

“ heat, or winter’s cold ; with this he forms the  
“ various furniture of nets and snares, which give  
“ him dominion over the inhabitants as well of  
“ the water as of the air and earth ; with his  
“ hand he constructs the lyre and lute, and the  
“ numerous instruments employed in the several  
“ arts of life ; with the hand he erects altars and  
“ shrines to the immortal gods ; and, lastly, by  
“ means of the same instrument he bequeaths to  
“ posterity, in writing, the intellectual treasures  
“ of his own divine imagination : and hence we,  
“ who are living at this day, are enabled to hold  
“ converse with Plato and Aristotle, and all the  
“ venerable sages of antiquity.”

In reasoning on the utility of the hand, as characteristic of the human species, Galen thus expresses himself<sup>e</sup> : “ Man being naturally de-  
“ stitute of corporeal weapons, as also of any  
“ instinctive art, has received a compensation,  
“ first in the gift of that peculiar instrument the  
“ hand, secondly in the gift of reason ; by the  
“ employment of which two gifts he arms and  
“ protects his body in every mode, and adorns  
“ his mind with the knowledge of every art.  
“ For since, had he been furnished with any  
“ natural weapon, he would have possessed the  
“ use of this alone on all occasions ; or had he  
“ been gifted with any instinctive art, he would  
“ never have attained to the exercise of other

<sup>e</sup> Lib. I. cap. 4.