

drawn, since drawing up this case, to Huguenin's account in Ziemssen "of inflammation of the dura mater" (Vol. xii., p. 306). The author covers the whole ground. It is useless slaying the slain. The case remains interesting, I think, supporting, as it does, Huguenin's contention against the hitherto received explanation of pachymeningitic processes. The subsequent article by Dr. Wiglesworth in the "Journal of Mental Science," January, 1888, has advocated the same view. I think that this case will be accepted as a not unimportant piece of evidence to the truth of the contention that pachymeningitic membranes are, to borrow a phrase, "substitution products."

*Case of Difficulty of Speech.* By HARRINGTON SAINSBURY, M.D.

The following case may be of interest to the readers of the "Journal of Mental Science":—Mabel Tebbutt, aged 5½ years, was brought to the Royal Free Hospital for a difficulty of speech, which practically rendered her quite unintelligible to strangers. It will be easiest to set forth the nature of this difficulty by running through the alphabet, and putting against each letter the equivalent of her pronunciation. Each letter was first said to the child and then she repeated the sound as nearly as she could.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q
sa	p	see	t	c	sa	see	sa	sow	sa	ta	sow	sa	sa	sow	p	two
R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z								
sa	sa	t	soo	fee	tow-soo	sa	wow	sa								

In these equivalents the "a" is to be pronounced as in ma, the "ow" as in sow, the animal. It will be observed that of the whole alphabet the only letters she could give quite correctly were C, P, T; that B and D were respectively rendered P and T, and that the letter V underwent a corresponding change, and was rendered "fee." For the remaining letters there was apparently no relation between the normal and abnormal sounds—the pronunciation of Q being perhaps an exception. It is remarkable that the S sound is so frequently repeated.

The numerals were given as follows:—

one	two	three	four	five	six	seven	eight	nine	ten
see	two	fee	for	fow	see	saë	sa	now	ta

twenty thirty forty fifty sixty seventy eighty ninety one hundred  
 taë fit-y forty fit-y sit-y saëty saty nowty see-saë

The word seven was rendered in two syllables, "saë," pronounced like the French "hair." I think it probable that the word twenty could have been given "taty" if the child had been made to copy it more carefully. She was only asked the word once. I shall not attempt to criticize further these sound-reproductions, but will leave this part to those who are more familiar with the science of word-sounds. I may suggest, however, that the speech error may be of the nature of a simple defect, *i.e.*, fault by arrest, the centres in the cortex having failed to develop; or it may be of the nature of an actual perversion. In either case there may be simply an inability to reproduce the sound given, the child being conscious of the imperfection of her own copy, or there may be a condition analogous to colour-blindness, a failure to recognize sound differences. Cases of aphasia, the result of disease, furnish us with instances of both of these kinds of error in speech.

The child's condition and past history did not throw much light on the case. She was a healthy child, well grown, and bright-looking. She was able to make those understand her perfectly who were accustomed to her sounds and ways. She was useful in the house, could be sent on errands (in the house), would amuse herself with her doll and was in every way a good child.

Her past history was to the same effect; she had never been mischievous or fond of playing with the fire, and had always been cleanly in her habits.

She had been a full time child, and there had been no difficulty in the delivery. During teething she had suffered from convulsions, but there was no history that these had been of unusual severity. Her aunt's impression was that they had been just "like those of other children."

There were two other children, one older, one younger; these were quite well and intelligent, and had no difficulty with their speech. There was no history of such difficulty in the family, nor was there in the family any record of epilepsy, insanity, or imbecility.

When examined the child was found able to do anything she was bidden to do, and she could count up to ten. There was no deafness. Her condition seemed one of backwardness rather than of deficiency, and this backwardness was apparently fully accounted for by neglect of instruction. Her

aunt stated that owing to her unintelligible speech she was left very much to herself at school.

On the physical side there was noted a prow-shaped forehead. There was no deformity of the mouth; the palate was not unduly arched. The limbs were well-shaped, and with one exception there was complete symmetry; *the exception was the right little toe—it was double.*

It is of interest to observe that this malformation was on the side of the body served by the speech hemisphere. The connection, of course, may be purely accidental.

May not this case be classed as one of aphasia?

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*Notes of a Case of Folie à Deux in Five Members of one Family.* By OSCAR T. WOODS, M.D. Dub., Medical Superintendent of the Killarney Asylum.

The following case of “communicated insanity” exhibited all the symptoms of Folie à Deux as described by Dr. Hack Tuke in his paper read last year in Dublin,\* and for many reasons is, I think, deserving of record.

Johanna D., aged 45, mother;  
 Julia D., aged 24, daughter;  
 Michael D., aged 22, son;  
 Mary D., aged 18, daughter;  
 Kate D., aged 15, daughter;

were admitted into the Killarney Asylum on January 30th, 1888, under the following circumstances:—

The information of the constabulary sergeant is as follows: “From information I received I proceeded to the house of Michael D. I saw the dead body of a boy lying in the yard in front of the door; it had no clothing on except a shirt. The nose had disappeared, the front of both cheeks had been removed by violence. When I came in front of the house I saw a number of the family grouped together. Michael, junior, called out to me not to come near the house, or that I would never forget it. The others then all repeated what he said. Michael, senior, had nothing on but his shirt, Mary and Julia their chemises only; the others very little more. I then with assistance arrested them. They were all evidently insane, jumping about and shouting in an excited way.”

These patients were brought to the asylum together, where they were seen by two magistrates, who committed all except the father. He, although suffering from hallucinations, was quiet, and comprehended all that was said to him. He refused to tell

\* At the B. M. Association Meeting in Dublin, held in August, 1887.