

validity of any action, to the potency of any command, to the carrying into effect of any design ; but it can only set its seal to bills that have passed the parliament of its understanding. It is a servant, though not a slave of the understanding, but it is the ruler of man's feelings and actions. It cannot prevent a knowledge and a decision, but it can prevent acting upon that decision. It holds the veto power in the house, and speaks the word of command on the field of action. While entirely dependent upon the understanding for power to give effect to its volitions, yet the exercise of *will* is necessary to every action, is necessary to the putting forth of active energy, and still more necessary to the concentration of many energies upon a difficult work. If this be so, then can there, strictly speaking, be such a thing as an *involuntary* action? Can man perform an act which is not at first an emanation from his mind, starting from his understanding, which saw its possibility, flashed to the will, which saw its desirability, and sent forth from thence as a command to those subject powers, whose meat and drink it is to do the bidding of their mental rulers? If man's power belongs to his mind, then is not declaring the action of an intellectual being involuntary. begging the question of force being inherent in physical combination?

Having honored the will with the theory that it is the *sine qua non* of man's physical activity, we now advance the opinion that man's power lies not only chiefly but ultimately, and therefore wholly, in his *understanding*. What can a man do without understanding? What can he not do with it? What does man know how to do that he has not the ability to do? In other words, what action can the compass of man's mind embrace which he cannot *will* to do, and which he cannot perform by those forces which obey the mandate of his will? Man understands the composition of sugar and can make it, but he does not understand and therefore cannot make an ultimate of matter. The *will*, but in a subordinate sense, claims the honor of the name of *power*. The understanding is its superior, and only when it works in accordance