

a girl the subject of epilepsy since infancy. The occurrence of the spontaneous ecchymoses and attacks of fever (the latter observed five times during her stay in hospital) without any obvious cause, and not apparently immediately related to the convulsive attacks, leaves no room for doubt that they were in reality hysterical manifestations.

H. J. MACEVOY.

General Paralysis in Twins [*Observation de paralysie générale gémellaire homomorphe ; délire des négations*]. (*Arch. de Neurol.*, No. 77, May, 1902.) *Keraval and Raviart.*

A. D. Q— was admitted into Armentières Asylum, September 14th, 1888, at the age of 39. His early symptoms began apparently after the death of his wife about four months before; he was depressed, said he couldn't eat, that he was dead, left off working, and stayed in bed. On admission he presented all the signs of general paralysis of the melancholic type, with delusions of negation. The disease progressed rapidly, and he died in January, 1889.

J. V. Q—, his twin brother, was admitted on November 3rd, 1896, at the age of 47. Five months before he had "cerebral congestion," and became queer in his head; six weeks before admission he presented very definite symptoms of insanity; refused food, thought he was dead, and kept to his bed. On admission he was depressed, scarcely answered questions, often cried, and had marked delusions of negation ("all is lost," "it is no use eating," "he is dead," "has no legs," etc.). The physical signs of general paralysis soon appeared; he became more and more demented, and died in a condition of paralytic marasmus in May, 1899. (His wife died of general paralysis in January of the same year.) The most interesting part of this observation is the appearance of the same type of general paralysis in twins, without any definite cause, such as nervous heredity, alcoholism, syphilis. It was not folie à deux; the two brothers were married, and lived apart from each other, and the affection appeared in one eight years after the other. Of course, one must not lose sight of the fact that J. V. Q—'s wife died of the same disease, so that, perhaps, syphilis could not be excluded for certain.

H. J. MACEVOY.

On Agrammatism following Inflammation of the Brain [*Ueber Agrammatismus als Folge von Herderkrankung*]. (*Zeits. f. Heilkunde*, Heft 2, 1902.) *Pick.*

In a reprint from this journal Professor Pick describes the case of a woman æt. 41 years, who after confinement showed symptoms of mental derangement. She was much excited and tore her clothes; speech was much disordered. When admitted to the clinique at Prague she was found to speak indistinctly, slurring over some consonants. The same deficiency was found in her writing, which scarcely recalled the words she was supposed to signify. She could understand reading, and what was said to her, though her intelligence was notably impaired. After a

short stay in the hospital she was discharged, but was brought back eight months after in a much worse condition. In her writing, both to dictation and spontaneously, she only reproduced a few letters, though she copied correctly. There was paresis of the right side. The mental power went on diminishing, and the speech getting more unintelligible, till she died of pneumonia ten months after admission.

On examination, there was found a distinct diminution in the lower portion of the second and third frontal gyri. This extended to the top of the left temporal lobe. There was also atrophy of the same parts on the right side, but less marked. The left hemisphere weighed 408, the right 430 grammes.

Microscopic examination showed degeneration of Broca's convolution and the whole temporal lobe on the left side. This was thought to be the sequel of acute encephalitis.

Dr. Pick observes that one cannot say whether the morbid process, which in the end involved the whole speech zone, affected the whole tract at once, or began with the temporal lobe, thence spreading to the frontal gyri. In the first case the paraphasia might be regarded as the first stage of the complete aphasia; in the second case it would be consonant with the view previously illustrated by Dr. Pick that agrammatism is the result of lesion of the temporal lobe. Déjérine and his school hold that agrammatism may be simply a stage in a degenerative affection of Broca's convolution. This view has been recently supported by Bernheim in his treatise *De l'Aphasie motrice* 1901. On the other hand, Pick assures us that he has studied the whole literature on the subject, and has constantly found that this affection of speech is associated with lesions of the temporal lobe. This holds good even with the cases cited by Bernheim. In no clinical cases is the possibility of the implication of the temporal lobe excluded, and in all the cases which came to examination after death the temporal lobe was found to be involved. Pick remarks that the independence of thought from words is now admitted even by some philologists, and he quotes the recent treatise on *The Psychology of Thinking*, by Benno Erdmann, that the real conception which is intertwined with words in formulated thought is not produced, but only indicated through speech.

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5. Pathology of Insanity.

The Pathology and Pathogenesis of the Acute Confusional Psychoses [*Studi sull' Anatomia Patologica e la Patogenesi delle Psicosi Acute Confusional*]. (*Riv. di Pat. Nerv. e Ment.*, July, 1902.) *Camia, M.*

This number is wholly occupied by a paper on this condition. The author has already in previous numbers described seven cases, and he now records fourteen others, in addition to which he has collected from various sources over fifty cases.

Dr. Camia tabulates the various alterations in the nerve-cells in the nerve-fibres both in the brain and cord, and also the chief alterations noted in the organs throughout the body. Certain of the cases without complications presented a picture with slight alterations of the chromatic