

the regions of the past, in the place of the present, and into the recesses of the future, and at every step directs our thoughts to reason, to think, to weigh and compare, and into every chamber we enter we feel its impulse by seeing the possible and the impossible. The study of mathematics is based upon a logical basis which is the foundation stone to all other studies. If we are at all able to comprehend the study of English it is because our minds have been prepared for it by mathematics. It has been very truly said, "Let a man having a bent for mathematics improve the opportunities which might be given him, and his career will shine forth in the constellation." Thus we readily realize the fact that the study of mathematics is a more important factor in education than the study of English because the results obtained from it are the means which education seeks for the accomplishment of its desired end.

Thus far I have shown the extent of the importance of mathematical studies from the standpoint of the school room.

But has mathematics done for us nothing more. If all the benefit we can derive from it be the development of our mental faculties the compensation would have indeed been sufficiently great. But let us examine to find what mathematics has done for civilization.

If we direct our thoughts for a few moments to the time preceding the brilliant coruscations of the Sixteenth Century, we will find that the world then appeared to the imaginative but uninformed minds as a mighty maze and all without a plan. Their conception of the globe, the solar system and matter was not much more clear than that of the ancients. The human race, with the exception of a very few, still believed the figure of the earth to be a vast plain, surrounded by an ocean of unknown extent. The sun, moon and stars were imagined to rise from and set beneath the waves of the sea. Matter was believed to be subject to changes and destruction at the will of some superior being. It was through the agency of mathematics that Copernicus was enabled to revolutionize the system of the celestial orbs, demonstrating to the world that the sun was the center of attraction in the