

Children at birth possess no voluntary command of their limbs whatever, and the very earliest muscular motion must be the result of spontaneous activity of the nerve centres, and whether one centre of nervous impulse is more prone to act than another, will depend on the constitutional or nutritive vigor belonging to it. When a child has become able to fix its eyes on any object, if it should be such as to cause a pleasurable feeling for the moment, this would of itself increase and continue the spontaneous movements already at work, until eventually something is seized by the hand. This is repeated time and again, until definite direction is acquired, and the child can of its own accord put out its hand and seize on the object before its eyes. With which hand will it grasp the object? If development of the right hemisphere exceeds the development of the left, then I believe it will be the left hand, and *vice versa*. This bias, whether to the left or the right hand, is no doubt the result of special organic aptitude. The result of careful investigation by well-qualified observers, shows that the left hemisphere exceeds the right in the great majority of cases, accounting for a greater bias towards the right hand. If this be true, then the exceptionally dextrous left-handed man should have the right hemisphere in excess of the left. This is in accord with the investigations of the late Sir Daniel Wilson, who was originally left-handed; and in spite of repeated and persistent efforts on the part of teachers to suppress all use of the left hand, he still remained throughout life with the left hand the most dextrous, though thoroughly ambidextrous. He thoroughly believed that the bias towards either hand was one of organic aptitude, which the following remark of his will show. He says: "My own brain has now been in use for more than the full allotted term of threescore years and ten, and the time cannot be far distant when I shall be done with it. When that time comes, I should be glad if it were turned to account for the little further service of settling this physiological puzzle. If my ideas are correct, I anticipate, as the result of its examination, that the right hemisphere will not only be found to be heavier than the left, but that it will probably be marked by a noticeable difference in the number and arrangements of the convolutions."

Ambidexterity is most characteristic of left-handed men, as premised, from the fact that they have the dexterity of the left