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THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION

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and accumulated with increased noxious and morbid power in the strands of the valley that bisects it; appealing, as is notorious, summer after summer, to the very Legislature itself with unintermitting and importunate odours, compelling the attention of the possessors of land and houses to this important subject. (Applause.) And here I would perhaps leave to remark that in the operations of nature there generally a succession of processes co-ordinated for a given result; a peach is not directly developed as such from its elements; the seed would, *a priori*, give no idea of the tree, nor the tree of the flower, nor the fertilized germ of that flower of the next fruit;—but the

is eminently characteristic of the Creative wisdom, its rescuing and provision of an ultimate rest, through the co-ordinating operations of a co-ordinate series of seemingly very different conditions. The further man discerns, a series of conditions, their co-ordination to produce a given result the nearer does his wisdom approach—though the distance be still immeasurable—to the Divine wisdom. The philanthropist builds a fever-hospital, another drains a swamp. One crime-preventer trains the boy, another hangs the man. One statesman would raise money by augmenting duty, or by a direct tax; and finds the revenue not increased in the end. Another statesman would raise the revenue

abolishes a duty, and through the foreseen consequences a revenue is improved. The latter is the wise statesman. Quarantine exemplifies only the first step in the progress of civilization. Quarantine is a system which might keep out contraband goods or certified strangers, but it is powerless against the gaseous contagion of cholera, which never, no country in the world has suffered more from, than Portugal. In Portugal, where quarantine regulations are most stringent, Science is deeply concerned in one progressive movement, the opening of the Atlantic to commerce throughout the civilized world; in urging on which step energetic and unwearied efforts are now being made by a monarch, who has felt the sad misdeeds of the Royal Society of Medicine, among whom the narrowness of its views, and kindred reforms, Mr. James Yates, deserves special and honorable mention. Chemistry is more concerned in the effort to improve the human race, than in the quarantines over his cultivators of different countries; natural science

no less interested in the use by all observers of one and the same scale for measuring, and of one set of terms for expressing, the special conditions of our subjects, than we are in the relations now existing between the State and Science, my first duty is to express our grateful sense of such measure of aid, co-operation, and countenance as has been allotted to scientific culture and enterprise by the Government. It is our knowledge how highly we prize the sentiments of the Sovereign towards our works and aims, manifested by the continuous tribute to successful scientific research, in the form of titles and Royal gifts, and, above all, in the generous expressions of favour and favour which His Majesty has been pleased to distinguish some of our workers with, happy are we, under the present benignant reign, to have in the Royal Consort a Prince endowed with the literary and scientific tastes which have been in science and art as have enabled his Royal Highness

tually, and on some memorable occasions, in the most important degree, to promote the best interests of the (Applause.) We rejoice, moreover, in the prospect of being honoured and favoured at a future meeting by the presence of the Prince Consort; and that are long the association may give the opportunity for the delivery of addresses pregnant with deep thought, and sense, and right feeling, which have placed the name of Prince Albert high in the esteem of the intellectual classes, and have engraven it deeply in the hearts of the humblest of Her Majesty's subjects. (Loud applause.) On the part of the State, sums continue to be voted in aid of

means independently possessed by the British Museum and the Royal Society, whereby the Natural History Collections in the first are extended and the more direct scientific purposes of the latter institution are advanced. The Botanical Gardens and Museum at Kew and the Museum of Practical Geology in Jermyn-street are examples of the national policy regard to science of which we can hardly over-estimate the importance. Most highly and gratefully also do we appreciate the co-operation of the Board of Trade with our meteorologists by the recent formation of the department for the collection of meteorological observations made at sea. But not by words only would or does science make

turn to Governments fostering and aiding her endeavours for the public weal. Every practical application of her discoveries tends to the same end as that which the enlightened statesman has in view. (Applause.) The steam-engine, in its manifold applications, the crime-detecting gas-lamp, the lightning conductor, the electric telegraph, the law of storms and rules for the mariner's compass, the power of rendering surgical operations painless, the measures for preserving public health and for preventing or mitigating epidemics—such are among the more important practical results of pure scientific research, by which mankind have been blessed and States enriched.

are evidence unmistakable of the close affinity between the aims and tendencies of science and those of State policy. In proportion to the activity, productivity, and prosperity of a community is its power of responding to the calls of the Finance Minister. By a faring one the man of science will be regarded with a favorable eye, not less for the unlooked-for streams of wealth that have already flowed, but for those that may in the future arise out of the applications of the abstract truths to the discovery of which he devotes himself. (Applause.) I am pointing out the benefit which had arisen to the State in the discoveries of Black, Oersted, Hunter, Priestley,

Babbage, and the advantages accruing from the establishment of the British Observatory at Kew, and the application of pure mathematics and astronomy to trade and commerce, in making voyages safer and speedier, and after acknowledging the aid which the Government had afforded scientific expeditions recommended by the association, to Kew Observatory, and to other institutions, the learned Professor concluded as follows :—" It now only remains for me to express how deeply I feel the honour conferred on me the position in which, through your kindness, I am now placed; how highly I esteem the opportunity afforded me of addressing so distinguished and influential an audience

most noble hall; and how sincerely I thank you for persistence and favour with which you have received the press." (Loud applause.)

THE MAYOR, in proposing a vote of thanks to Professor [name], observed that the assembly must all have derived an immense amount of information from the general review which had been given of the practical sciences of the present day. Without, however, saying more at that late hour, he would not refrain, on behalf of the corporation and the inhabitants, from bidding their chairman a hearty welcome as the representative of the British Association. He felt proud to invite the Association there on that occasion, and he hoped

the accommodation provided, and the cordial reception members would receive, would induce the association to meet Leeds again in its regular order. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. Dr. HOOK, the Vicar of Leeds, seconded the motion. He could not, he said, restrain from offering congratulations to the British Association on this 15th visit to its native county. When a voice from the land, evoking the practical energy of Yorkshire, called to existence the British Association, the state of science







