

must be a subject of surprise and admiration. Gravity, the running of water, the expansion and condensation of steam, the production of gases, the spring or elasticity of material, or all these combined, could not have answered the varied offices performed by this one property of life possessed by the muscles. The irritable and contractile fibre, matter which, chemically considered, does not differ from the fibrine of the blood, being endowed with this property of contraction, and adapted with "mechanical ingenuity," fulfils a thousand distinct purposes, in volition, breathing, speaking, in digestion, assimilation, circulation; and in all these it is modified to the wants and condition of every class of animals.

From what the reader already understands of the conformity which subsists among all the parts of an animal body, he will readily comprehend that there is a perfect relation between the bones and the muscles: that as the bones change, and exhibit a variety in their size, relative position, and articulations, so there is an adaptation of the muscles. Accordingly, we sometimes find the muscles separated into smaller, and sometimes consolidated into more powerful masses.

The demonstration to the anatomical student of the muscles of the human hand and arm, becomes the test of his master's perfection as a