

thus offering manifold suggestions for the comprehension and interpretation of things and events in their actual and historical "together," is the real secret of Hegel's genius; through it he stimulated many thinking minds who, in the manifold and broad regions notably of historical research, approached their subject with the conviction of its unity, of its deeper sense and meaning, and of the existence of governing ideas. This influence ruled for a time supreme and produced remarkable results.

In most cases the logical scheme which Hegel exalted was gradually dropped in its application. On the other side, those who called themselves disciples of Hegel and formed the Hegelian school, in the narrower sense of the word, emphasised unduly this dialectical process, and contributed, through their dry and monotonous rhythm of thought, to bring philosophical speculation into disrepute.

For the present, as we are concerned mainly with the two supreme philosophical problems, the unification of thought and the relation of knowledge and belief, it is important to point to two striking consequences which result from the whole of the idealistic movement of thought as finally conceived by Hegel. The fact that the necessities of the logical process were conceived as manifestations, in the human mind, of the stages of the development or life of the Absolute, led to a solution of the antinomy of freedom and necessity. The autonomy of practical reason with Kant, the fundamental act of consciousness with Fichte, led in Hegel's conception to the conviction that what appeared as necessary to us was merely the expression of the