

principles which the grammarians and rhetoricians have discovered by the same means.

If I am told again that there is no time for such a course of training, my answer must again be that if the necessary discipline can be secured only in this way, then time must be found. Nor is there any mystery about the nature of what I call "scientific treatment." Its method is just the method of all inductive science—analysis, classification, generalization. It has for its subject matter, thought expressed in language or language expressing thought, instead of the earth's crust, or the complex substances in nature, or the phenomena of organized living bodies; but the way in which that subject matter is dealt with is the time-honored way practised by Aristotle and expounded by Bacon, Whewell, and Mill. Such a method of dealing with the language will afford an intellectual training of the highest and most valuable kind, for, apart altogether from the discipline that results from the constant exercise of the reasoning powers, the comparative study of English classics with a view to mastering the philosophy of "style," cannot be without a beneficial influence on the process of "invention." The manner in which the student expresses his thoughts will improve, and the thoughts will become more worthy of the improved modes of expression.

There are four lines of inquiry that must be kept steadily in view in the scientific investigation of English, though it must always be borne in mind that the distinction between them is one only of convenience in treatment. For the purposes of this paper I call the resulting departments of the science of language by the terms, Grammar, Philology, Rhetoric, and Prosody, premising that I do not thereby imply that the meaning I attach to these names is universally accepted. A brief exposition of the subject-matter of each of these four sciences will, I hope, make clear what I mean by subjecting the English language to "scientific treatment."

1. *Grammar*.—What psychologists call a "thought" is embodied in what grammarians call a "sentence," and the discovery of the general principles underlying the formation of sentences is the function of grammar. A ready and comparatively easy way to get possession of these principles is to memorize them from treatises, and this has been too much the fashion.