

examine the structure of their minds and teach men how to develop to use their powers and get them wholly under their control.

Here appears the utility of Logic and the Mathematics which are a branch of it, for when taught in constant connection with a practical application of critical analysis and active production they are a kind of mental gymnastics to train the mind, to grasp, to lift, to walk, leap, strike, build up and tear down with the greatest effect possible, in proportion to its natural organization and vital force.

A perfect system of logic, when it is discovered, will show how a perfectly developed mental organization works.

Most minds are a little lame and have one leg shorter or weaker than the other. This affects their mental gait. Some men travel from premise to conclusion more swiftly, more surely and more gracefully than their neighbours. Many (especially, it is said, of the gentler sex) seem to leap to their conclusions, some run, some walk, some hobble and some even seem to crawl.

The mere logician marches firmly, and is a giant in strength so long as his feet touch his mother earth, but the genius, the poet and the seer have wings, and easily rise over his head.

Would-be poets have their wings so small, their bodies so heavy and their legs so weak, that is hard for them to get upwards or onwards, and very easy for them to fall into the mire. It is better first to learn to walk. Still, tame geese seem to enjoy an occasional flight, and I see no great objection to their making the attempt, so long as we are not expected to admire their appearance or their note. Nay, further, the writing of verses, as an exercise, helps us, no doubt, to obtain a command of language, and few men will write really rich and classic prose, who have not at some time or other been beguiled into flapping their rudimentary wings and floundering along, like Cicero himself, in indifferent verse.

Every true orator has wings, and although they may not qualify him to soar like the eagle, yet, by the help of his poetic pinions, he is enabled, like the ostrich, to travel with marvelously greater rapidity and force along the earth.

The organization of a man's mind will show what nature intended him to do best, and yet even in his best faculties there will be defects.

Let his powers be explored, drawn out, tried, corrected, subsidized. Where one mental faculty is weaker than the average, another is often much stronger. One more readily masters a general principle, another has a more tenacious hold upon isolated facts. We must teach one faculty to help the other.

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