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Grant: Electrolysis and Nervous System.

umbilicus may be considered *the storm centre*, as far as collateral influence on the sympathetic system is concerned, as here the solar plexus approaches nearest the surface through its many filaments, which in turn accompany all the branches given off by the abdominal aorta. It also interlaces with the nerve fibres of the phrenic plexuses; gastric, hepatic, and splenic plexuses; suprarenal and renal plexuses; superior mesenteric plexus; spermatic plexuses; and inferior mesenteric plexuses. Although according to Bastion a wide basis of positive knowledge does not exist, it is accepted that the sympathetic system of nerves, with its double ganglionated cord and great ganglionic plexuses, is, to a certain extent, an independent nervous system, penetrating deeply by its roots into the cerebrospinal axis. Its fibres are conducted to and from the viscera along the course of the bloodvessels. The peripheral ganglia are dominated by a still higher regulating centre, situated in the medulla oblongata, in relation with all the vasomotor nerves throughout the system. Although the nature of its relations with the medullary centre is still uncertain, the fact that the fibres of the sympathetic are mixed up on the vessels with those having a vasomotor function and have to do with the calibre of the bloodvessels generally, take part in the activity of all the glandular organs, in the movements of all the hollow viscera, and in the nutrition of the tissues generally, places the sympathetic system in the front as a central motive power. These are the circumstances which count in the operations of the system. When the tear and wear can be so changed by electrolytic action as to afford the freer transmission of normal nerve force, the constitutional changes for the better become most marked.

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