

Education we will notice that its literal meaning, according to the Latin term, is "to draw out from," that is to lead out that which is hidden. So we readily see that the term "Education" is not to be conceived as something being in the abstract, that is if we educate ourselves for a certain profession, whether that of a lawyer or physician, chemist or physicist, grammarian or mathematician, that we can claim being educated. Its meaning is much broader, and its application much more general; it embraces a far wider scope. When we speak of education it conveys to us the idea of drawing forth that which is hidden in our mental reservoirs, to build up ourselves for future usefulness. This being the mission of education, the question occurs, what means should be brought into action to accomplish the desired end? We are expected to find a solution for the problem in the nature of studies to be pursued; to select such studies as will best tend to develop the mental faculties. Thus we arrive at the question at issue, which as a factor in contributing toward the accomplishment of education is the more important, The Study of Mathematics or English?

I emphatically declare in favor of the former.

As the sun by his force of attraction holds all other planets in space; as he illuminates and vivifies the world and invigorates our sphere, so does the study of mathematics, by the force of its attraction, regulate the motion of all the other studies, invigorating and developing the mental faculties. Let its light but once disappear in the west and chaos would take place in all the other branches of learning. To have our mental faculties fully developed they must be carefully disciplined, and this is the office of mathematics.

The study of English can be looked upon in no otherwise than something being in the abstract; the office within its province is simply to teach a set of rules handed down to us by good usage; it does not deal with generalities, and consequently does not come within the sphere of education, in the true meaning it implies. Mathematics, on the other hand, is not satisfied to deal with abstractions, After it has elucidated to us its mechanical principles it takes a walk with us into