of the discoverers and conquerors or the philosophers and inventors which have lived, the world would not to-day look upon the grand results of extended research. Before us of the present there are spread out broad areas into which the human mind has only entered. Science, yet in its infancy, presents to us such a field.

Men have turned aside from the contemplation of nature and daily experience, and sought what seems the more popular walk of life, of flinging their own opinions and imaginations over the world. They have revelled in their own ideas and conceits taking delight in presenting to the world peculiar views and theories which have not been without their evil results. Men choose to gather straws of error rather than dig deep for truth which lies hidden all around.

Also men have pursued some particular study or hobby to the neglect and often disdain of all others, such a course cannot but have its weakening effects. The mind can no more receive symmetry when continually pursuing the same line of thought than the muscles be developed by exercise of some specific ones. A great mistake is sometimes made by those who through impatience and doubt are led to take but a superficial view of matters and arrive at hasty conclusions. Truth does not always flash upon us but there is a gradual unfolding until all that remains is wonder that we did not see the light before.

Perhaps the greatest error is the wrong use of knowledge. Some neglect the plant for sake of the flower. Some enter upon it that they may be accomplished, others to satisfy curiosity or feed an avaricious nature; a few acquire knowledge that they may bestow upon others the results of their study and thus aid in some degree to elevate their fel-BETA. low beings.

CONVERSATION.

Whether we think too little about what we say, or say too little about what we think, certain it is that there is something radically wrong in the way many of us have of expressing ourselves. If we can communicate an idea intelligibly and grammatically, we think little of the choice of words, almost nothing to their precise arrangement, Perhaps we fail to realize the true importance of conversa-

lack of energy had been present in the minds tional ability, believing that we can talk well enough without special effort, or perhaps, viewing the subject from the other extremewe imagine that the power which enables one to use well his native tongue, is like the genius of the poet, and where it does not burst forth spontaneously, cannot be cultivated. On whichever one of these principles our present demeanor is based, we are in the wrong.

> " Talking is one of the fine arts—the noblest. the most important, and the most difficult." Like the music of the mighty organ, in its perfection it charms us; but "its harmonies may be spoiled by the intrusion of a single harsh note." As there are few who can cause the organ to respond to each wave of passion that overwhelms them, so there are few whose genius enables them to breathe forth perfectly in the harmonies of language the humor or pathos of their own fine natures. But, as there are many who can produce music that will both entertain and delight, so there are or ought to be many who can so reflect in conversation the delicate play of their own sensibilities, as to minister in no small degree to their own enjoyment and that of others.

> So far, conversation may be likened to oratory; for oratory is as truly a fine art; its harmonies may be just as clear and beautiful. But it is the aim of the orator so to influence his hearers, that they shall think and feel as he does; while the master of conversation strives to evoke the distinct and individual ideas of others. The former seeks but to charm, by his own genius; the latter to rouse the slumbering grandeur of another's thoughts.

"How will you know the pitch of that great bell Too large for you to stir? Let but a flute Play 'neath the fine-mixed metal; listen close Till the right note flows forth, a silvery rill: Then shall the huge bell tremble—then the mass With myriad waves concurrent shall respond In low, soft unison.

The mastery of this art of conversation like the mastery of anything of real worth, requires labor, energy and patience. But the end justifies the means. To College students its acquirement is of vast importance.

The use of clear and concise language is conducive to an accurate and logical manner of thinking, while the employment of inelegant and unconnected words will-to say