

ing or fishing, that he is not content when he kills as many birds or fish as he can take away with him, but he keeps on-killing for the very pleasure it affords him. Well, we must not blame him, he is only acting after his kind; and such a man is generally satisfied to kill animals, birds and fish; he very rarely takes pleasure in killing men. For my own part I admire the jolly sportsman; he is generally a man of both physical and moral courage, a man that will not condescend to mean, petty acts.

Gentlemen, there is a question that suggests itself to us, looking at men from a psychological stand-point, and that question is, is man naturally homicidal? Looking at the history of the past, judging from our every day experience, seeing the homicidal tendencies of the insane, who have no reason to guide them, I am afraid we are forced to the conclusion that man is naturally homicidal. I see no way of avoiding this conclusion except we admit the theory, that there are animals who have all the appearance of men, but are not so in reality, but simply brutes, because they lack the essential qualities of men, in not possessing either intelligence, or an immortal soul. Of course if we were to accept this theory there would be no longer any difficulty in our way, but until science can prove this theory to be correct, we are obliged to look on all that are born of woman, and who have the outer semblance of men, to be men; and this is the only tenable stand-point we possess; we are bound to admit that man is not only the most destructive of all animals, but that he is naturally homicidal, and is only the contrary in virtue of his strong reasoning powers, and the result of his early surroundings and education. In a previous paper read before this society I pointed out to you that whatever a man's nature was, whether good or bad, he was not responsible for it, it was his inheritance. I pointed out the same with respect to his mental organization, that no two persons were alike in this respect no more than they were in their physical appearance, and that no man could think with another man's brains any more than he could breathe with another man's lungs; that consequently, when men came to think like each other it was the result of external circumstances. When then we find men homicidal we know they are