## EPITOME.

[Jan.,

## A Case of Interpretational Paranoia with Fabulation, etc. [Un cas de psychosis chronique à base d'interprétations, avec délire d'imagination et réactions revendicatrices]. (Rev. de Psych., March, 1911.) De Fortunié and Hannard.

This paper gives the history of a paranoiac of the interpreting type who recently escaped from the asylum at Armentières after a residence of nine years. Previously he had been in several other asylums, from all of which he had made his escape. There was no family history of insanity, nor did he exhibit any degenerative stigmata. Signs of mental trouble were early shown; in fact, his mother thought that he had never reasoned correctly. At school he fancied his companions plotted against him, their most innocent remarks were read as insults. Later, as a medical student, he thought he was the victim of the jealousy of both students and professors on account of his superior attainments, for by this time he was distinctly exalted; he discovered cures for phthisis, apoplexy, etc., and wrote to prominent public men offering to sell his secrets. Their failure to respond to his wishes resulted in the development of persecutory ideas, and as he became threatening he was certified and sent to an asylum. After a few weeks he escaped, and from this time on his career was an extraordinary series of escapes from one asylum after another. His delusions were daily added to by misinterpretations of the most ordinary remarks heard or read by him. At no time did he seem to have suffered from hallucinations; but an important part in the evolution of his very complex system of delusions was played by illusions, fabulations, and pure inventions.

Sérieux and Capgras have drawn attention to the fact that in some paranoiacs the delusions are largely augmented by a morbid creative imagination; the subject forges proofs of the justice of his cause; there are true fabulations or falsifications of memory. The authors look on their case as an example of the combination of the delirium of interpretation and the delirium of revindication in the same subject. These are the two forms of paranoia described by Sérieux aud Capgras in their classic work *Les folies raisonnantes*, and to which they think the term "paranoia" should be restricted. W. STARKEY.

## The Circulatory Function in Cases of Dementia Præcox [La funzione circolatoria nei dementi precoci]. (Riv. Sper. di Fren., vol. xxxvii, Fasc. 3.) Lugiato, L., and Lavizarri, G. B.

This paper comprises a study of the relations between the state of development of the cardio-vascular apparatus and the functional capacity of the heart. In a former investigation, Lugiato found that in many cases of dementia præcox the left ventricle was relatively small in comparison with the other cardiac diameters. In addition, the total size was reduced in some. The arterial system was generally deficient; the radial pulse was ill-marked and difficulty was experienced in obtaining a sphygmographic tracing. The superficial veins were not very visible and the circulation in the extremities was notably torpid. The object of the present inquiry was to control these results and to determine whether a constitutional circulatory fault really exists in the subjects of dementia præcox, and if so whether it is related with a functional

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