

Hume had previously shown that there is no other visible connection between cause and effect than that of invariable contiguity. Cause and effect were Siamese twins persistently seen together, but with the connecting ligament, if any such really existed, invariably concealed. And Brown, following close in the wake of the elder dialectician, deliberately erased the very words from his metaphysic vocabulary, and substituted *antecedent* and *consequent* instead. The very terms *cause* and *effect* vanished from his speculations, and with the terms the doctrine they involved; and he taught, instead, that power is nothing more than the relation of one object or event as antecedent to another object or event, its immediate and invariable consequent. Hume, whose vigorous common sense was ever raising protests against his ingenuities, and in whose ever-recurring *asides*, if we may so speak, the germ of the Scotch philosophy may be found, had stopped short when he showed that no known argument existed by which it could be proven that effects were the *necessary* results of causes, and that it could only be shown instead, and thus simply as a matter of experience, not reason, that they were always associated with causes,—always tagged to them in the exhibiting areas of space and time, as the cart is tagged to the horse, or as a train of railway carriages is tagged to the engine. And in summing up these links of the associative faculty, which keeps up the ever-moving train of thinking in the human mind, and constitutes one thought master of the ceremonies in introducing another, he enumerated, as distinct and separate, first, the link of contiguity in time and place; and, second, the link of cause and effect. And well he might. Let a misemployed ingenuity compound them as they may, they are wide as the poles asunder. They are separated by the entire breadth of the human intellect; nay, by the entire breadth of the brute and human intellect united. The prevailing link of association in the mind of the highest