

the historian of its fortunes often begins his narration. So much of Metaphysics is as necessary to us as such a portion of Geography is to the Historian of an Empire; and what has hitherto been said, is intended as a slight outline of the Geography of that Intellectual World, of which we have here to study the History.

The name which we have given to this History—A HISTORY OF THE INDUCTIVE SCIENCES—has the fault of seeming to exclude from the rank of Inductive Sciences those which are not included in the History; as Ethnology and Glossology, Political Economy, Psychology. This exclusion I by no means wish to imply; but I could find no other way of compendiously describing my subject, which was intended to comprehend those Sciences in which, by the observation of facts and the use of reason, systems of doctrine have been established which are universally received as truths among thoughtful men; and which may therefore be studied as examples of the manner in which truth is to be discovered. Perhaps a more exact description of the work would have been, *A History of the principal Sciences hitherto established by Induction*. I may add that I do not include in the phrase “Inductive Sciences,” the branches of Pure Mathematics (Geometry, Arithmetic, Algebra, and the like), because, as I have elsewhere stated (*Phil. Ind. Sc.*, book ii. c. 1), these are not *Inductive* but *Deductive* Sciences. They do not infer true theories from observed facts, and more general from more limited laws: but they trace the conditions of all theory, the properties of space and number; and deduce results from ideas without the aid of experience. The History of these Sciences is briefly given in Chapters 13 and 14 of the Second Book of the *Philosophy* just referred to.

---

I may further add that the other work to which I refer, *the Philosophy of the Inductive Sciences*, is in a great measure historical, no less than the present *History*. That work contains the history of the Sciences so far as it depends on *Ideas*; the present work contains the history so far as it depends upon *Observation*. The two works resulted simultaneously from the same examination of the principal writers on science in all ages, and may serve to supplement each other.