

Empire broke up only to be succeeded by the not less universal empire of the Catholic Church, and yet both remain so intimately connected in history that the Roman Pontius Pilate still retains a place in the Apostles Creed.

The second group of subjects on our curriculum to which I shall now direct your attention is History and English classics. Histories, according to Bacon, make men wise, poets witty, logic and rhetoric able to contend. These subjects I do not regard as mere agencies in mental training or intellectual culture. They are all that, and a great deal more. Their study is a means of acquiring a useful, and to the man of literary taste, an indispensable knowledge. They introduce us to the worthies of the past, their wisdom and follies, their language and their deeds. And here again, we cannot, even if we would, exclude the study of religion. The Catholic Church cannot now very conveniently be dislodged from the place she has so long held in the annals of nations. History without her would be meagre indeed. Ennius is said to have written the history of the Roman Republic in heroic verse. We may well conjecture that if the time ever arrives when the history of the world finds fitting expression in an Epic poem, the Catholic Church shall then stand out in relief—the grand and central figure—around which institutions of human origin shall play a secondary part; or if they shall be at all narrated, it shall be in mere episodes. She has had to do more with humanity, has had more effect on civilization than any other organization that has ever existed. To understand the history of our race philosophically—and history divorced from philosophy has little educational value—to trace effects to their cause, it is necessary that we should understand the church, understand something of the real doctrines which she holds. It were impossible to understand the inferences which logically arise in history from those doctrines, if we understand not the doctrines themselves.

For the sake of brevity, I shall group together the Mathematical and Physical Sciences. Than these no studies can contribute more to the development of the natural resources in which our country abounds. No cause can more than the extended knowledge of them promote our material prosperity. We have everywhere around us the elements of material greatness. Our country is rich on its surface in all the resources of agriculture; in its bosom are hidden untouched stores of mineral wealth hoarded up during the long centuries of the past, by the provident hand of nature, for the benefit of the present and future. The waters, which lave our shores, teem with