

"And what are the signs, when a person is susceptible of the influence?" asked Edmund.

"These are not yet known—I tell you the thing is in its infancy; women, however, are more easily brought under the influence than males."

"Ha!" said Edmund, "that accounts for your success. Well, what are we to do?"

"Sit down, side by side," answered William, "and allow your mind to subside into a perfect state of repose. Banish thought as much as possible."

"But the more a person endeavors to banish thought," observed St. George, "the faster thoughts rush upon the mind."

"Well, banish all violent emotion—fear, expectation, &c.,—be as tranquil as you can."

"Are the effects injurious?"—"Not at all."

"As for me," said Edmund, "I am a sceptic—if I believed that you could obtain any undue influence over me, I would not sit here. Why you might set me to sleep for a month, or make me sign my name to any thing. Will it render it hard for you to operate on me, owing to my unbelief?"

"By no means. Close your eyes, compose your mind, and do not speak till I command you?"