

ing of that state, but this need not amount to obliteration. When the loss of consciousness is very sudden, there is no attendant sensation that can be recalled, *e.g.* the case quoted. When consciousness is not lost so abruptly, if the area of the brain affected have to do with sensation, there is time for a varied number of sensations to be recorded. These sensations vary in each case, and are included under vertigo—subjective and objective—a curious dreamy feeling, affections of the special senses, general and visceral sensations and emotional states. He finds that gustatory sensations rarely attend minor attacks, although smacking of the lips frequently accompanies the dreamy state. Certain motor manifestations are also found, *e.g.* twitching, relaxation, and paresis of muscles generally occurring with loss of consciousness. In describing the after state, *i.e.* the condition in which the attack leaves the patient, he says that the most frequent is a dazed condition with post-epileptic automatism. Here we find organised motor acts performed with a continued comparative loss of consciousness. In coming out of the attack full consciousness is the last function to be restored. Sometimes the patient passes into a state of mania and commits an act of violence—homicidal impulse. He enumerates certain accidents which may occur, but these are not common in minor attacks.

The diagnosis has to be made from cardiac syncope, non-epileptic forms of vertigo, and hysteria.

The note on treatment is brief. He finds that the bromides have less beneficial results than in major epilepsy. The chief point is prolonged treatment; the drug chosen should be given in diminishing doses over a long-continued time.

G. A. WELSH.

*Hungry Evil in Epileptics.* (*Alien. and Neur., Jan., 1900.*) *Féré, Ch.*

This is a dissertation on one of the rarer visceral symptoms found in epileptics. The opening paragraphs concern themselves with a description of the history of the symptoms, how it was first observed in horses. Passing from this, the author discusses analogues in the fermented stomach cravings found in man and the lower animals. He puts on record several cases to show that hunger may be manifested in epileptics as “*faim-valle*” is in horses, and is of opinion that, when it is better understood, it will be oftener met with.

In case No. 1 “*faim-valle*” occurs as an alternating symptom with others characteristically epileptic. It is an evidence of a sudden need which if not relieved leads to unconsciousness. In the succeeding cases it plays the part of an aura of *grand mal*, a point of great interest being that the attack can be aborted if food is given at once.

G. A. WELSH.

*Senile and Cardio-vascular Epilepsy* [*Die senile und cardiovasale Epilepsie*]. (*Monats. f. Psychiat. u. Neur., B. vii, H. 4. u. 5, 1900.*) *Schupfer, F.*

Dr. Schupfer first shows how in recent years the percentage of senile epileptics, as given by different authors, is uniformly less than formerly. This, he asserts, is due to the more careful histories at present taken.