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SOME ASPECTS OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMPARATIVE PSYCHOLOGY.

It is probably most satisfactory in every way, if an address is to be general, that it shall have its foundation in the line of research which has most engaged the author for a number of years past. In harmony with this principle it was open to me to choose either some subject bearing on the anatomy and physiology of the nervous system, or one dealing with animal intelligence. To have treated the former in a way satisfactory to myself would have implied considerable illustration and the use of the lantern, which could likely not be carried out without breaking in on an evening, and that was more than I cared to ask the section to do; hence the selection of 'Some Aspects of the Development of Animal Intelligence,' as the topic of this address, the treatment of which must, in the nature of the case, be incomplete.

It is no doubt true that man is more dependent than any other animal on his environment, if we restrict that term to the material world about us, but the very expression 'Every man is the product of his age' conveys the truth that the greatest genius can get only so far beyond the average thought of his time. As Darwin long ago pointed out, the most important factor in man's environment is man himself. One has scarcely emerged from infancy before the accumulated forces of the ages in human traditions and knowledge begin to mold the developing human being, and determine what he shall be. So that, be as independent and original as any one may,