

condition of the patient, we may observe degrees in hypochondriacal ideas; hypochondriacal preoccupations are found in comparatively sane people; hypochondriacal delusions, on the other hand, are the result of an erroneous intellectual interpretation, and illogical, and in hypochondriacal insanity we have multiple hypochondriacal ideas and delusions which have become systematised. Hypochondriacal ideas are of importance in the general diagnosis of various mental diseases, and are frequently found. Out of 695 cases, Marchand observed them in 52 cases (7.4 per cent.). They seem to be more common in men.

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*Trophic Ulcerations in Two Cases of Katatonic Dementia [Ulcerations Trophiques chez deux Déments Catatoniques]. (Nouv. Icono. de la Salpêtr., 1904, No. 6.) Trepsat, L.*

In both these cases, after the existence for some time of pseudo-œdema, with marked swelling at the base of the big toes with intense cyanosis, there followed in one pemphigus and in the other a deep ulcer.

(a) —, æt. 36, drayman, developed mental symptoms two months before admission: ideas of negation, refusal of food, melancholia. A few months after admission pseudo-œdema, cyanosis, coldness, and swelling near the base of the big toes appeared. Three months later on the outer side of the right leg and on the left leg were noticed three circular ulcers, and two erythematous patches (one on each leg) 3-3½ cm. in diameter; and at intervals, subsequently, fresh patches appeared, while the early ones were cicatrising; so that nine months after admission scattered patches in different stages of their evolution were observed: (1) erythematous patches; (2) pemphigoid bullæ; (3) ulcers; (4) scars.

(b) —, æt. 24, labourer. Onset of mental symptoms at the age of 21 years. On admission into the asylum, melancholic, impulsive; two years later, demented, sullen, occasionally violent. In February, 1904, nearly five years after admission, white pseudo-œdema was observed on the dorsum of the foot. Four months later there appeared on the left leg, in front and just below the middle, a circular ulcer of the size of a five-franc piece, with a bright red base, sharply cut edges; and a little beyond it a smaller red patch with irregularly defined edges. The left leg was very œdematous from the foot to the knee. The ulcer slowly healed.

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*A Contribution to the Study of Dementia Præcox [Contributo allo Studio della Demenza Precoce]. P. Gonzales. (Riv. Speriment. di Freniat., vol xxx, fasc. iv.) Gonzales, P.*

This is a preliminary communication on the subject of dementia præcox. The case was one of the catatonic variety, of a well-marked type. At first the patient, a young married woman, æt. 26, alternated between a state of semi-stuporose depression and a condition of excitement with hallucinatory ideas but with few delusions. A few months afterwards intellectual enfeeblement became marked. She passed days without speaking and became lost in her habits. Catatonic phenomena—