a vast array of facts. His first business is to inventory them. This involves their investigation and reference to the laws that govern them—otherwise subjecting them to the process of generalization. By this process he sees how each fact is related to each other fact as antecedent or subsequent in the march of development. The whole thus taken on a principle that unites the details and thus creates an organism out of separated facts. Kant says: "In an organism each part is both means and ends in all the others." History as a science works towards a knowledge of some principle, embracing the whole body of facts, thus giving it a philosophical cast.

He who would make a first hand study of history must first collect his items and inventory and verify them. The second stage is to study them. This study inevitably suggests to his mind, the relation of each fact to the others and this relationship developes into a principle or law. The belief has become general in modern times that all physical phenomena proceed in accordance with universal order and method. The uniformity of the tides of night and day, of the seasons, of the eclipses, being admitted as the result of fixed laws, it is inferred that earthquakes, tornadoes and many other operations of nature, whose proximate cause is unknown, really take place in accordance with the same fixed laws. But there unanimity ends and controversy commences. One class of thinkers argue that mental operations proceed according to the same fixed and unalterable laws. Another class admit the procession of events in the physical world but deny that mental operations are matters of regularity and fixed laws. Self consciousness, they insist, tells us that we have freedom of will—entire freedom of choice. Then they argue as to the effect of special providence, miracles and other supernatural causes in disturbing ordinary law and order, that chance, hazard, and accident have their part in our mental economy. To them mental operations are single and isolated and bear no relation to antecedent mental efforts.

Those who contend that nature acts according to fixed and immutable laws, deny the doctrine of chance and replace it by that of necessary connection between progressive events. From these opposing doctrines naturally springs two principles that divide the civilized world. Chance in the physical world is naturally analogous to free will in the mental world. On the other hand necessary connection between physical phenomena is the father of the doctrine of predestination, one leading to Armenianism and the other Calvanism. It is not necessary for the student of history in pursuing his investigations to worry himself over either doctrine. It is sufficient for his purpose to understand that when a man performs an act, he has, unless insane, some motive or incentive; that this motive is the result of some antecedent thought or action, and this in turn may proceed from a whole chain of antecedents.

When one is acquainted with the whole of these antecedents he can predict the results. Indeed a single light thrown on the chamber of mind may reveal a clue that may give an understanding of the whole process.

Permit me to recapitulate:—The word History is derived from an adjective, "histor," meaning learning by enquiry. By enquiry the student gathers up those facts, which are necessary for the building up of the temple of truth. But the process does not end there. From these facts laws are evolved that make history an exact science. It also possesses reflex influence. Enquiry produces original investigations and original thinkers. Originality in thought is the greatest product of educational effort. It is the summit of human development. While the world produces few great thinkers, the man in any community who exercises his reasoning faculties and thinks for himself, is generally the leader and most important man there. The basis of thought is enquiry, investigation, searching for facts.

The result of historic study is shown in the case of the celebrated Dr. Morrison. He studied the Chinese language and then its history. Lord Curzon said the intelligent anticipation of events before they occurred made his letters to the London Times invaluable. For seventeen years his letters kept the western world informed as to the making of Chinese history. His knowledge was such he became European adviser to the Chinese Empire.

"Wise Master Marines" wrote the Greek poet Pindar, "know the wind that shall blow in in the third day and are not wrecked for headlong greed for gain." They know the weather by observation that developes into an instinct.

The war has developed a body of philosophical thinkers giving attention to what is called the biological