

The English man of science would reply that it is unsafe to trust exclusively to the guidance of a pure idea, that the ideality of German research has frequently been identical with unreality, and that in no country has so much time and power been frittered away in following phantoms, and in systematising empty notions, as in the Land of the Idea; but he would as readily admit that his own country is greatly deficient in such organisations for combined scientific labour as exist abroad, and that England possesses no well-trained army of intellectual workers.

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English pe-
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These differences between English and Continental science were most pronounced in the first half of the present century, when Germany developed her university system, when France clearly defined the exact scientific methods, and when the encyclopædic view—peculiar to the historical and philosophical pursuits of the earlier years—gradually became dominant in the exact sciences also. Since then the intercourse of the different nations has done much to destroy these national peculiarities. The reform of the universities, in which Germany was engaged in the early years of the century, did not touch the English universities before the middle of the century. In the meantime quite different demands had sprung up all through the civilised world; and as nothing repeats itself in history, it will be impossible to reach in this country the same broad organisation for purely intellectual work as Germany can rightly boast of during the period we are dealing with. Some persons doubt whether it will be maintained in Germany. It appears still more doubtful whether such an organisation could now be