towards education, science and art, which vitally influences this enormous amount, therefore, bears the proportion of the outlay of one pound on behalf of education, science and art, for every £400 of production, or one penny in every £1 13s. 4d. The annual parliamentary vote for the science and art department only being under £75,000, is less than a five-thousandth part of the estimated annual production, and is about a thousandth part of the annual taxation of the country. It is as if a man with £1,000 a-year devoted £2 6s. 3d. a-year to the general education of his children, and gave them the additional advantages of drawing lessons and a little navigation, at a cost to himself of 3s. 9d. a-year. In the same proportion the agricultural labourer, who earns only £25 a-year devotes 1s. 3d. to the education of his family, and has to deny himself the luxury of half a pint of beer in a year in helping his children to a knowledge of drawing and enabling them to cut and rule straight lines.

The department fully recognizes the broad principle that, in all its proceedings it is itself the servant of, or rather perhaps a partner with, the public. Having essayed to discover what appear to be public wants in the promotion of science and art, the course of the department is matured by the Committee of Council on Education and published; and it rests wholly with the public to accept or not the offer of assistance thus made.

The establishment of a local school of science, navigation, or of art, originates entirely with the locality that wants it, and before the department acts, certain things must be done, suitable premises must be found, and a certain constituency registered as being willing to be taught for a given time. The department then grants partial aid in furnishing the necessary examples, recommends a master, who is appointed by a local committee, if approved, inspects the working, tests the results by examination, and awards prizes. This partnership having been thus matured, all the advantages of the central museum and library, and any experience the department may have to offer, are placed at the disposal of every school, to use as it finds occasion.

The number of navigation or science schools of all kinds at the present time in connexion with the department is twenty-two. The number of schools of art throughout the United Kingdom at the present time is sixty-five; and, according to the last returns, they were the means of educating upwards of 35,000 students in drawing and painting. Those numbers include children in poor schools under instruction in drawing. Since the schools of design were expanded into schools of art, and made to embrace the teaching of drawing in public schools, the progress has been as follows:—In 1851, 3,296 students learning drawing cost the State £3 2s. 4d. each. In 1856, 35,000 students cost the State about 15s. each, as nearly as can be estimated. But this number is really insignificant, being a trifle more than 1 in 1,000 of the population, and it is disheartening to feel that, according to the present state of public feeling for art, perhaps half a century must elapse before every mechanic will have had the means in his youth of acquiring those elementary principles of art which would improve the daily work of his future life.