

tion. Memory does not produce its effect by creating before the eyes a visible picture of the object remembered. When Hamlet says, "Methinks I see my father," we all know that the expression is a purely figurative one, and have no need to be told, as in his reply to Horatio's "Where? my lord," (a question perfectly natural to one who had just seen his ghost and knew not but that it might still be present), that it is to the "mind's eye," a merely figurative and metaphorical eye, and not to that of the body, that the expression applies. The act of *reminiscence* is a *conscious* and a mental act, and if, under the influence of powerful excitement and strong associations it ever results in the production of a visible picture by the sort of reflex action I have described, it must precede such formation—or any how not be itself called up by the picture of its own creation. Of such cases whenever they occur (and I have related what may be considered a case in point) the same account is to be given as in that of certain eminent painters, who are said to have declared that they *see* upon the paper or the canvas the forms they are about to delineate—a quasi-image being formed on the retina by the sympathy of the nerve with the brain, and its impression delivered back to the sensorium as that of a reality.

(17.) I ought perhaps to apologize for saying so much about myself and my personal experiences in this line, but the nature of the subject is such as to render this inevitable; and it is one which can only be elucidated by the individual putting on record his own personal contribution to the stock of facts accumulating. And