

only been fixed after long-continued observation and calculation.

In a similar manner the person or persons who surround the infant mind must early appear as differing from other external, though equally vivid and definite, clusters of sensations. Their proper movement distinguishes them from the stationary or more regular moving background and environment of lifeless things. The latter can, however, enter into this proper movement if connected with the movements of persons.

The mind of the child will, next to this, observe a similar independence or freedom of motion attached to one special cluster of external sensations which it learns to regard as its own body, and it soon finds out that many of its own movements are accompanied by feelings pleasant or unpleasant, giving rise to desires or aversions, to likes or dislikes, to joy or pain. It is thus introduced into the world of action.

At this stage of mental development a remarkable property of infant life becomes manifest, at first unconsciously and then consciously to the infant itself. This is the property of imitation.

#### IV.

Imitation constitutes such an important factor both in the life of the infant and of the adult, that it has rightly been considered to be one of the principal vehicles of mental growth and development. For our purpose it is important to point out how different the