

but patronized by his sister, learned to draw with his toes. In India they are used as fingers, and are sometimes called foot-fingers. The Hindoo tailor twists his thread with them, and the cook holds his knife while he cuts fish, vegetables, &c.; the joiner, weaver, and other mechanics, all use them for a variety of purposes; and I am told by a friend, who has often been in India, that they can even pick up pins with them.

We are now arrived at man himself, who, as we see, takes his particular denomination from the hand. He is the only *Bimane*.

The physiology and anatomy of the *Human Hand*, that wonderful organ, have been explained and reasoned with great ability in a separate treatise, by the eminent comparative anatomist to whom that subject was assigned; I shall not, therefore, here say any thing on its structure and its uses: but as it has not been treated of as a *moral* organ; as being in intimate connection with the heart and affections; as their principal index and premonstrator; and as the mighty instrument by which a great part of the physical good and evil which befall our race is wrought, I may be permitted to make a few observations upon it as far as these are concerned.

God made the body in general a fit machine, not only to execute the purposes of its immaterial inhabitant, the soul; but, in some sort, he made it a mirror to reflect all its bearings and character; to indicate every motion of the fluctuating sea within, whether its surges lift themselves on high elevated by the gusts of passion; or all is calm, and tranquil, and subdued. None of the bodily organs, by its structure and station in the body, is so evidently formed, in all respects, for these functions as the HAND. The eye indeed is, perhaps the most faithful mirror of the soul's emotion; yet, though it may best portray and render visible the internal feeling,