

for the most part painless in its course, the disease, like myxœdema, often escapes the notice of the patient, and even of his friends; and it is only when he consults a doctor for headache or some inter-current affection that the condition is recognized. Headache and pains in the limbs would seem to be not infrequent symptoms; but, without these, the disease may exist for years without recognition. Iodides have been employed for its treatment in some cases, but with only temporary benefit.

Space forbids our dwelling on this interesting production at greater length on this occasion, but we hope to continue the review of the later issues in a future number. It is impossible to speak too highly of the beauty and accuracy of the illustrations. Neither pains nor expense have been spared, and the result is all that could be desired. Here are life-like reproductions capable of conveying, for all time and to all countries, perfect representations of diseased conditions. As for the text, it is quite in keeping with the excellence of the plates; and consisting, as it does, entirely of cases, facts, and observations, it forms a work of classic value. In all respects it is a production worthy of the first neurological clinique of our time.

The illustrations drawn from ancient pictures of miracles and the like—an idea which we may, perhaps, be forgiven for saying is essentially French—are exceedingly interesting and attractive. A careful study of them would go farther to make one a believer in the authenticity of the Bible than a great many of the arguments usually advanced, for they help to give a physical explanation of many supposed supernatural phenomena.

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*An Experimental Study in the Domain of Hypnotism.* By Dr. R. VON KRAFFT-EBING. Translated by Charles G. Chad-dock, M.D. New York and London: G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1889.

(Concluded from p. 262.)

In the last number of the Journal we reviewed the above work by Professor Krafft-Ebing and his conclusions in regard to his experiments in hypnotism. We now continue and conclude them. Referring to the suggestion of changed personality frequently induced in hypnotized subjects, the

author states that the female patient upon whom he made experiments, when changed into a school girl, wrote in quite a different style from her ordinary hand. He sees no difficulty in supposing that the handwriting of a patient, when changed to a girl at school by suggestion, actually corresponds with that of her school days. He sees no improbability in the statement that "the memory of psychophysical phases of life, which have long become a part of the past, can again become active under favourable circumstances" (p. 122).

It is important, from a medico-legal point of view, that this patient, "as soon as she undertook to carry out a post-hypnotic action commanded when she was in the hypnotic sleep, so far as it involved a state, or a complicated action, passed into auto-hypnosis; that is, that the suggestion had a hypnotizing effect as soon as it became actual" (p. 123). The patient in this condition resembles a sleep-walker actuated by fixed ideas.

It is undoubted that without the circle of ideas, opened by suggestion, the mind is a blank, or its action is limited to simple perception.

One of the most important proofs of the genuineness of the states described by the author, and of the absence of simulation is found in the fact that three different states of consciousness, which are described as induced in this patient, were apparently regular when the conditions were identical. These states had absolutely nothing in common, except that they were observed in the same individual. They never intersect; each has its own memory. Thus a triple consciousness is exhibited, each founded on a nervous mechanism of a peculiar kind.

(1) That of an ordinary hystero-epileptic with complete clearness of consciousness.

(2) That of one found in a state of complete inhibition, or sleep, but who can be partially awakened at will and be impelled to mechanical, automatic action of the greatest precision by suggestion.

(3) That of a somnambulist capable of spontaneous action within a limited mental sphere as a result of auto-suggestive or post-hypnotic ideas suggested by a third person, but depending on a dreamily deepened consciousness. That this is a very serious condition cannot be denied, seeing that the subject can be made the involuntary instrument of another individual's suggestion of crime.

There are other points of curious interest in the experiments made on the same subject by Dr. Jendrassik. Thus suggestion of the paralysis of a limb was followed by it for a whole day until it was removed by a renewed hypnosis and suggestion. It is noteworthy that the deep reflexes were increased. They are not increased in simple hypnotism. Hemi-anæsthesia was induced by suggestion. Deafness was induced completely or partially, so that only a certain voice or sound was heard. The same is true of blindness. Persons, or the entire company, could be removed from perception by suggestion. The induction of hypnotism could be frustrated by its being suggested to her that she should not allow herself to be hypnotized. A photograph can be suggested to her on a white sheet of paper, in consequence of which she recognizes that particular sheet among others similar in appearance. If the letter *d* is drawn with only the finger on paper it is visualized, and if the paper be turned upside down she sees *p*, and in a mirror *q*. A sheet of paper bound on one leg and suggested to be a mustard plaister produces redness, and even a small blister next morning. Objects pressed on the surface of the body and suggested to be red-hot caused, after some hours, a blister and wound in the form of the object employed. More remarkable is the statement that anything pressed on the left side and suggested as hot is followed by a symmetrical and reversed mark upon the right side. Attempts to cause increase of temperature failed although the patient became ill.

The Professor observes that the experiments which he made at Graz were never undertaken save in the presence of a number of physicians, *portis clausis*, and with witnesses bound to tell the patient nothing of what took place during hypnosis.

Similar results to those here detailed have been again and again reported by other experimenters, especially in Paris and Nancy; but when they are confirmed by German Professors who have been very sceptical in regard to any hypnotic phenomena beyond those of the most elementary description, it is worth while recording the fact.

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