

certain amount of risk appears attendant on the hypnotic state, and as no strong indications have yet been established for the wide employment of suggestive treatment, a circumspect and cautious therapeutic application must be made thereof. (4) While the application of this therapeutic agent is contemplated for other than purely dynamic disturbances, though the probability is not great that organic affections will be influenced thereby, the possibility of such application must not be lost sight of. At present facts are wanting which will carry with them conviction as to its value here."

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*Francis Bacon : His Life and Philosophy.* By JOHN NICHOL, M.A., Balliol, Oxon, LL.D., Professor of English Literature in the University of Glasgow. Part II. : *Bacon's Philosophy, with a Sketch of the History of previous Science and Method.* William Blackwood and Sons, Edinburgh and London, 1889.

In a recent number of the Journal we reviewed the first part of this work, and are glad to welcome the companion volume containing the Philosophy of Lord Bacon. Professor Nichol has given us an able sketch of the history of previous Science and Method, and has in this and in the account of the philosopher's own views displayed the same impartiality and psychological insight as he manifested in his notice and judgment of the philosopher's life and character. Nowhere would it be possible to find in so small a compass so large an amount of knowledge within the range of subjects touched by the mind of Francis Bacon. Did our space permit, we could occupy many pages in presenting the most important notes dwelt upon by the author. We must content ourselves with the following passages, which bear more especially upon mental science. The author says, speaking of Descartes, that the difference between Hobbes, Locke, and Hume on the one hand, and Berkeley, Reid, and Kant on the other, is that the spirit of the first group, as that of Bentham, Mill, and Comte, is more Baconian than Cartesian. "From the "Instauratio Magna," or its influences, they have inherited and transmitted that mode of thought which refers science for its source to observation, discards innate ideas, subordinates metaphysic, and inclines to refer psychology to physiology. Bacon himself was not a materialist,

but it may be admitted that the exclusive application of the inductive method to mental science tends to materialism. One of the earliest suspicions of the fact is recorded in the confession of a reactionary royalist of the century, H. Stubb, that he had been for a time led astray by the mechanical school; but it does not seem to have aroused systematic antagonism till D'Alembert and Diderot inscribed Bacon's name on the front of their "Encyclopédie," the former saluting him as the most universal of philosophers, and the latter adopting the title "De Interpretatione Philosophiæ" for one of his sceptical books" (p. 236).

It is an interesting fact that the College of Philosophy, instituted in London in 1645, which developed into the "Royal Society" in 1662, was suggested by the scheme of "Solomon's House" in Bacon's "New Atlantis."

Lastly, we are reminded that the Scotch School of Psychology claimed that they followed Bacon in the application of induction to mental science. "Reid explicitly dates from the 'Novum Organum' the new impulse in a direction more just and more fertile than that of the Organon of Aristotle; and Dugald Stewart, regretting that Bacon has been more praised than studied, adopts his principles as converting common-sense into science, and indicates the originality of his logic" (p. 240).

We have said sufficient, we hope, to interest our readers and to induce them to trace, with the help of Professor Nichol's work, the extent and character of the debt, the development of inductive psychology owes to the philosopher from whom the motto on the title page of the "Journal of Mental Science" is borrowed.

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*The Insane in Foreign Countries.* By WILLIAM P. LETCHWORTH, President of the New York State Board of Charities. New York and London: G. P. Putnam's Sons, The Knickerbocker Press, 1889.

Mr. Letchworth is well known for the interest he has long taken in the insane as a Commissioner of the New York State Board of Charities. The present work is the result of a visit to public institutions in Europe some years ago during seven months. A historical sketch precedes a notice of his visitation of asylums. Among the illustrations there