

then went back to the morphia habit, and had a recurrence of the same hysterical and somnambulistic symptoms as in the previous attack. During one of these phases of dream consciousness she set fire to the farm of her father-in-law, who had been the special object of her antipathy during her delirious attacks.

Commenting on the case, Dr. Cullerre draws attention to the remarkably long interval—nearly ten years—intervening between the appearance of the pyromaniac obsession and its realisation in the criminal act.

W. C. SULLIVAN.

*Tumour of the Pituitary Body with Röntgen Photograph [Fall von Hypophysis Tumor mit Röntgen-Photogramm]. (Neurol. Cbl., Nr. 18, 1907.) Schuster.*

It is a signal triumph that through the discoveries of physical science we can obtain a visible representation of what is going on at the base of the brain. Dr. Schuster first saw the patient whom he describes on March 25th, 1907. He was a man, æt. 33, who had suffered from diminution of vision for three years and from headache for about two years and a half. The sight of both eyes was now entirely lost. There had been hemianopsia. The patient remarked that during the last year his gloves had become tight, and his rings did not fit. There had been frequent vomiting during the preceding months.

On examination the skin appeared pale and dry as in myxœdema; hair in axilla and pubis scanty. Nose somewhat enlarged. There was divergence of the left eye, and the light reaction was diminished, but more so on the right. There was atrophy of both optic nerves. Mentally the patient was in a state of indifference, and easily wearied. The diagnosis of tumour of the pituitary body with symptoms of acromegaly was confirmed by the Röntgen rays. This is illustrated by two engravings, one giving the normal appearance of the sella turcica, the other of the case in question showing the sella enlarged to three times the usual size and the hollow altered in form. Dr. Schuster explains that the engraving is but a faint reproduction of the Röntgen photograph, which may well be.

In the same number of the *Centralblatt* Dr. Ludwig Löwe, of Berlin, discusses the methods of removing tumours of the pituitary body, which he holds may best be done through the nasal passages.

WILLIAM W. IRELAND.

*Maniacal Chorea. (Dublin Journ. of Med. Sci., May, 1907.) Finnev, J. Magee.*

The patient whose case is here described as suffering from this rare disease, chorea insaniens, was an unmarried girl, æt. 17, whose occupation is not stated. She suffered from rheumatic pains in her legs for a fortnight, upon which chorea supervened. A mitral systolic murmur audible on admission and of varying loudness was present until her death, which occurred nine days afterwards. The pulse was quiet and regular until the last three days, and her temperature normal or sub-normal until the day before her death, when it rose to 103.4° F.

The choreic movements were slight for about forty-eight hours, after which they became extremely violent. The psychical phenomena were

LIV.

II