

are probably wanting in its composition. One thing we certainly know respecting the planetary world, from the analysis of meteoric stones which come to us from space, that as regards the arrangement of the elements in these strangers, we have nothing similar, as yet found, in the earth itself.

Many modern sciences and arts are linked together and aided in their progress by photography, hitherto held to be unquestionably a legitimate child of Chemistry,* and nurtured under the care of chemists to its present goodly growth. It is known to all as the cheap and universal portrait-painter, and the delineator of passing scenes and remarkable localities on the earth, but it is also the assistant of the astronomer in preserving celestial appearances, as those of the moon and fixed stars, and the daily portrait of the sun with his changing spots, and the most interesting features in eclipses. In another direction the variations in the weight of the air, and in the direction and intensity of the earth's magnetism, are made to register themselves by its means. Appearances seen under the microscope it faithfully transfers to paper; daguerreotypes have been etched in copper by electricity, and then prints have been taken from the copper plates in the ordinary way. But it would be an endless task to name the directions in which photography is either actually used or promises utility, or to dwell upon the other manifold applications of modern science.

In concluding my sketch of some few features of contrast between the life of olden times and that of to-day, I need not insist on the claims of scientific study upon the promoters of sound and useful education: an acquaintance with the principles involved in making our life so dependent as it is upon science, especially chemical science, is provided for in the course of instruction on these matters now added to the other necessary elements of education taught in this Institution; young men may here acquire also the practical knowledge that may enable them to develop the resources of their country, and, entering on the path of discovery, to add to the material well-being of mankind. Speaking on the subject simply in the character of an historian, I cannot but think that this Province owes the Governors of this College a debt of gratitude in thus keeping pace with the progress of the age. As there are few who know how recent an addition the systematic teaching of practical Chemistry is to the advantages of our times, it may be well to state that it is not much more than a quarter of century old, and less than twenty years ago there was so little offered in this respect in any of the seats of learning in Great Britain, that most of those who desired a practical acquaintance with Chemistry sought it on the Continent of Europe. The plan pursued at Gießen, in Germany, under the world-renowned Liebig, attracted students from

* Vide Eclectic for June, p. 277.