

does not really postulate either regularity or uniformity. But repetition, regularity, and uniformity, in arrangement and sequence, that is, in space and time, are certainly one of the first conditions of awakening and developing human intelligence. Nor is it difficult to find at least one reason why such is the case. Repetition and regularity are the most powerful aids to memory.

An event which occurs only once, or an arrangement which presents no rule or order, has little chance of impressing the mind and being retained by memory, unless it is of exceptional vividness, so as to command serious or even exclusive attention.

Considering the important part which order and regularity play in human affairs, in science, practical knowledge, art, and society, it is remarkable that only in quite recent times has attention been given by leading thinkers to the science of order and to its origin in the human mind.

A second important result of putting things into order is this: it enables the mind to take in at a glance a large number of things, features, or events; that is, it facilitates the synoptic view, enabling the mind to retain a knowledge of many impressions which otherwise would be lost in a vague or confused image continued by memory.

The very first step which is taken in awakening the child's attention, the presenting of small and definite objects, leads to a concentration of the field of vision, facilitating the synoptic aspect, not of the whole of the surrounding world, but of parts of it which are easily grasped.