

market afforded, and he brought home a tongue: on another occasion, when ordered to buy the worst, he again brought a tongue.—*a.* The tongue, capable of rendering the greatest services in favor of all that is noble and good, is likewise the source of much evil.

II. *The principal organ of the sense of taste.*—*a.* It is, therefore, the medium of our sensations of pleasure in eating and drinking; and consequently gives encouragement to the art of cookery, and promotes the interests of commerce by its fondness for spices, etc., from distant countries.—*b.* But it also encourages the desire for dainties, revelry, drunkenness, lavishness, etc. It may even reduce men to a state of poverty,—Apicius. And, according to Shakspeare,

Dainty bits

Make rich the ribs, but bankrupt quite the wit."

III. *The organ of speech.*—1st Its beneficial effects:—*a.* It enables us to express our sensations of joy, grief, etc., not in mere rough, abrupt sounds, as animals, but by articulate words, figurative language, foreign tongues.—*b.* It is the chief medium of the culture of the mind, awakening and animating the slumbering thought.—*c.* It enables us to make known our wants and desires; to console, advise, warn, and defend those who are in need.—*d.* It is the organ of eloquence, the true guardian of free institutions,—Greece and Rome, Demosthenes and Cicero; Great Britain and Ireland, Burke, Pitt, and O'Connell; France, Berryer, Montalembert, Dupanloup, and Chesnelong; the United-States, Henry, Webster, and Clay.—*e.* From the tongue, life receives its most attractive charm, conversation.—*f.* It enables us to worship God in hymns of praise.—*g.* Without the tongue, there would be no words; consequently, no written language, no books.

2nd Its hurtful effects:—*a.* It is the instrument of lying, deceit, backbiting, calumny, indiscretion, wicked instigation, and flattery; and the poet is right in saying,

"There is a lust in man no charm can tame,  
Of loudly publishing his neighbor's shame:  
On eagle's wings immortal scandals fly;  
While virtue's actions are but born to die."

*b.* By its means, persons have disgraced themselves by singing