

THE HUMAN BRAIN.

As to the brain being the seat of the intellect there is, of course, no dispute whatever. Phrenology and Physiology alike teach that the larger the brain, other things being equal, the greater the mental power. Still there is a popular misapprehension on this point. A large head does not necessarily and invariably imply the existence within it of a great intellect. The head must bear a proper proportion to the body. Big men have larger heads than small men, not because their mental grasp is wider or stronger, but because their bodies are larger. The proportion of the head to the whole organism must be taken into account. It is very common to find wide differences between individuals in the thickness and size of the bones of the skull. A large head may inclose a comparatively small brain. This seems to have been the case with the celebrated Gambetta. When his brain was weighed after his death people were astonished to find that it was below the average. Such a fact reminds us that another thing to be taken into account is the quality of the brain organism. Great size of brain may be accompanied with inferior organic quality. So on the other hand a fine brain may be crippled in its operations by lack of vital power in the body. The brain needs to be well nourished in order to perform its functions with energy, and thus we are brought back to the old maxim that a sound mind needs a sound body. In view of all these difficulties in measuring the capacity of a living brain it is not surprising that some inconsistencies are encountered when an attempt is made to apply the principles of phrenology to the actual conduct of men. There are too many elements of uncertainty to render a positive judgment strictly trustworthy in all cases. Just how great the variation may be in the apparent brain capacity of individuals, all of whom possess extraordinary mental endowments, is well illustrated by the following table, for which I am indebted to Dr. H. S. Drayton, the editor of the *Phrenological Journal*. It exhibits the brain weight, in ounces, of nine celebrated men. The reader should be informed that the average brain weight is from 45 to 47 ounces. Cromwell, 71; Turgeneff, 70; Curvier, 64½; Byron, 62½; Schiller, 55; Kant, 54; Gans, 52½; Dante, 54½; Gambetta, 42.

Now it can hardly be supposed that the mental capacity of Cromwell or Turgeneff was really so much greater than that of Dante or Gambetta as this comparison of brain weights would seem to indicate. And what would the readers of Dante say if they were solemnly assured that the intellect of the great Italian poet was inferior to that of Byron in the proportion of 45½ to 62½? Manifestly, if the figures in this table are correct, there must have been other things besides the weight of the brain which went to the making of the mental endowments of these men. But when we speak in general terms we find that there really is an accordance between the weight of the brain and the manifestation of intellectual power. Look, for instance, at the following table in which the average brain weight of a number of

individuals of different races is exhibited:

Race.	Oz. of Brain.
21 English.....	47½
25 Chinese.....	45½
5 Esquimaux.....	48½
9 Negroes.....	44
17 Australians.....	40

When we consider the history of these different peoples, and compare their achievements, we cannot doubt that such a table fairly exhibits the intellectual difference between them, although it is no strict measure of it. But, coming to individual instances, we may have a Dante or a Gambetta, with a brain smaller than the average of his race, rising above the level of his fellows through the force of a superior nervous organization and a better co-ordination of vital powers.—*Prof. Garrett P. Servis, in the Chautauquan.*

DEATH OF W. D. KARTCHNER.

Allen Foot writes to us from Snowflake under date of May 30th, as follows: Another of the veterans of our Church passed away at this place on the 14th ult., namely, William Decatur Kartchner. Deceased was the son of John C. Kartchner, and Prudence Wilcox, was born at Hartford, Montgomery Co., Penn., May 4th, 1820, and baptized May 8th, 1843, having heard the Gospel the previous day for the first time. He was married to Margaret Jane Casteel in March, 1844, passed through all the mobbings and persecutions at Nauvoo, standing guard greater part of the time during a six weeks' rain, and was stricken down with rheumatism. He could not move hand nor foot at the time of the martyrdom. He was called to go with the famous "Emmetts' Company," and through the operations of those in charge, was reduced, with many others, to distressing circumstances. It was only by a desperate effort that he and his wife were enabled to get away from the company, and work their way back to St. Louis. Here Brother Kartchner was well treated by his brother John, although not in sympathy in religious matters. In the spring of 1846 Brother William and wife joined a company of Saints who were preparing to go to the Rocky Mountains, preferring the hardships and dangers of such a trip to remaining among a people who had abused him and his fellow Saints. This company was in charge of Captain William Croshy, and arrived in Salt Lake Valley July 28th, 1847—one year and three months from the time of leaving the State.

Brother Kartchner, who was a blacksmith by trade, faithfully assisted as a pioneer in the settlement of new places in Utah and Arizona. He had been quite feeble in body and mind for the last ten years, having almost entirely lost his sight. He always bore a strong and faithful testimony to the truth of the great latter-day work, and was a true and consistent Latter-day Saint. His first wife died ten years ago. He leaves seventeen children and forty-three grandchildren to mourn his loss. The deceased was highly respected by all who knew him.

St. Petersburg, June 5.—Fire in the town of Mouno destroyed 300 houses, depriving 2000 persons of their homes.

PANGUITCH STAKE CONFERENCE.

The quarterly conference of the Panguitch Stake of Zion was held at Escalante on Saturday and Sunday, May 28 and 29. Brothers Jesse W. Crosby, Jr., and David Cameron, of the Stake Presidency, took charge of the conference, and the various wards of the Stake were well represented. An excellent spirit pervaded the several meetings and all present felt that much good had been accomplished.

The brethren who participated in the Saturday session spoke almost exclusively upon the first principles of the Gospel and upon the subject of salvation—what it means and how obtained. On Saturday evening a Priesthood meeting was held and at the same hour the Woman's Relief Society held its conference.

On Sunday morning reports from the different wards were presented by the Bishops and Counselors present. Almost exclusively the various quorums and organizations of the Church were stated to be doing efficient work. President David Cameron spoke upon the importance of proper spiritual food and upon the observance of our duties and obligations. The subject of tithing was dwelt upon in a most forceful manner, and those present were encouraged to greater zeal in the work.

On Sunday afternoon the sacrament was administered by the Escalante Elders' quorum. Following this a number of the brethren testified as to their personal knowledge of the truths of the Gospel and gave most excellent instructions. President J. W. Crosby, Jr., made the closing remarks, speaking of the importance of our constantly remembering that our acts are being constantly recorded. The effect of example upon the young, especially in view of the outside influences that are beginning to pervade Zion, was dwelt upon and marked attention showed that the effect of the address was felt by all.

In the evening a conference of the Y. L. M. I. A. of the Stake was held. The attendance throughout was unusually large when the scattered condition of the settlements and the state of the growing crops are taken into consideration, and the desire was expressed that, whenever practicable, other conferences be held at this end of the Stake. ***

ESCALANTE, Utah, May 30, 1892.

Only half the number of the conscripts who were recently summoned to muster at Nerpes, Kasko, Overmark, Kristinestad and Korsenes, turned up. All the others had emigrated to America, without doubt in order to escape military service.

Mrs. Maria Anderson, of Rebbelberga, committed suicide the other day. The cause of the tragedy was a most peculiar one. One of her sons, who are all living in America, arrived home with his family in order to pay a visit to his dear mother. The old woman, however, believed that the family had come to stay for ever, and as she did not like the idea of this she committed suicide. The husband of the woman also took his own life three years ago.