GYNÆCOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS IN ASYLUMS.—Dr. Whitwell, in a recent discussion at the San Francisco Obstetrical Society (San Francisco *Western Lancet*, March, 1883), stated that when he was assistant physician in the New York State Lunatic Asylum there were three hundred female patients, but he did not know of a single examination having been made to determine the existence of uterine or ovarian disease. He believed that uterine disease was sometimes the cause of insanity.

PSYCHICAL SYMPTOMS FROM CRANIAL DEPRESSION.—Dr. Guérmonprez (*Archives Générales de Médecine*, August, 1882) comes to the following conclusions respecting the influence of depression of the cranium in childhood: First, depression of the cranium, whether complicated or not, may in a general way be the cause of various psychical disturbances. Second, such disturbances are more marked when the depression is on the left frontal region. Third, such depressions may interfere with the normal psychical development and with the cerebral growth. The second conclusion is based on *a priori* ideas rather than on experience.

AMANITA MUSCARIA IN NEGATIVE LYPEMANIA.—Dr. Carle Bareggi (*Archivio per le Malattie Nervose*, F. iv, 1882, p. 219) has been experimenting with this fungus in the treatment of forms of insanity attended by negative depression. His results were not at all decisive of any thing. The drug appeared to be allied to belladonna in some respects, and from his description might be of value in mania, but was decidedly not indicated in the conditions in which he gave it.

CYCLOTHYMIA, OR CIRCULAR INSANITY.—Pick (*Neurologisches Centralblatt*, February 1, 1883) calls attention to the fact that Wigan ("Duality of the Mind," 1844, p. 287) was perhaps the first to clearly describe this form of insanity. Wigan mentions the case of a young man whose disease assumed the character of periodicity. There was a kind of cycle beginning with intense despondency passing on to composure, to cheerfulness, hilarity, boisterous gayety, violent and convulsive mirth, extravagant volubility and wit, gross and monstrous obscenity, and thence again into the most furious mania. This gradually subsided into melancholy, left him two or three weeks in tranquillity, and then went again its miserable round.

ECCENTRICITY AND IDIOSYNCRASY.—Under this title Dr. W. A. Hammond (*New York Medical Journal*, October, 1882) discusses certain psychical manifestations which are the source of much forensic difficulty. He recognizes the difference between the two varieties of eccentricity, which Dr. Kempster so singularly confounded into one (Guiteau Trial, Official Report, p. 535).