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A recent writer on the diseases of the nervous system has remarked that "the practice of medicine is not only one of physic but of psychology, and that the effect of drugs depends as much on the constitution of the patient's mind as on that of his body." This puts the matter in a stronger form than I should be inclined to express myself; but it indicates the opinion of an eminent authority, that there is a very real relation between the mind and the body, and that that relation is one which it is important for the medical practitioner to keep in view. It is quite true that this relation is one which it is extremely difficult, if not impossible, to explain; indeed, the relation of mind and body has been from of old regarded as among the incomprehensible facts of the universe. Consequently, we find numerous theories on the subject, running all the way between the most opposite extremes both in speculation and in practice. For at one extreme of speculation we come upon the theory of materialism, which endeavours to explain mind as a function of matter; while the opposite extreme is represented by an idealism which maintains that matter has no meaning except as an exponent of mind. In like manner the practical conduct of men shows, at one extreme, a sensuality which makes all the energies of mind subservient to the pleasures of the body; while the