

the male elk its present structure, yet it is probable that the inherited effects of use, and of the mutual action of part on part, have been equally or more important. As the horns gradually increased in weight the muscles of the neck, with the bones to which they are attached, would increase in size and strength; and these parts would react on the body and legs. Nor must we overlook the fact that certain parts of the skull and the extremities would, judging by analogy, tend from the first to vary in a correlated manner. The increased weight of the horns would also act directly on the skull, in the same manner as when one bone is removed in the leg of a dog, the other bone, which has to carry the whole weight of the body, increases in thickness. But from the fact given with respect to horned and hornless cattle, it is probable that the horns and skull would immediately act on each other through the principle of correlation. Lastly, the growth and subsequent wear and tear of the augmented muscles and bones would require an increased supply of blood, and consequently increased supply of food; and this again would require increased powers of mastication, digestion, respiration, and excretion.

*Colour as Correlated with Constitutional Peculiarities.*

It is an old belief that with man there is a connection between complexions and constitution; and I find that some of the best authorities believe in this to the present day.<sup>38</sup> Thus Dr. Beddoe by his tables shows<sup>39</sup> that a relation exists between liability to consumption and the colour of the hair, eyes, and skin. It has been affirmed<sup>40</sup> that, in the French army which invaded Russia, soldiers having a dark complexion from the southern parts of Europe, withstood the intense

“less and less capable of producing specific adaptations; and remains fully capable only of maintaining the general fitness of constitution to conditions.” This view that natural selection can do little in modifying the higher animals surprises me, seeing that man’s selection has undoubtedly effected much with

our domesticated quadrupeds and birds.

<sup>38</sup> Dr. Prosper Lucas apparently disbelieves in any such connection; ‘L’Héréd. Nat.,’ tom. ii. pp. 88-94.

<sup>39</sup> ‘British Medical Journal,’ 1862, p. 433.

<sup>40</sup> Boudin, ‘Géograph. Médicale,’ tom. i. p. 406.