

“ In the first place, it possesses in an eminent  
“ degree a leading quality of an organ of grasp ;  
“ since it readily applies itself to, and securely  
“ holds, bodies of every form and size that are  
“ capable of being moved by human strength.  
“ Nor need we inquire whether it be better for  
“ this purpose that it should be divided into  
“ several parts ; or, that it should be altogether  
“ undivided : for is it not apparent without fur-  
“ ther reasoning, that had it been undivided, it  
“ could have grasped only just such a portion  
“ of every object presented to it, as was equal  
“ to itself ; but that, being divided into many  
“ parts, it can both easily grasp bodies much  
“ larger than itself ; and can accurately search  
“ out, and lay hold of, the smallest particles of  
“ matter. For to the former it is capable of  
“ generally applying itself so, as to encompass  
“ them by the separation of the fingers ; while  
“ in laying hold of very minute objects, the en-  
“ tire hand is not employed, but only the tips  
“ of two of the fingers : because from the grasp  
“ of the whole hand minute objects would easily  
“ escape.

“ Thus then the hand is framed in the man-  
“ ner most convenient for laying a firm hold on  
“ objects both greater and less than itself. And  
“ in order to enable it to apply itself to objects  
“ of various shapes, it is evidently most conve-  
“ nient that it should be divided into many