

There was no paralysis of the arms, legs, face, or ocular muscles. His pupils were unequal at times, the right being the larger ; both reacted to light. His reflexes were normal, and his control of sphincters unimpaired. Kernig's sign was present for a short time, about a week after admission. On ophthalmoscopic examination hyperæmia of the retina was found, more marked in the left eye. Five days later neuro-retinitis was present, and there was general hyperæmia around the disc in both eyes. The left eye in addition showed a retinal hæmorrhage in the periphery in the lower temporal region. Six days after this examination his mind was clear and he talked better. A further examination seven weeks later showed the typical appearance following a marked neuro-retinitis, and he was discharged next day as much improved.

He had a right homonymous hemianopsia, but the date when this fact was discovered is not stated in the notes. When examined by Burr this was the one prominent symptom. Slight slowness of thought was the only mental symptom shown by patient. The author believes that there was probably a gumma or specific arteritis (the man had a clear history of infection and bore treatment well) somewhere in the occipital lobe, the presence of optic neuritis pointing rather to its being a massive gumma. He thinks that the higher visual centre, on the convex surface of the occipital lobe, was either itself, or the white matter underlying it, slightly diseased or else merely pressed upon.

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4. Sociology.

The Question of Responsibility. (*Rev. Neurol.*, August, 1907.) Ballet, etc.

At the recent Congress of French Alienists and Neurologists held at Geneva and Lausanne, the much-debated question of the proper attitude of medical science towards the metaphysico-legal idea of "responsibility" received full and interesting discussion. Professor G. Ballet had been appointed to prepare a report on "The Question of Responsibility." In accordance with the opinions which he has always consistently maintained, Ballet concluded that the question is outside the medical domain. A number of speakers, notably Joffroy, supported Ballet. Grasset, of Montpellier, disagreed, but he admitted his dislike of the use of the word "responsibility." By a large majority the Congress affirmed its agreement with Ballet's proposition that, since questions of responsibility are of a metaphysical and juridical order and outside the physician's competence, a judge is not entitled to demand the physician's opinion concerning them. This decision marks a real progress of opinion, and seems to indicate that the clear-headed genius of France is taking the lead in putting an end to that illegitimate subserviency of medicine to antiquated legal metaphysics, which has often proved so disastrous in weakening the authority of medical science.

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Sexual Hygiene in France [L'Abstinence Sexuelle]. (*Prog. Méd.*, August-September, 1907.) Léal, Foveau de Courmelles, etc.

The various problems connected with sexual hygiene in relation to