

gical foundation, for we can now explain all this by associated reflex action.

The circus and the theatrical agents who cover our fences, bill-boards, etc., with great masses of brilliant color understand their business, for they cannot take more effective means to entrap us, inasmuch as we turn towards such appealing stimuli in a purely reflex fashion, and even Solomon's direction, "Let thine eyes look right on, and let thine eyelids look straight before thee," may fail to inhibit such a reflex. We as surely look as the moth flies into the flame. It is plain that in general the turning of the eyes or even of the head or whole body towards a source of sound or light would be a great advantage, as say in the case of the whizzing shell about to burst. That the anatomical paths by which the impulses travel should have been so fully worked out is to be attributed to the excellence of the technical methods of the day and to that higher mechanism which is so prominent in man and which is not reflex in the ordinary sense, but which starts and controls the reflex actions which bring about the results that man's higher brain parts initiate; for, without these reflex actions required for carrying out the skilled technique, this would have been impossible, however ardently desired or beautifully planned.

Now, if one surveys the whole of the animal kingdom with the physiological eye, it will be seen that differences so far as movements and their functions generally are concerned, are to be sought chiefly in the extent towards which ordinary processes which are common to all are interfered with by the working of a highly developed brain. A frog and a man tell the same physiological story in substance up to a certain point, then in the case of man, because of his immense cerebrum, begins a new series of volumes; or, to change the figure, there is one physiological melody, but with a vast number of variations, some of them being obviously but variations, others additions, yet the physiologist, like the trained musician, should never lose sight of the melody amid all the variations, and to avoid that with our specialization, even in physiology, it is no easy task.

But, even to-day, Gentlemen, on this one of the high days of your life, the most that you do is to be explained by reflex action as I think I could show in detail did time permit; and if that applies to-day in a strange place under unusual conditions, how much more fully does it hold for an ordinary day in a familiar locality when you are treading in the well-beaten paths of your daily duty. And who will compute the vast gain to us physically and mentally of such being the case—the incalculable saving of energy from lower for higher things, with that economy of will power for the greater things—the higher things—not to mention the emergencies of life!