

a life of relation, by means of which it is fitted to the uses of individual and social existence. Its powers of locomotion, its active senses, its faculty of feeling, its wonderful human hand, and its still more wonderful human brain, all belong to this other use of the body as an instrument for the expression of intelligence and emotion.

Equally remarkable is the system of general unvarying laws by which this living structure is governed. The first law we notice in human growth is the precedence of physical over mental growth. We observe that physical development, though never separate from mental development, is always in advance of it. This is shown by the wonder and delight which the parent receives the first sign of awakening intelligence in the young infant, the first smile, the first indication of observation. It is the awakening mind. But every physical function essential to life has been perfectly performed from the first moment of birth as perfectly, according to its wants, as it will ever be performed throughout life. This precedence of physical life continues throughout the whole period of growth, though it strikes us less as the years roll on, and the mind gradually assumes that mastery over the body which should be the condition of adult life. The brain is the last part of the body to cease growth. Every other organ is perfectly formed, every bone consolidated, the physical organization complete, while the mind, with its necessary organ of expression, is still growing. I