it is, but it is somewhat vague at the same time. It is what the Germans term "genial," with a slight intimation that the hard facts are wanting to prove the case. In justice to the author, we add that he appears to be conscious of the defects of these brilliant generalizations.

B. S.

Increased Tendon Reflexes in Disease of the Peripheral Nerves. By Drs. STRUEMPFEL AND MOEBIUS. (*Münchener Med. Wochenschrift*, No. 34, 1886.)

The authors relate two interesting cases of multiple neuritis, in which the deep reflexes of the upper and lower extremities were decidedly exaggerated. With the recovery, the reflexes returned to the normal state. They attribute the exaggeration of these deep reflexes not to the removal of inhibition, but to irritation of the ascending (sensory) portion of the reflex arcs. The painful points along the course of the affected nerves argue in favor of this view. These observations are of considerable importance, and add one more to the list of symptoms common to spinal cord and to peripheral lesions.

B. S.

Hysterical Amaurosis. *Quoted from* BULETIN DE HYDROTHERAPIA, OF BARCELONA, *in Lond. Med. Record*, June 15th, 1886.

A lady, aged 32, married, without children, of nervous temperament and weak constitution, had suffered from hysteria at an early age. While working with a sewing machine, having noticed that it stopped, stooped over to see the cause and was pricked by the needle in the left superciliary region. She was very frightened, and thought that she had put her eye out. An attack of hysterо-epilepsy such as she had before supervened. On recovering, she found that she was totally blind. No lesions of the eye could be discovered; but though she was treated by several medical men, no improvement resulted. She was transferred to Barcelona for further advice, where, after four months hydro-therapeutic treatment, she completely recovered.

Spasm of the Glottis and the Diaphragm. (GAZ. DEGLI OSPITALI, October 20th, 1886.)

Last March, at the medical clinic of the University of Genoa, a man, married, aged 32, presented himself with the curious phenomena of a peculiar dyspnœa (respirations 90-100 per minute). There was no cyanosis or anything showing a lesion of the respiratory apparatus. There was an inspiratory shrinking of the epigastrium and the throat, and the laryngoscope demonstrated an inspiratory spasm of the larynx. This fact was not considered sufficient to account for the dyspnœa. Inspection showed a clonic spasm of the diaphragm which limited the inspiratory act. The diaphragmatic spasm gave rise to hiccough in the period of relative quiet, that is to say when the currents of air were sufficient to pro-

voke the characteristic sound, otherwise it was absent, though the spasm persisted.

The diagnosis was made of a neurosis of the respiratory centres, characterized by spasm of the glottis and the diaphragm, accompanied with spasm of the auxiliary muscles.

The patient, three days after, had recovered from the dyspnœa and the hiccough without any treatment. GRACE PECKHAM.

On Clonic Spasm of the Tongue. By DR. GUISEPPE SEPELLI. (*Rivista Sperimentale de Freniatria e di Med. Leg.* Anno XI., Fasc. IV., 1886.)

This affection is a rare one. Erb relates a case of a child who, when it was necessary to push out the tongue, had a spasm which consisted of a very rapid movement of alternate pushing forward and retracting that member.

Berger describes two cases of idiopathic lingual spasm; in one the tongue came forward irresistibly with rhythmic contractions at the rate of fifty to sixty times per minute. The spasmodic attacks lasted half a minute, and were repeated several times in the day. The tongue took a rectilinear direction, and pointed came against the lips.

The other case was that of a man, 42 years, whose tongue from time to time, such as a few times a week, or a few times in the day, was protruded against his will from his mouth with great force. Remak cites the case of a man who had a rectilinear spasm of the tongue four or five times during a minute. After citing these cases, the writer adds his own, that of a woman who had psychical disturbance, contemporaneous with which she manifested a spasm of the tongue, which consisted of involuntary muscular contractions, rhythmical in character, which were limited to the right side. The tongue was drawn back and then pushed forward against the right dental arch. On the right side were also fibrillary contractions. The motions did not cease, but continued day and night with varying intensity at the rate of forty to fifty times or more per minute. The movement was produced by all the muscles of the right side of the tongue, the genio-glossus, hyoglossus, styloglossus, and lingual. In the right side of the neck there was a rhythmical swelling, which at first sight appeared like arterial pulsation, but was dependent upon the clonic contractions of the muscles. (The writer gives a myographic tracing.)

There was also from time to time a spontaneous clonic spasm of the right foot.

The spasm was relieved, but not cured, by bromide of potassium, three grammes daily, and by the faradism of the lingual muscles.

In conclusion, the writer speculates on the seat of the trouble, and decided that lingual spasms are functional, and may be considered a neurosis of the hypoglossus. G. P.