

that their intricacy and beauty disappear in the rule or formula which is handed to the practical worker who, in general, handles this refined instrument without any knowledge or appreciation of the abstract principles which underlie its construction.

Whilst the number of practical applications and mechanical labourers enormously increases, the intellects which discover and understand the fundamental principles remain extremely rare. Knowledge consequently in this region becomes more and more mechanical and superficial.

It is a notable fact that the grasp of mathematical principles is far more rare than aptness and proficiency in scholarly attainments. It follows therefore that the result of modern schooling for the majority of minds must mean a far larger proportion of purely mechanical achievements and a smaller amount of individual and subjective thought.

One of the principal features in the world which presents itself to the child's mind in the course of its advancing years, is that of order, regularity, and uniformity, and it is upon this feature that most attention is directed. We are not only taught to see order and uniformity everywhere around us, but we are also induced to regulate our behaviour on these lines.

This tendency to find and to practise order and regularity everywhere has been enormously increased through the progress of science and mechanical invention, so that the great principle of the uniformity of nature has become latterly a sort of gospel for the student, not only of the Physical, but also of the Social World. It is a common occurrence in the history, not only of the natural