

THE HUMAN HEAD.

A STUDY.

(SPECIALLY WRITTEN FOR THE CHRONICLE.)

That we are fearfully and "wonderfully made" is an axiom patent to the shallowest thinker. Physiology and psychology, separately and conjunctively, have ever demonstrated this. The correlation of body and mind, the immaterial localizing in and arbitrarily actuating the material is an inscrutable mystery, known here only "in part," to be perfectly known hereafter. The force called "the Will" cannot be described, though invariably perceived in its effects. It is the *primum mobile* of human actions; and its radiating centre of operation is supposed to be the *sensorium*, to which also the multitudinous nerves of the system converge. They are, as it were, the telegraphic wires that convey messages to and from the outer world, branching from the *medulla* to every point of the surface. The organisation of the human body from the crown of the head to the sole of the foot is in its members, while inconceivably complicated, yet harmoniously co-operating; as graphically set forth by St. Paul (1 Cor. xii. 14-26).

We propose, however, to take up merely the head, as Hamlet did the skull of Yorick. The Latin *caput*, from the Greek *Kephale*, is the parent of many words in the English language, all indicating supremacy of one kind or another, e.g., *Capitol*, the seat of Government; *Capital*, financial mainspring; *Chapter*, a ruling directory; *Chapiter*, the crown of a column; *Captain*, the commander of a company, etc. The only animal by Zoologists considered headless is the tapeworm, which is therefore ticketed *acephalus*. But man's cranium, or rather the brain, which it encloses, is presumed to be the *locus in quo* or residence of his intellectuality; that power by which he has dominion over all the inferior orders of creation.

The first science, then, to be brought into requisition is phrenology, which professes to teach from the conformation of the human skull the particular characters and propensities of men, assuming that the powers of the mind, and the sensations are performed by peculiar parts of the brain; the front parts being intellectual, the middle sentimental, and the hinder parts governing the animal propensities; the degrees being in proportion to the projection or bulk of the parts respectively. Cognate with this science is that of the almost intuitive faculty, whereby is discerned the prominent temper, or other distinguishing qualities of the mind by the features of the face, or external signs of the countenance. We are unconsciously attracted or repelled in general by our first impression derived from the physiognomy. This may be corrected by experience, but is for the most part stereotyped with the beholder. Superior portrait painting and delicate photography convey fairly accurate ideas of the original's disposition; and we are pleased or otherwise by the aspect presented. As our analysis proceeds

SUDDEN DEATH OF MR. E. J. ASHE.

We record with great regret a very painful occurrence which took place in the city yesterday morning. About half past nine o'clock Mr. Edward J. Ashe, chief book-keeper at Messrs Guinness, Son and Co's offices in Cecil-street, left his residence on the North Strand for the purpose of proceeding to business. He was then apparently in his usual health and spirits, but when near the Swivel Bridge he seems to have got a weakness, and was discovered in a prostrate condition by Messrs J. S. Gaffney, solicitor, Sutherland Matterson, and B. Gubbins, who removed him into Miss O'Dea's Restaurant, a short distance away. A car was at once sent for, and Sergeant Cooke conveyed Mr. Ashe to the Union Hospital, it being considered the nearest point at which medical aid would be immediately available. On Mr. Ashe's arrival there he was attended by Dr. Nolan, Resident Medical Officer, who found that life was extinct. Death was evidently due to heart disease. The tragic occurrence has created the deepest sorrow amongst a wide circle of friends with whom Mr. Ashe, by reason of his kindness of heart and most unassuming manner, was extremely popular. The deepest sympathy is expressed with Mrs. Ashe and family in the deep sorrow with which it has pleased Providence to visit them. The deceased gentleman, an old Limerick citizen, had been some 36 years in the service of Messrs Guinness and Company, and for a large portion of time held the onerous and responsible position of chief book-keeper. He was 64 years of age. The police reported the circumstances of the sad fatality to Dr Clery, County Coroner, who decided that it was not necessary to hold an inquest.

Mr. Ashe was son of the late Rev. Edward Ashe, Rector of Glin, County Limerick, and cousin of Mr. Henry Ashe, Cecil-street. The funeral will leave deceased's residence, Strand Cottage, North Strand, at nine o'clock, tomorrow morning for St. Munchin's.

DEATH OF A LIMERICK LADY.

We regret to announce the death of Mrs Fahy, wife of the Rev. J. G. Fahy, Rector of Waterville, Co Kerry. Limerick readers will recall the deceased lady by the name of Miss Gabbett, whose marriage about six years ago will still be fresh in their memories. The demise took place at the rectory, Waterville, early yesterday morning, after only a brief illness. Much sympathy is felt for the rev gentleman in his great trouble by Catholic and Protestant alike. He is left with the care of two little girls, one aged four years and the other an infant of two weeks. Mrs. Fahy always keenly associated herself with her husband's work, and there are many in Waterville and the surrounding district to whom she will prove an almost irreplaceable loss.

THE "AMERICAN SPECIALISTS" CASE.

A FURTHER REMAND.

At a special court at Ennis on Tuesday, George

FUEL FUND CONCE.

The severe weather which we are experiencing should impress upon us in a forcible manner the necessity for aiding that might be made towards amelioration of, and comforting, those homes hand of poverty presses most heavily. Fuel Fund Concert given in the Theatre Tuesday night it was pleasant to find crowded in every place with the few seats in the dress-circle, which, he been engaged, the absence of the inter-pants being due to the coldness of the night. The Concert must have been a great success, and the thanks and gratification public will unstintedly be awarded to the organiser, Mr. Josef Pemen Bellen, talented choir of ladies and gentlemen willingly joined him in his praiseworthy concert was under the patronage of the Mayor, Vincent Nash, Esq. (Hon. Elect), Sir Charles Barrington, Bart Barrington, Lieut.-Colonel Sir Henry Bart., and Lady Johnson, Sir Thomas Lady Cleve, Mrs. O'Brien (South Hill Shaw, Esq., J.P., and Mrs. Shaw, J. body, Esq., James Quin, Esq., and Mr. The programme opened with the chorus, "Hail, bright abode," from great opera, "Tannhauser." The choir of about 80 voices, with the following: First violins: Miss M. Hanrahan, M. Mr. D. Tidmarsh, Mr. P. Bernard Bain, Mr. E. H. South, Mr. J. McG Robinson, Mr. T. Drake. Second v K. Geraghty, Miss Hodgson, Miss A. Belshaw, Mr. B. Cremin, Mr. F. T. E. Hoyland, Mr. J. McCarthy. V Swann. Cellos: Mr. Lee, Mr. H. Cro basses: Mr. C. Dungworth, Mr. Pianoforte: Miss C. Geraghty. (Visitors by kind permission from the Yorkshire Light Infantry.) The recital was fine, the chorus and orchestra pretty well in sympathy. The voice very evenly balanced, although if the slightly more powerful the effect would greatly heightened. Certainly the greatest spirit and gladness in the "Hail, bright abode, where song rejoices.

May lays of peace within thee
Long may we cry with loyal voices,
Prince of Thuringia, Landgrav
hail!"

Mr. Bellens conducted with conspicuous success. The next item was allotted to Mr. F. sang in a nice baritone voice, the song "Ever Waiting" (Edward G was warmly applauded. Miss She name appeared after the next song, Irish, was suffering from a cold and sing, and it was unfortunate that she must be made for Miss Dwane. Miss acted as substitute for the latter accomplished musician was heard with pleasure in Cowan's composition "The and was heartily encored. repeated her success in the melody, "Rich and Rare," which with great expression and in a finish item standing in the name of Sir Ch ton was omitted, as the popular unavoidably absent. The quartet strange adventure," (b) "When a-woeing" (Sullivan), was harmoniously good effect by Miss Irwin, Mrs. Bain, and Mr. Tidmarsh. Miss Shaw a cordial welcome, sang "Dum Stange. Her very pleasing and cult heard to the greatest advantage, a to an unanimous encore she sang "pedlar," with much taste and Miss Hanrahan scored a great success "A Dream of Paradise," to which sympathy appropriate to the impression of the song. The audience encored Miss Hanrahan replied with an effection of "Twickenham Ferry."