

which is its most characteristic feature, but which is entirely absent in the sphere of mental energy.

It has been pointed out by Lotze and emphasised forcibly by Wundt that the characteristic of mental energy is its continued increase. This principle of the continual growth of mental energy does not seem to have been sufficiently noted by philosophers. The reason of this may be that there is no generally accepted method of measuring mental energy. It suffices, however, to take a broad view of the mental or inner life of man and mankind to recognise that its growth and development is truly the only thing in the world in which we are interested, and which distinguishes the life of the human species from that of all other things, be they inanimate or animated. The outward signs of this increase are everywhere where civilised society exists. The great architectural structures to be found in ancient and modern countries, the collections of books, the galleries of painting and sculpture, the academies of learning, the houses of worship, the songs of the people, and the sublime creations of musical composers, testify to the existence of a world which is quite distinct from the actual amount of material or physical energy which has been used and expended in its creation.

How infinitely small is the amount of marble contained in a Venus of Milo compared with the value we attach to this work of art: how small also the physical labours of the artist compared with the sublime intuition which guided his hand! how negligible the amount of pigment and canvas and of the labour bestowed on both if we compare it with the world of