

object be again applied to the organ, it not only renews the perception; but the person remembers the former sensation which it produced, that is to say he knows that he felt the same before. This is the first and most simple species of memory, and is the first effort of this faculty which is discernable in early life, as when an infant of six months old recognises its parents or nurse but avoids strangers. For the sake of distinguishing this part of the sense from its more perfect state it is commonly called the faculty of *remembrance*, although it is undeniably the first principles of perfect memory. In some cases sensations which have long since fallen asleep, as it were, or have completely passed away, are renewed without any object being applied to the external organ of sense, and without any obvious internal cause, even when the person is not thinking or wishing to think of them.—remembrances of this kind are more nearly allied to perfect memory than the former, although not completely an instance of the action of that faculty, according to the above definition of it, for here the perceptions return involuntarily, whereas it is one of the properties of memory to recall them at pleasure and in the same order as they were first presented. As one faculty of perfect memory is to recall perceptions long past, it is obvious this cannot happen in early life, for in that period there are no long past perceptions to recall. But if memory be defective in the art of recalling what is past in childhood, we find it is more accurate strong and tenacious of such impressions as it receives, at that time. This faculty encreases in youth and in manhood, the memory is in its fullest vigour, and perfect enjoyment of all its powers. In the decline of life it decreases; in both the faculty of retaining and recalling perceptions. In old age it becomes very weak or nearly obliterated, so as to quickly lose any new impression; but retaining such as it had received in youth during the season it was most tenacious. In extreme old age, however, it not unfrequently becomes completely gone, so that all images both new and old are rapidly effaced, or make no impression on the memory. The memory is far more acute and tenacious in some men than others, even when their ages are the same. In all it is capable of improvement by being carefully cultivated and judiciously exercised; but in doing so, care must be taken not to continue the exercise of it too long, or it will have the effect exactly the reverse of what is intended. As the body may be over fatigued by too long protracted exercise or the imposition of a duty beyond its strength—so by protracting the exercise of memory, or by prescribing a task beyond what it is capable of performing, a confusion of ideas will be introduced, and no one will make a sufficient impression to be retained. As the faculty of memory varies in different men, so it will vary in the same individual at different times; without this change being the effect of age. At one time we find the images called up by memory presenting themselves slowly and with a deliberateness which gives time for their being examined, although perhaps they are less vivid; at another they pass by with such rapidity that they can hardly be contemplated or recognised. This difference depends upon various circumstances. It will be affected by the state of bodily health, and the frame of mind the person enjoys at the time. When the body is in an irritable state or when there is what is term-