

side with philosophy in regard to our notions of space and time, and in the questions which have arisen as to the universality and necessity of the truths of mathematics and the foundation of our knowledge of them"; and he subsequently refers specially to the "notion which is really the fundamental one underlying and pervading the whole of modern analysis and geometry," meaning the complex magnitude, as deserving to be specially discussed by philosophers. Beginnings of the philosophical treatment of this and other questions indeed exist. The questions are still *sub judice*, and the historian can merely refer to their existence and importance.

There is, however, one controversy which has arisen out of these and similar speculations, and out of the desire to bring unity and consistency into the fundamental notions of elementary as well as higher mathematics, which deserves to be specially mentioned, because it occupies a prominent place in foreign literature, having given rise to a special term, and thus commanding more general attention. Prof. Klein of Göttingen, under whose master-hand many abstract and obscure subjects have become plain and transparent, has prominently brought the subject before the scientific public in a recent address.¹ I refer to the tendency represented in its extreme form by the late Prof. Kronecker of Berlin, to reduce all mathematical conceptions to the fundamental arithmetical operations with integral numbers, banishing not only all geometrical and dynamical conceptions, such as those of continuity and flow, but

68.
Arithmetis-
ing tendency
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¹ ' Ueber Arithmetisierung der Mathematik ' (Göttingen, 1895).