

Some writers, Professor Preyer especially, have published fairly complete studies on the psychic manifestations of infants. The latter's "Mind of the Child" is a monument of patience, industry and ability, and is simply invaluable to those desirous of understanding the human mind. A record has been kept by this author of his own child's mental development from the very first day of its existence to the fortieth month.

The writer of the present article is attempting to do similar work for several groups of our domestic animals or pets, and a considerable number of these investigations are now completed. It is hoped that by such researches a truer light will be thrown on the psychic nature, not alone of the animals investigated, but on that of man also; for whether we admit evolution in the Darwinian sense in psychology or not, there can be no doubt, after comparing these studies one with another, that there is much that is common in mental development as there is in physical development.

The dog and the rabbit, much as they differ in anatomy, have also much in common; and in like manner they greatly resemble each other in certain features psychically, as such studies prove beyond all doubt.

To many minds this will be evidence for the truth of evolution, and to be explained only on some such theory.

It is well known that in a very early stage of embryonic development, animals that afterwards differ widely in form and structure, can scarcely be distinguished, if at all, even by the the most expert.

In like manner the psychic behaviour of whole groups of animals has much in common during the first days of life, a remark that especially applies to those that are born blind. They all manifest certain reflexes and instincts. By a "reflex," physiologists mean a physical result, usually a movement, independent of the will. It follows because of some sort of stimulus ;