

The exact locality of the sensorium has been eagerly sought for by physiologists in every age. It would appear, from the results of the most recent inquiries, that it certainly does not extend to the whole mass of the brain, but has its seat more especially in the lower part, or basis of that organ. It differs, however, in its locality, in different classes of animals. In man, and the mammalia which approach the nearest to him in their structure, it occupies some part of the region of the medulla oblongata, probably the spot where most of the nerves of sense are observed to terminate. In the lower animals it is not confined to this region, but extends to the upper part of the spinal marrow. As we descend to the inferior orders of the animal kingdom, we find it more and more extensively diffused over the spinal marrow; and in the Invertebrata the several ganglia appear to be endowed with this sensorial property; but, becoming less and less concentrated in single masses, the character of individuality ceases to attach to the sensorial phenomena; until, in Zoophytes, we lose all traces of ganglia and of nervous filaments, and every part appears to possess an inherent power of exciting sensation, as well as performing muscular contractions.

Beyond this point we can derive no farther aid from Anatomy, since the intellectual operations of which we are conscious bear no conceivable analogy to any of the configurations or actions of a material substance. Although the brain is constructed with evident design, and composed of a number of curiously wrought parts, we are utterly unable to penetrate the intention with which they are formed, or to perceive the slightest correspondence which their configuration can have with the functions they respectively perform. The map of regions which modern Phrenologists have traced on the surface of the head, and which they suppose to have a relation to different faculties and propensities, does not agree either with the natural divisions of the brain or with the metaphysical classification of mental phenome-