

now say, that, whatever its rectified notion of property may be, it has the original notion of an unlimited range over which itself at least may expatiate, without let or contradiction—the self-constituted proprietor of a domain, wide as its desires, and on which none may interfere against its will, without awakening in its bosom somewhat like the sense and feeling of an injurious molestation.\*

10. And it is instructive to observe the process by which this original notion of property is at length rectified into the subsequent notion which obtains in general society. For this purpose we must inquire what the circumstances are which limit and determine that sense of property, which was quite general and unrestricted before, to certain special things, of which the child learns to feel that they are peculiarly its own—and that too,

\* From what has been already said of resentment, it would appear, that the instinctive feeling of property and instinctive anger are in a state of co-relation with each other. It is by offence being rendered to the former, that the latter is called forth. Anterior to a sense of justice, our disposition is to arrogate every thing—and it is then that we are vulnerable to anger from all points of the compass. Let another meddle, to our annoyance, with any thing whatever, at this early stage, and we shall feel the very emotion of anger which, in a higher stage of moral and mental cultivation, is only called forth by his meddling with that which really and rightfully belongs to us. The sense of justice, instead of originating either the emotion of anger or a sense of property, has the effect to limit and restrain both.