

Whilst his methods are exact and definite, his aim is, nevertheless, wide and comprehensive; for not only is the animal creation studied as a valuable field for enlarged psycho-physical research, but also the psychology of infancy and of human societies (ethnical psychology) are drawn into the circle of a scientific psychology. At the same time his exposition is directed towards the totality¹ of the phenomena of life and mind, it being his ultimate object to arrive at some appropriate conception of the whole of human existence. In this respect his scientific labours form a counterpart to those of naturalists like Humboldt and Darwin, who did so much to direct the attention of natural science to the whole of nature, her history and economy. It seems to me that Prof. Wundt has similarly introduced into the psycho-physical study of nature the prominent consideration of the mental side of life in its totality, starting, as Darwin and Humboldt did, from a large accumulation of detailed observations.

This regard for the whole problem distinguishes Wundt's writings from those of other eminent psycho-physicists, such as Helmholtz, who deals brilliantly and exhaustively with certain special problems, or Fechner, who relegated the discussion of the fundamental questions to a series of half-poetical treatises, which are full of suggestion rather than close scientific reasoning. But

¹ 'Physiologische Psychologie' (4te Aufl., vol. i. p. 2): "Our science has accordingly the task, first, to investigate those vital phenomena which, lying in the middle between outer and inner experience, require the simultaneous application of both methods of observation, outer and inner; and secondly, to throw light from the points thus gained on the

totality of the phenomena of life, and, if possible, to gain in this way a comprehensive conception of human existence." See also his essay "Philosophie und Wissenschaft" in a volume of 'Essays' (Leipzig, 1885), p. 1; also 'Die Aufgaben der experimentellen Psychologie,' *ibid.*, p. 127, &c.