

dialogue. However, the master makes the scholar grasp a ball of ivory, to shew him that the points of the fingers are then equal! It would have been better had he closed the fingers upon the palm, and then have asked whether or not they corresponded. This difference in the length of the fingers serves a thousand purposes, adapting the hand and fingers, as in holding a rod, a switch, a sword, a hammer, a pen, or pencil, engraving tool, &c., in all which, a secure hold and freedom of motion are admirably combined. But we must defer this part of our subject until we have shewn the application of the muscles to the bones, and the appropriate structure of the ends of the fingers to feeling.

In conclusion,—what says Ray,—“ Some  
“ animals have horns, some have hoofs, some  
“ teeth, some talons, some claws, some spurs  
“ and beaks: man hath none of all these, but is  
“ weak and feeble, and sent unarmed into the  
“ world—Why, a hand, with reason to use it,  
“ supplies the use of all these.”

In taking leave of this part of our subject, let us mark the importance of these comparative views of anatomy to the science of Geology. It has been ingeniously and quaintly said that the organized remains imbedded in the rocks, are as the medals struck in commemoration of the great revolutions which the earth has under-