

## CHAPTER V.

## SUBJECT AND OBJECT.

## I.

WE must now proceed to describe, as far as possible, the new conceptions or ideas which enter the mind when dominated by the contrast between subject and object. This contrast emerges as a clear conception at the moment when a certain number of vivid sensations detach themselves from the running stream of thought, or to use our other simile, when the constellations on the firmament of consciousness stand out, disappear, and return in defined order. We then become accustomed to think of these as something having independent existence, though they exist for us only as sensations among many other sensations, either with the vividness of present existence, or as the less vivid reproductions of memory. But this vividness and definiteness of an independent existence could never arise in the solitary mind of an individual. It is more than any other mental feature the result of what Ward terms "inter-subjective communication." For we learn by the very process through which external things are presented to us, that they stand in the same relation to other persons as they do to our own body. It is only through other persons that we are first made aware of