

their action is applied are rarely of a nature to invite special attention to them. There is, however, an instinctive tendency with many, if not indeed with the majority, to use one foot in preference to the other. In football, for example, it is not with most players a matter of mere chance which foot will be used in starting the ball. Possibly the same reason may help to account for the invariable tendency of a blindfold walker to deviate to one side or the other. It is scarcely possible to walk in a straight line with the eyes shut. The one leg apparently tends to outwalk the other.

In summing up the whole, it appears that lefthandedness is inherited and transmitted, though in an irregular manner and with varying intensity; that the range of the influence, to whatever source we may trace it, affects other organs of the same side only partially and uncertainly; but that, wherever lefthandedness is strongly developed, it is accompanied by more than average dexterity in the organ thus specialized. The full use of both hands, however, largely depends on education. The left hand is, with the majority of mankind, systematically reduced to the condition of a comparatively useless member of the body, alike contrary to reason, and without any justification either in the anatomy of the hand or in the requirements of the mind. Wherever the early and persistent cultivation of the full use of both hands has been accomplished, the result is greater efficiency without any counteracting awkwardness or defect. The experience of every thoroughly lefthanded person shows the possibility of training both hands to a capacity for responding to the mind with promptness and skill; yet at the same time it is none the less apparent that in cases of true lefthandedness there is an organic specialization which no enforced habit can wholly supersede.

