

normal specific gravity (or almost normal), exhibit in the latter a substance which reduces Fehling's solution and deviates the plane of polarised light to the *left*. Withholding carbohydrates leads to a rapid cure. Farey excludes his patient from this group of cases with the "levulosuric syndroma," because cutting off the carbohydrates did not produce a rapid disappearance or even diminution of the glycosuria, and the sugar found in the urine caused rotation of the plane of polarisation to the *right*. He considers that the hypnotism cured the insanity.

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*Clinical Notes on Paranoids* [*Note cliniche sui Paranoidi*]. (*Arch. di Psichiat.*, vol. xx, fasc. 4.) Pianetta, C.

Under this title, Dr. Pianetta discusses the pseudo-paranoiac symptoms which occur in degenerate subjects, illustrating his remarks by three personal observations. As characteristic of the group of "paranoids" which he describes, the author indicates that they manifest a tendency to erroneous interpretation of outside impressions in some special direction, without, however, elaborating a systematised delirium; their mental state is thus that of incipient paranoia,—at times, perhaps, undergoing an exacerbation which renders them for the moment symptomatically indistinguishable from cases of typical paranoia. The author points out the affinities of these cases to the *paranoia sine delirio* of Tanzi and Riva, and to Magnan's mental degeneracy with episodic syndromes, with which, indeed, the cases recorded appear in all respects identical. The first observation is that of a man with hereditary taint, in whom mental disorder first appeared shortly after marriage; recovery was rapid, but the patient subsequently manifested neurasthenic symptoms with a disposition to hypochondriacal, self-depreciatory, and persecutory ideas. Generally these ideas had an obsessional character and were more or less readily repressed, but at times they acquired the force of delusions, were supported by hallucinations, and on one occasion led to a suicidal attempt. The author draws special attention to the passage from obsession to delusion in this case. The second observation refers to an individual hereditarily unstable, eccentric, and morbidly vain, who presented at intervals a tendency to disconnected delusions, chiefly hypochondriacal and persecutory. In the third observation, the patient, aged twenty-three, mentally degenerate as a result of insane heredity and of infectious disease in childhood, presented at intervals imperfectly defined delusions of persecution. Of very defective ethical development, he was repeatedly condemned for theft and for sexual offences, and two of his persecutory episodes occurred in prison.

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*Microcephaly* [*Ein meiterer Beitrag zur Lehre von der Mikrocephalie*]. (*Jahrb. f. Psychiat. u. Neur.*, B. xviii, H. 3, 1899.) Pilcz, A.

This is a long paper on a case of microcephaly which Dr. Pilcz studied in the University Klinik at Vienna.

The grandfather and father of the subject, K. A—, were habitual drunkards, the latter being also brutal and violent; but the mother was healthy, and had been twice married. A child of the first marriage died