

such a connexion; but the most common observers have ever felt an intuitive conviction of its existence, and have considered the brain as the instrument of thought and reason^a: the truth of which assertion is evident from various metaphorical terms expressive both of intellectual defect and of intellectual excellence.

It may be presumed that, without the aid afforded by the study of anatomy or natural history, the most cursory observer might discover that the indications of intelligence manifested by the various classes of animals generally correspond in degree with their approximation in physical structure to man; and that, if we confine our view to the four highest classes, namely fish, reptiles, birds, and quadrupeds, and consider them with reference to their respective degree of docility; fish and reptiles, which are the lowest in the scale, will readily be allowed to be inferior to birds, which are a degree higher in the scale; and these again will with equal readiness be allowed to be inferior to quadrupeds, which are the highest.

And it would be acknowledged upon a more accurate investigation, that, although there are

^a and his pure brain,
Which some suppose the soul's frail dwelling house,
Doth, by the idle comments which it makes,
Foretell the ending of mortality.

King John, Act. 5, Scene 7.