

appeared to her that everything was far off, though nothing appeared smaller than usual. If she did not see herself she would not know that she existed. Her own voice seemed altered. She continued working without the feeling that she was doing so; if she did not see the effects of her work she would not know that she had worked at all. She had no memory: her brain seemed dead. She took no interest in outward things, but was fearful that she might become insane. There was some paræsthesia in the face, which seemed confined to the region supplied by the second branch of the fifth pair in the right. There was complete iridoplegia on the same side, less so on the left. The patient was suffering from constitutional syphilis, but treatment thus indicated had no effect. In this patient the sense of self-activity outgoing from the will, the feeling of agency distinguished from passive sensation, was impaired or suspended. Pick finds in such cases a schism of the personality—the ego who thinks seems separate from the person who acts and whose motions the ego only knows by observation.

The professor describes at length another case of the kind—a young married woman. It does not appear that with these patients the sentiment of personality is wholly lost. The person compares his present feelings with his former ones, and notes a strange difference which he is much at a loss to explain. He retains the consciousness of having been something other than he is; something is altered, taken away, or super-added.

WILLIAM W. IRELAND.

A Case of Depersonalisation and Possession [Dépersonnalisation et Possession chez un Psychasthenique]. (Journ. de Psychol. Norm. et Path., Jan.—Feb., 1904.) Raymond and Janet.

The *Journal de Psychologie Normale et Pathologique* is a new review appearing under the joint editorship of Professor Janet of the Salpêtrière, and Dr. Dumas of the Sorbonne. As the names of the editors suggest, it will be more especially devoted to those complex psychic states on the borderland between the normal and the abnormal to which so much elaborate study is now being devoted in France. This opening number contains a critical discussion by Ribot of the value of the *questionnaire* in psychology, an exposition by Flournoy of certain mediæmistic phenomena, a theory by Grasset of the paramnesic phenomena of the “*déjà vu*” (with an interesting letter from the novelist Bourget, who has throughout life experienced manifestations of this kind), and a considerable number of abstracts of recent periodical literature, including Russian, etc.

Janet himself, in conjunction with Professor Raymond, contributes a discussion of a case which well illustrates his skill in unravelling and setting forth complex and dubious psychic conditions. The case is that of a young man of twenty-nine, who for eighteen months has been subject to crises during which he walks about his room behaving in all his attitudes, movements and expressions like a girl. He explains that the young work-girls of the quarter of Paris in which he lives have “eclipsed” him, and that he is gradually losing his own personality.

The interpretation that obviously presents itself is that here we have a case of somnambulistic hysteria modified, as sometimes happens, by

a suggestion coming from the environment. This explanation cannot, however, be accepted. The crises involve no loss of consciousness, and no anæsthesia or amnesia or real and complete hallucinations; he can always stop the crises when he wishes, and the entrance of another person often suffices to stop them. The phenomenon is the obsession of a "psychasthenic," to use the term now employed by Janet for a group taken out of the older group of neurasthenia and fully studied in his last book, *Les Obsessions et la Psychasthénie*.

Such psychasthenic obsessions are, in the authors' experience, rare. In this case there was bad heredity; the father died of general paralysis, the mother is neuropathic. The subject himself has been through the fatigues of a Brazilian expedition, in which he displayed considerable ability, and he has had syphilis; his general health is much impaired, and he has lost his aptitude for work. He spends his time in wandering about the streets. He suffers from what has been called "social aboulia." The social system is wrong, he says; he cannot adapt himself to it; he desires the life of nature, the society of primitive people. This social inaptitude, the authors remark, is a chief stigma in all psychasthenics; "Rousseau, the most illustrious of psychasthenics, thus protested against society and worshipped nature." The present subject is very timid, has no friends, and only associates with people below him in the social scale. His thoughts are much turned in a sexual direction; the influence of women is a stimulus that he desires; he gazes in the faces of the women he meets to find, as he expresses it, a kind of morphia for the evils he suffers from. But his timidity, and still more his social inaptitude, stand in the way of any intimate relation with the girls whom he gazes at and follows; the fault, he says, is theirs, because they are so much below his ideal of them; they are even malevolent, and thus it is that he attributes to them the troubles of personality from which he suffers. In this history we have the explanation of the crises.

The case would tend to develop, the authors believe, into delusional insanity, but under treatment the condition is improving and the subject is beginning to show a renewed aptitude for work.

HAVELOCK ELLIS.

The Psychology of Dreaming [*Contribution à la Psychologie du Rêve*].
(*Am. Journ. Psychol.*, July—Oct., 1903.) Beaunis, H.

This issue of the *American Journal of Psychology* is a "commemoration number" of over 400 pages, dedicated to Professor Stanley Hall—as the founder of experimental psychology in America, and a pioneer in the systematic study of children—on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of his doctorate in philosophy. A large number of the leading American psychologists and some in Europe have contributed to this volume, which includes an excellent portrait of Stanley Hall and a bibliography of his writings. This special number is edited by Professors Sanford and Titchener.

The place of honour is given to a notable paper by Beaunis on dreaming. It is not often that a scientific worker of such eminence is willing to publish so frankly the results of his own auto-vivisection. Possibly he is