

larger and more powerful than he is ; while few of his size, are naturally so incapable of self-defence ; or during so long a period suffer from the dependent helplessness of infancy, and of old age. Neither is his frame superior in external adaptation to climate : for while nature has furnished other animals with clothing appropriate to the temperature in which they live, man has been brought into being absolutely naked ; and moreover remains so, in every climate he inhabits, from the Equator to the Poles. Lastly, the pre-eminence of man has not been owing to his more extensive range of diet ; or to his greater ability for assimilation : for though man be omnivorous in one sense of the term, he is not omnivorous according to the application of the term to other animals ; that is to say, man does not eat indiscriminately of every kind of aliment, in the state in which it is afforded by nature ; for even in his rudest condition, he adopts some process of cookery. How then has man gained the high station which he occupies ? The answer is simply—by his *Reason*. Man has been created a reasonable being ; and this endowment amply compensates to him for the want of the animal requisites of strength—for deficiency of natural covering—and for his restricted ability in assimilating his food. By his reason, he is enabled to command the strength of the elephant ; to choose from