

largest weight of brain known is that of the Russian Novelist, Turgenieff, whose brain weighed, at the time of his death, 65 years of age, 71 ounces. The following celebrated group, Jeffery, Thackeray, Cuvier, Combe, Spurzheim, and Sir James Simpson, had brain weights from 54 to 58.6 ounces. A second important group of men with rare genius and marked ability, Hubert, Grote, Babbage, Leibey, Gull, and Gambetta, had an average brain weight from 40 to 49 ounces. Colder climates appear to favor large brains, which may in a measure account for the marked intellectual activity of our Canadian people. The table of average brain weights of various nationalities, from the Anthropological publications of Topinard and Manouvrier, produces evidence of greater brain weights in colder climates. As proof of such, it is known that the colder air of the United States produces larger brains in the negroes than the warm air of South Africa. Weighing the brain is the only certain method of settling its exact proportions. The fluid inside the skull, known as the Cerebro-spinal, may occupy considerable space in the cranial cavity, and a small brain may be present. It is not unusual to find large brains, with small minds, in proof of which Dr. Sms, *Popular Science Monthly* 1898, records 125 persons of ordinary or weak minds, whose brains were larger than those of many distinguished and well-known men, such as Daniel Webster, Agazziz, Napoleon I., Lord Byron, Baron Dupuytren and General Skoboleff of Russia, world renowned men, whose brains weighed less than 53 ounces. In fact, the present impression is that very intelligent men do not differ greatly, as to brain weights, from the less gifted. Dr. Oliver Wendall Holmes, the well-known author of "The Professor at the Breakfast Table" and a celebrated anatomist, said "The walls of the head are double with a great chamber of air between them, over the smallest and most crowded organs. Can you tell me how much money there is in a safe which has thick walls by kneading the knobs with your fingers? So when a man fumbles about my head, and talks about the organs of individuality, size, etc., I trust him as much as I should if he felt over the outside of my strong box, and told me that there was a five dollar bill under that rivet." Again, larger and complicated brain convolutions are by some supposed to be associated with superior mental power. In the lower animals such is not borne out. Rodents, such as beavers, rats and mice, have little brains and no convolutions, and the beaver particularly exhibits great mechanical skill in the construction of dams, and the storing of food for the winter. The sheep has numerous convolutions in the brain with well marked evidence of great stupidity. Wagner, of Göttingen, states he has never seen examples of highly complicated convolutions even