

## CHAPTER II.

## THE FIRMAMENT OF THOUGHT.

## I.

FROM what has been said in the foregoing chapter, it will be clear to the reader that we shall not open our discussion by dealing with detailed facts of the inner life or by dividing the totality of the same either into faculties or into ideas. We shall follow the example set by James Ward and William James, and begin by looking at the mental life or the human mind as a whole possessing continuity and a continuous change or flow of various experiences. We may then look out for a term which designates the nature of continuity and change in our mental life.

As all discussions concerning the inner world have to be carried on in the words and language which we find current, and which we can change only to a very small extent, it is important to bear in mind that most of the words and phrases which we are forced to use are derived from things of the outer world, and used only metaphorically to describe facts and events of the inner world. Like all metaphors and analogies, the words we thus use become misleading if carried too far or understood literally.