THESIS.

Subject, What Knowledge is Worth the Most.

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Science is a monster strangely gazed at by the ignorant and unskilled as well as the learned. Its forms are various because of the many subjects it embraces. It besets the highways through all the journey of life with matter and occasions of contemplation.

The true value of education is to prepare the individual for living a complete life. In order to attain this end the several kinds of activity existing in the individual must be developed, and the education that best develops those activities will be of most worth.

No one study seems to foster the development of these powers better than that of science, since it furnishes the various aims necessary to show the teacher his scope of work.

The purpose of this study is to give pupils an insight to nature, with a view that the learner may better appreciate her forces and laws and their effect on human life.

In the education of children the teacher should have a due regard for that knowledge which fits the individual for the preservation of self and the duties of life in regard to his fellow men. Through the study of science one acquires the habit of investigation, this habit once acquired the pupil soon feels an impulse to go farther. Prof. Brinton in speaking of science says: "The good which we endeavor to attain is scientific truth, the one test of which is that it will bear untrammeled and unlimited investigation." This statement is based on that study, above all others, that does not assume to know what ought to be, but finds out what is.

Through the study of science observation is acquired and through this using of one's own eye a train of thought is started in the brain.

Again the study of science tends to develop a constructive imagination, which enables the painter and sculptor to the beautiful forms

on canvass and in blocks of stone. Then with a habit of scientific investigation, scientific observation, and scientific imagination the finfil is bound to succesd if all other conditions are favorable. Milton says in his verse:

"Accuse not nature; she hath done her part;
Do thou but thine."

Then we all to study nature joyfully and earnestly as a manifestation that finds expression in human achivments. This being true then we are to welcome science into the schools and use its opportunities and advantages at every stage of school life or at least place it on an equal base with literature, history or art.

It has ben claimed by some that science tends to divorce itself from other studies, but a statement like this can only take its origin from a lack of knowledge. Its breadth of literary culture shows itself in the core of exellent writers in its defense.

It is not the desire of science to be isolated, but it wishes to work for the bettering of humanity. Nowhere among modern writers can there be found superiors in vigor and clearness of literary style than among the writers of science.

The greatest common sense does not come to us naturally, but has to be acquired and to this end science is a most powerful agent.

The study of science develops the capacity for earning a living and at the same time gives an idea as to what constitutes a living. Huxley says: "True science and true religion are twin sisters, and the separation of either from the other is sure to prove the death of both." "Science," he says: "prospers in exact proportion as it is religious, and religion flourishes in exact proportion to its scientific depth and firmness of its base."

Many think science is irreligious, but they have a wrong a wrong conception. It is the

neglect of science that is irreligious - it is the refusal to study the surrounding works of the creator that irreligious and not the work itself.

A knowledge of science is a recognition of worth in the corricudum of studies. It furnishes not only a mere professed respect, but a respect proved by a sacrifice of time, labor and thought.

The study of scienc is beneficial in lifting the mind of man above the rude contacts of life. Science opens realms of literature. Goethe found nothing inconsistent in the spirit of science and of poetry. Davy might have been a prince among poets had he not been instilled with a desire to become the first among Englands scientific men.

The love and enthusiasm with which men are instilled from the study of science may be found in the life of Aggassiz or Faraday. The leisure part of life may be occupied in the study of literature, art, and history and just

so may science. The underlying principles of art and that which is necessary for its production and appreciation is science.

Science is necessary for criticism in the arts. It is useful in discipline and an efficient master in intellectual powers. So considered science may be considered of most worth among the studies, because of its close relation to the high forms of that activity which is created in the image of Him who holds Nature and Man alike in the hollow of his hand.

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