

or picture should start a new search for names. He spends his days in writing down words as an aid to his memory, or in reading pages of the dictionary in the attempt to find some name or other. His sleep is interfered with by his obsessions, which continue even at night. He quite recognises the absurdity of his search for words; they are of no use to him, and are often of the most bizarre nature. When the missing word is found his relief is only temporary, as a fresh search starts almost at once. There has been no improvement in his condition since admission to the asylum, and the general opinion as to prognosis is unfavourable. In some cases the distress associated with the obsession lessens in time, and some recoveries are recorded.

W. STARKEY.

*Two Cases of Squamous Epithelioma in General Paralytics* [*Deux cas d'épithéliomas pavimenteux chez des paralytiques généraux*]. (*Bull. Soc. Clin. Méd. Ment.*, Feb., 1910.) Vigouroux, M. A.

Dr. Vigouroux reports two cases of epithelioma occurring in general paralytics, æt. 41 and 35 respectively. In the former, the glans penis was the site of the cancer, which developed a month before death; in the latter the lower lip was affected, and the epithelioma existed some months prior to the onset of the mental trouble. The association of epithelioma with general paralysis is extremely rare, possibly due in part to the fact that general paralysis usually ends fatally before the age of incidence of cancer. It is also interesting in view of the fact that some writers (notably Fournier) regard these epitheliomata as of parasymphilitic origin.

W. STARKEY.

*A Clinical and Anatomical Examination of the Nervous System in Thrombosis of the Abdominal Aorta in Man* [*Indagine anatomoclinica sul sistema nervoso, nell'uomo colpito da trombosi dell'aorta addominale*]. (*Ann. del Manicomio*, 1909.) Rebizzi, R.

The author gives a detailed and precise account of the symptomatology of a case of thrombosis of the aorta leading to complete obliteration of the vessel below the origin of the renal arteries. The initiation was sudden and characterised by complete paralysis of the lower limbs, accompanied by irregular and extensive areas of cyanosis, in which gangrenous changes rapidly supervened. The patient died twelve days after the first symptoms appeared, and was the subject of a full pathological examination. Particular interest was attached to the histological changes in the spinal cord—mainly chromatolysis in its various degrees—and the discussion of their relation to the peripheral lesion. From the facts of his own case, and the published accounts of some thirty others, the author shows that there is no evidence to support the notion that the peripheral condition depends upon lesion of the spinal column. The paralysis and gangrene of the lower limbs are due entirely to their condition of absolute anæmia resulting from the closing of the aorta. The lesions in the spinal cord are, in the main, secondary to the necrosis of the nerves in the lower limbs. Changes of a primary nature, when they occur, are less intense, and confined to that region of the cord directly dependent for its blood supply on the abdominal aorta.

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