

but simply to remind you that the brain is a mass of cells and nerve filaments in a homogeneous structure. It has been computed, so says Gowers, that there are upwards of 800,000,000 of these cells in the cortex of the brain alone; that these cells are all intimately connected by nerve filaments, if not directly, at least by media, and none are isolated; that these are again grouped into areas, these areas being directly connected and bearing influence the one upon the other, yet each, in that anatomical connection, meeting a corresponding functional association. That there is a material difference in function, and particularly in susceptibility, and possibly in elements within these areas, I think is evidenced by the action of drugs, certain drugs selecting certain portions of nerve-tissue and bearing influence on certain functions.

But what of the cell itself, protoplasmic, *possibly* automatic(?), irritable, susceptible, and responding to many influences. How does this compare with the amœba (which we may observe during life activity, for we cannot observe the brain cell thus). Protoplasmic, automatic, irritable, appreciative of surroundings, seeking and assimilating food, secretory, metabolic, respiratory and reproductive. The blood, it must be noticed, performs many of these functions for the brain cell, even as the mother for the foetus. But what is there that we observe in this protoplasm? Surely the shades of preception and comprehension, scarcely the intelligence we conceive of in the concrete, yet possibly in the abstract; the accumulated intelligences of millions of such acting harmoniously together might account for the concentrated power of intelligence in man. The single cell of the battery is scarcely appreciable; the combined action of thousands burns to a crisp in the augmentation of its power. Facts go to prove this. The more brain surface, the more cells; the more cells, the more intelligence follows.

Further, I would like to point out that disturbance of function or organic state of one cell produces disturbance in possibly many others, until its wave or thrill is lost or repelled by others acting rationally. This, no doubt, is the theory of *inhibition*. Combined action of many cells may overcome the rational state