

The whole of nature is, as it were, a mineral territory on whose unbounded riches we can count with perfect confidence. Given labour and perseverance, we cannot fail to strike bounteous veins and deposits that will fill us with amazement.

Daily are we astonished at the discoveries due to private initiative. It would be unfortunate if we failed to take advantage of the present opportunity for organizing on a great scale a systematic and continuous study of nature, and thus escaping from that ignorance of fundamental truths which is common to us all.