

committees for experiments and reports on different branches of science, for the construction of instruments, &c. &c. In a few instances only has the National Exchequer been appealed to for aid, and then only for national objects. Thus the voluntary and independent character of the Association has been strictly maintained, whilst all the labours of its members have been gratuitously bestowed. So, to quote an eulogium of the late Prince Consort, the Association has 'made its way in the world by its own efforts.'