

certain. But the conclusion merely sums up the particulars in an abbreviated form, without giving any new information. If I observe that every student in my class is bright and then assert that the whole class is bright, this general assertion is just a concise expression or summary of what I have observed. Thus, in Perfect Induction there is no inductive leap, no leap from the known to the unknown, from "some" to "all." Hence Mill and Bain deny Perfect Induction the status of Induction proper.

Parity of Reasoning

In Induction by Parity of Reasoning we arrive at a general proposition not on the ground of our observation of particular cases but on the parity or sameness of reasoning. We suppose that the reasoning which is applied to a particular case might as well be applied to all other similar cases coming under the general proposition. For example, after proving that *A* is mortal, we may infer that this is true of "all men," not because it is true of a particular man *A* but for the same reason which proves it to be true of *A*. We argue that because *A* is mortal, therefore parity of reasoning demands that all men should be mortal.

It will be noted here that the universal conclusion is not believed on the ground of particular instances. We do not say that all men are mortal because *A* is mortal but because of the reason which is the ground of our reasoning in a particular case. Hence, although Parity of Reasoning looks like Scientific Induction inasmuch as it proceeds from

the particular to the general, it lacks one fundamental mark of Scientific Induction, namely, basing the general conclusion on the observation of particular facts. To quote Mill : in Parity of Reasoning "the characteristic quality of Induction is wanting, since the truth obtained, though really general, is not believed on the evidence of particular instances."

Colligation of Facts

Colligation literally means binding together (from Latin *colligare*, *con*, together ; *ligar*, to bind). Thus, colligation of facts means the process by which many isolated facts are gathered or summed up under a single proposition. In colligation we first observe the parts of a whole, separately or piecemeal and then colligate them to have an idea of the whole. Suppose a blind man touches the trunk, legs, tail, tusks, etc., of an animal separately and then sums up his partial observations in a single proposition—This animal is an elephant. This would be Colligation. A navigator sailing in a sea discovers land. He cannot at first decide whether it is a continent or an island. He coasts along it and, after completely going round it, he pronounces it an island. Thus, he connects together the details of his observation under the idea of "island." It was by Colligation of Facts that Kepler, after observing the successive position of Mars, inferred that it moved in an ellipse. He simply colligated the different positions occupied by Mars under the general conception of "ellipse".

A little reflection will show that Colligation lacks the inductive leap, a going beyond our observations. It is merely a summary, under a general

description, of what we have observed, and does not involve an inference from facts observed to facts unobserved.

History of Induction

Deduction, in its most important features, has been pretty well recognized from the time of Aristotle. But Induction, especially in respect of its methods, scope and importance, is of comparatively recent growth. Of course, in the philosophy of Aristotle and the Scholastic philosophers of the Middle Ages, there are traces which show that they were not wholly unacquainted with Induction. But most of the work on Scientific Induction has been really done after Aristotle.

Let us briefly trace the history of the development of Induction from the time of Aristotle.

Aristotle (384—322 B.C.)

Aristotle took Induction to mean a process of ascending from the particular to the universal on an examination of all the particulars. According to him, we cannot arrive at a perfectly valid induction unless all the particulars of a class are examined. Thus, Aristotle took induction to mean Perfect Induction. He considered Induction (which meant Perfect Induction) possible with the help of a syllogism, commonly called the Inductive Syllogism. For example :

The cow, the buffalo, the sheep, etc.,
ruminates,

The cow, the buffalo, the sheep, etc., are
horned animals,

∴ All horned animals ruminates.