

controls the physical functions; hence it is through this that the circulation becomes permanently disturbed, and digestion and nutrition disordered.

Neuralgic pains, and very often rheumatic pains, hypersensitiveness of many parts of the system, sensitiveness of the dentine, in most cases depend upon a disordered condition of this subliminal layer of the mind.

The subconsciousness is peculiarly susceptible to suggestion. A very slight suggestion will cause blushing, a little stronger suggestion will produce embarrassment; also fear, joy, sorrow, and all these emotions are experienced without any circumstance connected with the person to cause them, except the bare suggestion of the idea to the imagination.

Expectant attention has long been recognized as one of the most powerful synergists to the actions of medicines. The patient's knowledge of what the medicine is expected to do, very often decides what the action shall be. This is simply the power of suggestion. It was this power that led a good professor of medicine, who practised in New Hampshire a half century ago, to think that the compound tincture of gum guaiac. was all the medicine needed in any physician's practice; for it was all that he needed. The oft-repeated story of the curative action of brown bread pills, is explained in the same way.

Suggestion is the principal and almost whole power of naboli, and the multitude of more recently manufactured dental obtundents. Unless anæsthesia of the dentine is suggested, very little, or more likely, no effect is produced.

Now, as a matter of fact, suggestion is ordinarily just as effective in inducing anæsthesia of the dentine, without any pretence of using any medicinal agency.

More than two years ago, Dr. Fillebrown demonstrated that, in the hypnotic state, suggestion was sufficient to anæsthetize the dentine of the most sensitive teeth. He has lately found that suggestion, in the ordinary wakeful state, is quite equal to the necessities of most cases, and now seldom induces hypnosis to increase suggestibility.

He never urges suggestion upon patients. It is to only a portion that he applied it; many do not need it, others do not desire it, some object to it. In the last four weeks he had used suggestion for fifteen patients, and, as many of these had several sittings each, it made almost daily use of it. Thirteen cases were successful. Two patients failed to respond at all.

Males he found quite as susceptible as females. The suggestion will, in every case, quiet the nervous system, and prevent or remove the tired feeling which is so often produced by the operation.

The method of inducing susceptibility to suggestion is very