

suppressed but merely altered. Hence first the chorea and then the epilepsy. The next question is, What was the primary cause of these cerebral lesions? It is not probable that it could have been due to the thickening of the calvarium, as the atrophy was not limited to the superior surface of the brain but extended round the base as far as to the optic chiasma. The glioses in the frontal lobes should rather be attributed to that anomaly in the development of the nerve centres which is termed microgyria. Different opinions are held as to the pathogenesis of this condition. The most likely hypothesis is that a morbid process, probably of an inflammatory nature, at an early date, attacked a great part of the frontal lobes, causing degeneration and disappearance of the nerve tissue and substitution of neuroglia tissue in its place, as always happens in similar cases. Resulting from this alterations of a less pronounced character occurred secondarily in the cortical motor area which produced, first choreic phenomena, and later either from increase in severity or by extension, the epileptic attacks.

A. J. EADES.

3. Physiological Psychology.

On the Pathology of the Consciousness of the Ego [Zur Pathologie des Ich-Bewusstseins]. (Arch. f. Psychiat., B. 38, H. 1.) Pick, A.

In 1873, Krishaber, under the title of *De la Néropathie Cérébro-Cardiaque*, described a derangement of the recognition of personality of which Taine, in his work on the *Intelligence*, declared that he had found more instruction in it than in a whole metaphysical volume on the substance of the ego. It is not uncommon in asylums to meet with patients who affirm that they have become another person that they are not, or, as in the old song, they say, "This is no me." They find their feelings and their tastes all altered, or they have no feelings at all in some parts of their body. Their own voice is strange to them. Conflicting influences or unusual desires disturb their mind. Thus the string of sensations and thoughts recognised as belonging to themselves is so altered that it is only a slender thread of memory, or the repeated recognition of others, which sustains the sentiment of continued personality. More rarely this sentiment is wholly lost, so that they insist that they are some quite different person. Professor Pick has described an instance of this kind. The patient was the wife of an inn-keeper. She was thirty-three years of age. She had for some time been in weak health, when suddenly there came over her a feeling as if she had lost the current of her thoughts; it seemed as if the thoughts were not her own. When she walked she knew that her legs carried her, but it seemed as if they moved of themselves. Her actions and dealings did not seem to proceed from her own agency. It was not her mind—her thought (she had the sentiment of not being the same person)—her very dreams were altered. When she did not go about or do something she did not know that she was in the world. She said, "I do not at all recognise myself." This condition was worse in the afternoon. It

appeared to her that everything was far off, though nothing appeared smaller than usual. If she did not see herself she would not know that she existed. Her own voice seemed altered. She continued working without the feeling that she was doing so; if she did not see the effects of her work she would not know that she had worked at all. She had no memory: her brain seemed dead. She took no interest in outward things, but was fearful that she might become insane. There was some paræsthesia in the face, which seemed confined to the region supplied by the second branch of the fifth pair in the right. There was complete iridoplegia on the same side, less so on the left. The patient was suffering from constitutional syphilis, but treatment thus indicated had no effect. In this patient the sense of self-activity outgoing from the will, the feeling of agency distinguished from passive sensation, was impaired or suspended. Pick finds in such cases a schism of the personality—the ego who thinks seems separate from the person who acts and whose motions the ego only knows by observation.

The professor describes at length another case of the kind—a young married woman. It does not appear that with these patients the sentiment of personality is wholly lost. The person compares his present feelings with his former ones, and notes a strange difference which he is much at a loss to explain. He retains the consciousness of having been something other than he is; something is altered, taken away, or super-added.

WILLIAM W. IRELAND.

A Case of Depersonalisation and Possession [Dépersonnalisation et Possession chez un Psychasthénique]. (Journ. de Psychol. Norm. et Path., Jan.—Feb., 1904.) Raymond and Janet.

The *Journal de Psychologie Normale et Pathologique* is a new review appearing under the joint editorship of Professor Janet of the Salpêtrière, and Dr. Dumas of the Sorbonne. As the names of the editors suggest, it will be more especially devoted to those complex psychic states on the borderland between the normal and the abnormal to which so much elaborate study is now being devoted in France. This opening number contains a critical discussion by Ribot of the value of the *questionnaire* in psychology, an exposition by Flournoy of certain mediæmistic phenomena, a theory by Grasset of the paramnesic phenomena of the “*déjà vu*” (with an interesting letter from the novelist Bourget, who has throughout life experienced manifestations of this kind), and a considerable number of abstracts of recent periodical literature, including Russian, etc.

Janet himself, in conjunction with Professor Raymond, contributes a discussion of a case which well illustrates his skill in unravelling and setting forth complex and dubious psychic conditions. The case is that of a young man of twenty-nine, who for eighteen months has been subject to crises during which he walks about his room behaving in all his attitudes, movements and expressions like a girl. He explains that the young work-girls of the quarter of Paris in which he lives have “eclipsed” him, and that he is gradually losing his own personality.

The interpretation that obviously presents itself is that here we have a case of somnambulistic hysteria modified, as sometimes happens, by