

a time vastly more remote than Hebrew or Greek records, and among a people in the most primitive condition of savage life, the preference appears to have been given to the same hand which has been recognized as the right hand among all civilized nations of historic times. Such concurrent evidence seems to point to a uniform preference for the same hand from remotest times, such as could not fail to eradicate any mere exceptional habit; and so suggests with renewed force that the use of the right hand is traceable to some peculiarity of organic structure, or to some physiological law generally affecting the human organization. Nor is it necessarily limited to man. As already shown, there are indications suggestive of a disposition in some at least of the lower animals to employ one limb in preference to the other.

A writer in the *Cornhill Magazine*, when referring to one remarkable class of manifestations which seem to show that the faculty of speech is mainly if not wholly dependent on the left side of the brain; or at any rate that *aphasia*, or the loss of the power of vocal expression of ideas, is accompanied with disease of that side of the brain: says, "Rightsidedness extends to the lower races. Birds, and especially parrots, show rightsidedness. Dr. W. Ogle has found that few parrots perch on the left leg. Now, parrots have that part at least of the faculty of speech which depends on the memory of successive sounds, and of the method of reproducing such imitation of them as a parrot's powers permit; and it is remarkable that their left brain receives more blood, and is better developed than the right brain." The same writer expresses his doubt as to monkeys showing any tendency to righthandedness. This is a point to which careful attention should be directed where opportunity offers. In my former paper I noticed the interesting treatise by Dr. Buchanan, Professor of Physiology in the University of Glasgow, on the "Mechanical Theory of the Predominance of the Right Hand over the Left." But I was not then aware that Professor Struthers had followed up his observations by a series of careful investigations, the results of which are set forth in his paper entitled, "On the relative weight of the viscera on the two sides of the body; and on the consequent position of the centre of gravity to the right side." He there notes that, "While the viscera of the quadruped have the same general lateralized position as in man, there is a reason why this should be carried to a greater extent in man than in the quadruped, owing to