

ameliorate the condition of epileptics he has no doubt, and whilst laying stress on the great value of the colony system, of which Bielefeld is the most striking instance, he does not despise drugs, among which he selects bromides combined with arsenic as most effective. *Solanum carolinense*, *Eupatorium perfoliatum*, and *hydrastin* have failed in his hands to give any good results. Nitrate of silver proved beneficial in one case for a time. In anæmic cases, he finds arsenic combined with iron and bromide efficacious.

HARRINGTON SAINSBURY.

*The Bromide Sleep: a New Departure in the Treatment of Acute Mania.* (*Brit. Med. Journ.*, Jan. 20th, 1900.) *Macleod, N.*

In 1897, and again in 1899, Dr. Macleod drew attention to a new method of employing the bromides as sedatives. His method might be described as that of the massive dose, two drachms of the drug being given in half a tumbler of water every two hours (during the day) till an ounce is given. On the second day a similar amount is given in the same way, and this may suffice to induce a sleep lasting from five to nine days. During this sleep the patient is not so deeply unconscious that he cannot be roused to micturate, or for the bowels to act, or for the administration of food; but left to himself he would starve, and the organic functions work unnoticed. Feeding must be rigorously maintained, and a tumblerful of milk every two hours up to seven tumblerfuls will suffice to maintain nutrition. Following the sleep is a gradual return of consciousness; this takes some fourteen days, the whole treatment lasting some twenty-one to twenty-four days.

HARRINGTON SAINSBURY.

*Psychical Treatment of a Case of Delusional Insanity—Zwangsirresein* [*Traitement psychique d'un cas de folie délirante*]. (*Rev. d'Hyp.*, May, 1900.) *Städemann, H.*

The case related is that of a man, æt. 30 years, without nervous heredity. As a boy, he was given to speculations, and much troubled concerning the nature of the deep problems of life; but as time passed he became tormented with trivial thoughts—the fate of a fly in his room, of a bit of match on the floor, of a spot of grease dropped from a candle, etc., etc.—amounting to painful obsessions. A cure rapidly followed treatment by hypnotic suggestion—two daily *séances* for fourteen days. Fifteen months later he remained well.

H. J. MACEVOY.

*Hysterical Polyuria and Suggestion* [*La polyurie hystérique et la suggestion*]. (*Rev. d'Hyp.*, May, 1900.) *Souques.*

Although rare, hysterical polyuria is occasionally met with. The amount of urine passed may be four, five, eight—up to twenty-five litres a day. Its pathogeny is still obscure. The diagnosis is easy, for although in a given case hysterical stigmata may be absent, the polyuria is of hysterical origin, when, as Babinski has shown, it may be made to vary by suggestion; hence the line of treatment is clearly indicated