

In our last lecture we treated of the important subject of the sympathy or the concert of one part, or one function of the body with another.

Without some knowledge of this concert of parts you will be grievously puzzled to account for many appearances & symptoms in nervous, & hysterical cases, and in the Ds. of young children, where more judgment is required than in patients who are old enough to tell their own complaints. There is a conspiracy or concert of parts w^c Anatomists, or disectors can never detect. It was learnt only by observation.

The sagacious sydenham has justly observed that the shapes of Proteus, or the colors of the Lexal Chameleon are not more numerous & in constant yr. those Ds called nervous; their symptoms are so many, so various & so irregular that it would be extremely hard either rightly to define, or fully enumerate them.

We gave you a train of instances of sympathy of parts in our last Lecture: We told you of the frightfull symptoms w^c followed a blow on the head - and that followed the puncture to tendons: - of symptoms w^c followed the irritation of worms in the first pages - of symptoms from

the presence of opium in the stomach; of the smell of cheese causing the nose to bleed; - of the harsh noise of a file causing a bleeding of the gums, and the smell of some cathartics producing a purging; but none is more curious, or more common than the dilation of the pupil of the eye from an irritation of the stomach or bowels -

We gave our reasons why we thought that this sympathetic affection of diff^t. parts of the body, to a sameness of structure in the parts, nor to the visible connection of some of the larger nerves, nor to the intimate connection w^t the cell^s membrane had with every repel, move & fibre of the whole body, nor even to vibration of the nerves, altho' each or every one of these had been advocated by different writers.

What ever the cause^y be, we are sure of the effects and of their great importance in practice. We know that a solution of Iodine in water will not affect the delicate organ of sight, but will through the stomach into violent convulsions. Why is it that mercury affects the glands of the throat & mouth rather than other glands? Why should cantharides affect the bladder rather than the stomach? and still farther why should the internal up^d head affect the wrists rather than the shoulders, or the ankles & knees? - And why should a puncture or laceration of a tendon convulse the throat & jaws before any other part? -

Whether we can account for these things or not, we know them to be facts, and very important ones in practice. This induced us to say that Sympathy was a principle in the human body so connected with every action while in health, but more apparently so in disease that those actions cannot be well understood, nor those diseases rightly explained without some notion of this wonderfull concert w^c one part of the body has with a distant one.

But there is no part of the human system w^c sympathies with each & every part like the stomach. In that it is the centre, or fountain of sympathy w^c we shall aim to illustrate in this lecture

Hippocrates says

