

**A short explanation of the craniological system of Drs. Gall and Spurzheim
/ by a Member of the College of Surgeons.**

Contributors

Member of the College of Surgeons.

Gall, F. J. 1758-1828.

Spurzheim, Johann Gaspard, 1776-1832.

Royal College of Surgeons of England

Publication/Creation

London : Jaques and Wright, 1821.

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/ym8nqh8s>

Provider

Royal College of Surgeons

License and attribution

This material has been provided by This material has been provided by The Royal College of Surgeons of England. The original may be consulted at The Royal College of Surgeons of England. where the originals may be consulted. This work has been identified as being free of known restrictions under copyright law, including all related and neighbouring rights and is being made available under the Creative Commons, Public Domain Mark.

You can copy, modify, distribute and perform the work, even for commercial purposes, without asking permission.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

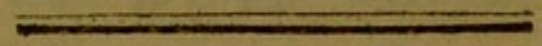
2

12

A
SHORT EXPLANATION
OF THE
CRANIOLOGICAL SYSTEM
OF
DRS. GALL AND SPURZHEIM.



BY A MEMBER OF THE COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.



LONDON:
PRINTED BY JAQUES AND WRIGHT, CROSS STREET, NEWINGTON.

1821,

A

SHORT EXPLANATION

OF THE

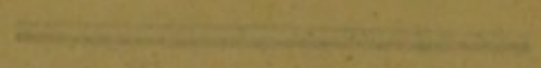
GRAPHOLOGICAL SYSTEM

OF

THE GALL AND SPURCHIN



BY A MEMBER OF THE COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.



LONDON,

PRINTED BY GALT AND SONS, 10, OLD STREET, NEWINGTON.

1821.

PREFACE.

THE curiosity excited by the doctrines of Gall and Spurzheim has now become so general, that there are few persons in the least tinctured with the "*Literarum Sacra Fames*" who do not feel solicitous to know something of their system. But the works of these men, like all other philosophical and metaphysical productions, are either too expensive for the student; or too voluminous, and enveloped in too much technical phraseology for the unprofessional man of business, to render them generally studied; hence this science has not hitherto become so universally known as it otherwise would have been. In order to obviate these difficulties, and facilitate the acquisition of this amusing and highly useful branch of physiology, a number of casts, properly delineated, according to the system of these scientific physiognomists and marked in the order in which they are described in their work, are now offered to the public accompanied with these few explanatory pages.

Introductory Remarks.

THAT the faculties of animals, or those instinctive aptitudes and inclinations by which each species is directed to adopt one definite, specific, yet untutored mode of action, depend upon an innate principle, is a fact too obvious to require any formal illustration. Is it not evident that the faculties by which the spider makes its web, the bee its cell, the beaver its hut, are inherent in the nature of these animals? Remove the young of any of them immediately after birth, and we find that when arrived at a proper age, and when uncontrolled by superior interference, they adopt the same mode of life as that particular species to which they belong. And that these instinctive principles depend upon organization is equally evident from the circumstance that if one species or even a variety of a species differ from another in their peculiar habitudes, there is a corresponding difference in the developement of their exterior form. The rat which inhabits the conduits and cellars has a different organization from that which dwells in a more elevated situation.

This same axiom is applicable to man, his faculties are likewise innate; children sometimes shew particular dispositions and inclinations before they have received any kind of instruction. Almost every great man shews in infancy the character of future greatness.

Pascal at the age of twelve published his system of Conic Sections. Voltaire made verses when only seven years of age, and at a much earlier period, that great colossus of literature, Johnson, developed the embryo of his mighty mind. Such early manifestations of intellect no doubt depend upon innate principles, and with equal certainty do these principles depend upon, or are the result of a particular organization. Examine the heads of individuals who have distinguished themselves in the pursuit of any particular science, and they will be found to exhibit the same external configuration: hence upon this unerring principle is this system founded.

A

SHORT EXPLANATION,

&c.



Of the different Organs of the Brain.

I.

Organ of *Amativeness*, or Physical Love.—This organ is situated in the posterior and inferior part of the skull.* Those persons in whom this passion predominates, are remarkable for a more than usual prominence or developement in the posterior part of the neck. The attention of Dr. Gall was first directed to this organ by remarking such a prominence in an individual to whom he was called in a professional capacity, and in whom he knew this passion was very strong.

II.

Organ of *Philoprogenitiveness*, or Love of Progeny.—This organ is likewise situated in the posterior part of the skull, immediately above

* It ought to be observed here that the external form or developement of the skull depends upon the internal developement or form of the brain, and that it is the brain which gives form to the skull, and not the skull to the brain

the organ of amateness, and is observed to be more prominent in females than in males. Those animals in whom this propensity predominates are remarkable for a strong developement of this organ. Dr. Spurzheim remarks, that out of twenty-nine women, who were infanticides and examined by him, twenty-five had this organ peculiarly small.

III.

Organ of *Inhabitiveness*.—This term implies a propensity to assume elevated stations. Dr. Gall observed in animals which have a great propensity to elevated situations, as in the chamois and wild goat, a protuberance which he identifies with the organ that in mankind produces pride and haughtiness; the difference in the organization of those animals of the same species which inhabit elevated regions, is evident from that of those which live in lower situations.

IV.

Organ of *Adhesiveness*.—This term implies friendship, or the attachment of one person to another; it is difficult to point out the exact seat of this organ in the human species, for, as Cowper says, "Man is no friend to man." Dr. Gall seldom speaks of it; he examined the head of a woman at Vienna, who was known as a model of friendship; she suffered different

changes of fortune, but was always attached to her former friends. In her he found the organ situated upward and outward, and remarkably prominent.

V.

Organ of *Combateness*.—Dr. Gall having called together boys from the street, made them fight each other. Some of them liked it much, but others, on the contrary, were peaceable and timid: in the former, that part of the head which corresponds to this organ was prominent; in the latter, flat and depressed. This may likewise be considered the organ of courage or self-defence, as it was found remarkably prominent in brave and valiant officers, as well as in quarrelsome students, duellists and boxers.

VI.

Organ of *Destructiveness*, or a propensity to Destroy.—A difference in the skulls of carnivorous and herbivorous animals gave the first idea of the existence of this organ. In man this propensity presents different degrees of activity; some persons feel a pleasure in tormenting animals, and in seeing them killed; some choose their profession according to this propensity, if very energetic. A journeyman apothecary at Vienna felt so great a desire to kill, that he became an executioner. Murderers have this organ strongly developed.

VII.

Organ of *Constructiveness*, or propensity to build.—Gall observed, that those who had a particular disposition to mechanical arts, presented a face of somewhat parallel form; that is, a face as large at the temples as at the cheeks; consequently, that a greater disposition to mechanical arts is indicated by a developement of the brain at the temples: he found this sign in great mechanics, architects, sculptors and designers. This faculty is essential not only to mechanical professions, but to all those that require construction, as the arts of drawing, engraving, writing, carving and sculpture, or every business where constructiveness is required. Too large a developement of this organ might produce too great a desire to build, or an abuse; a man, for instance, might ruin his family by building, or employ this faculty for coining false money.

VIII.

Organ of *Covetiveness*, or a propensity to covet.—Certain persons have a particular desire to steal or rob. It is known that Victor Amadeus I., King of Sardinia took every where objects of little importance. Lavater speaks of a physician, who never left his patient's room without pocketing something, as keys, scissors,

knives, spoons, &c. &c. Dr. Spurzheim mentions the peculiar prominence of this organ in an intimate friend of his, remarkable for his avarice.

IX.

Organ of *Secretiveness*, or propensity to conceal.—Gall ascribes to this organ the gift of cunning, prudence, the *savoir faire*, the capacity of finding means necessary to succeed, hypocrisy, lies, intrigue, dissimulation, duplicity, falshood, &c. This organ is situated in the side of the head, above that of destructiveness. Dr. Gall first observed it in a person who had many debts, but who had the address to conceal his situation, so that the creditors could have no knowledge of each other.

X.

Organ of *Self-love*.—Gall first observed this organ in a beggar, in the upper and posterior part of the head; the beggar accused his pride as the cause of his mendicity, having considered himself too important to acquire any business. This faculty gives us a high opinion of our own person; the want of it disposes to humility. Proud persons and animals, as the Turkey-cock, peacock, horse, &c. have this organ singularly well developed.

XL

Organ of *Approbation*.—Persons who are

fond of being caressed, honoured and applauded, in short, who are ambitious, have the upper posterior and lateral part of the head much developed, this faculty is more active in women than in men, it induces persons to be attentive to the opinion which others have of them.

XII.

Organ of *Cautiousness*—Two persons at Vienna were known to be remarkable for their extreme irresolution. One day, in a public place, Dr. Gall stood behind them, and observed their heads extremely prominent on the upper posterior part of both sides of the head. The heads of circumspect persons, and of those who want this faculty are very different. This faculty, when too active, produces uncertainty, irresolution, anxiety, fear, melancholy, hypochondriasis ; it predisposes to suicide.

XIII.

Organ of *Benevolence*.—A family at Vienna often praised the goodness of one of their servants : this family several times told Dr. Gall that he ought to mould this servant's head in plaster ; he did so, and actually observed a considerable protuberance on the superior middle part of his forehead ; this faculty produces in man goodness of heart, kindness, peacefulness, mildness, complaisance, hospitality, liberality,

compassion, cordiality, in one word, Christian Charity.

XIV.

Organ of *Veneration*.—Dr. Gall on examining the actions of men, visited churches, in order to see the configuration of the heads of those who excel in devotion; he first observed that the heads of those who prayed with the greatest fervour were bald or very much elevated. The pictures of the saints shewed the very configuration of those men whom Gall first observed: the head of Christ is represented as being remarkably elevated at the part where this organ is situated.

XV.

Organ of *Hope and Faith*.—This organ seems to be situated on the side of that of veneration: persons endowed with it to a high degree are very credulous.

XVI.

Organ of *Ideality*.—Dr. Gall calls this the organ of poetry. It is certain that the heads of all great poets are enlarged above the temple in an arched direction. Dr. Spurzheim prefers the name of ideality, and observes, that if the part of the head above this organ and a little backward from it be very much developed the persons are disposed to have visions, to see

ghosts, demons, phantoms, and believe in astrology, magic and sorcery.

XVII.

Organ of *Righteousness*.—Dr. Spurzheim thinks that there is a particular sentiment of just and unjust, right and wrong ; and that a particular organ of righteousness must be admitted. No animal has this faculty : its activity is very different in man, some individuals are almost destitute of it, others possess it in a high degree.

XVIII.

Organ of *Determinateness*.—Dr. Gall remarked persons of a firm and constant character have the top of the head much developed. Lavater had distinguished the same configuration in persons of an immoveable character. It gives constancy and perseverance ; its absence renders men unsure, inconstant, and unstable.

XIX.

Organ of *Individuality*.—Dr. Gall having remarked that the foreheads of tame animals are more developed than wild ones, and that they are more or less tameable in proportion to that developement, gave this organ the name of educability. Dr. Spurzheim calls it individuality because, by it, we not only acquire a knowledge of the external world in general, but also each object in its individual capacity. This or-

gan is early developed in children, because they are obliged to acquire a knowledge of the external world.

XX.

Organ of *Form*.—Dr. Gall was desired to examine the head of a young girl who had an extreme facility in distinguishing and recollecting persons: he found in her the eyes pushed laterally outward, and a squinting look in consequence of a strong developement of this organ. Persons endowed with it in a high degree are fond of seeing pictures, particularly portraits. This organ is the faculty by which we readily recognize and recollect persons. Elephants and dogs afford striking examples of it.

XXI. & XXII.

Organs of *Size and Weight*.—A strong developement of these organs constitutes a facility by which we judge of the magnitude and gravity of bodies.

XXIII.

Organ of *Colour*.—Certain persons are almost destitute of the power of perceiving different colours. This faculty is necessary to painters, dyers, enamellers, and to all who are occupied with colours and their shades.

XXIV.

Organ of *Space*.—This organ is strongly deve-

veloped in those who are fond of travelling. In Capt. Cook it is said to have been very prominent. It is the faculty which enables us readily to remember and refer to parts which we have previously traversed. It likewise enables us to judge of symmetry, and measure, space and distance: it imparts notions of perspective.

XXV. & XXVI.

Organs of *Order and Time*. These two are distinct faculties. The former imparts to us the idea of arrangement and regularity: the latter supposes succession of phenomena, or the space of time required in performing any undertaking.

XXVII.

Organ of *Number*.—Some individuals remarkable for the great talent of calculation, excited the attention of Dr. Gall. In them he found a greater developement of the part of the brain situated behind the eyebrows at the external angle. In Newton, Euler, Jedidiah Buxton, Pitt, &c. this organ is well marked.

XXVIII.

Organ of *Tune*.—A strong developement of this organ is observable in those who excel in music, as in Hadyn, Mozart, Madame Catalani, &c. Birds which sing are distinguished from those which do not sing by a stronger developement of this organ.

XXIX.

Organ of *Language*.—This organ is indicated by an increase of size and prominency in the eyes, and implies a facility in the acquisition of language, and a love of philology or desire to study the spirit of languages; it seems likewise to imply a facility in speaking, and a happy mode of expressing our ideas.

XXX.

Organ of *Comparison*. This organ appears to imply a readiness in having recourse to figurative language: hence those who possess it in a high degree are fond of the use of similitudes, analogies and examples, with a view of giving perspicuity and energy to their discourse. Popular preachers have this organ in an eminent degree.

XXXI.

Organ of *Casuality*.—Dr. Gall observed that persons fond of metaphysical studies have the superior part of the forehead very prominent, as Locke, Bacon, Kant, &c. It seems, therefore, that this developement of the forehead has a relation to great understanding. By the influence of this faculty we are induced to pry into causes, and consider the relation between cause and effect, and in conjunction with the faculties of

individuality and comparison, we form comparisons and draw our inductions.

XXXII.

Organ of *Wit*.—Persons who are called witty, who write like Sterne, Voltaire, Smollett, Rochester, &c., have the superior external part of the forehead elevated: jest, raillery, mockery, ridicule, irony, &c. belong to this faculty.

XXXIII.

Organ of *Imitation*.—One of Gall's acquaintance possessed this faculty in a surprising degree, and was a perfect actor: he requested Gall to examine his head, because he had a transverse furrow in the middle of it; before this furrow he observed at the superior part of the forehead a considerable elevation of a semi-globular form. Gall afterwards observed this conformation in the heads of others who excelled in the power of mimicry.

We have thus in as succinct and concise a manner as the subject would admit of, laid before our readers a description of the physiognomical system of the two eminent German physiologists, Gall and Spurzheim; every special faculty has been faithfully and accurately detailed and we trust some degree of amusement and instruction will be afforded to those who may be induced to cultivate this interesting branch of study.