

progress consists essentially in diversification, in change from the homogeneous to the heterogeneous.* It agrees with the older politico-economical doctrine of the benefit of division of labour, which latter was accepted from observation of facts, long before its connection with the great cosmical principle of progress was thought of. It may be—and in fact is—attempted to be shown that the principle of division of labour must keep extending, not only as between different individuals or different sections of the same community, but also as between different countries. Now, without going to ulterior lengths of abstract speculation, which would be beyond the scope of a popular essay, it will be sufficient to touch here the single practical point, that amongst civilized communities, the process of diversification of employment, as between different individuals and as between different sections, within the same nation, is advancing at an immensely faster rate than that of diversification as between different nations.

Within the limits of England, for instance, we see the cotton manufacture selecting one spot for spinning, another for weaving, and another for bleaching and printing. In America, again, we see the iron manufacture centralizing itself at Pittsburg, and the cotton manufacture at Lowell. But while the division of labour process is thus going on *within* each nation, similar manufactures in different nations are rapidly similarizing themselves—if the word may be allowed—to each other. Year by year the similarity increases, as between similar manufactures in the different countries of England, France, and the United States—as, for instance, between the iron manufacture in the “black country,” at Creusot, and in Pennsylvania; or as

* The development of the chicken from the egg may be cited as the readiest and most familiar illustration of this doctrine. At first, we see but two divisions, the yolk and the white, each apparently homogeneous, or all alike. But at last there appears, formed out of these, the chicken—with beak, eyes, skin, down or feathers, claws, flesh, bones, and a complicated vital apparatus—many different parts, developed out of apparently two only. This, says the German philosophy, is *progress*—change from the homogeneous to the heterogeneous—from the state of being all alike to the state of difference between many different parts. Mr. Spencer finds the operation of this law not only in the development of suns and systems from nebulous matter—the “nebular hypothesis”—in geology, physiology and the physical sciences generally; but also in history, morals, politics, sociology, religion—in fact, everything.