Periscope.

CLINICAL NEUROLOGY.

- 91 "EIN BEITRAG ZUR KENTNISS DER PSEUDOLOGIA PHANTASTICA" (An Example of Pseudologia Phantastica). Redlich (Allg. Zeitschrift für Psychiatrie, 1900, LVII, 1, S. 65).

By this somewhat phantastic name, it has been proposed to designate "pathological lying," whose special characteristics the author gives as follows: It occurs always upon a degenerative basis, in imbeciles, hysterical subjects, etc. It comes on as an irresistible impulse, like an obsession as it were, and is often connected with a state of double consciousness, so that the patient, when in his comparatively normal condition, may have a realization of the misrepresentations which he has made, and may be much distressed thereby. There is generally a great susceptibility to auto-suggestion. The author discusses the subject at some length and gives the history of a typical case. ALLEN.

- 92 ACROMEGALY AND RAYNAUD'S DISEASE.

Of more than usual interest is A. Boettiger's article (*Munch. med. Woch.*, Dec. 19, 1899), giving an account of a case in which both these rare maladies were present. The patient (21 years of age), noticed as first symptoms, coldness, numbness and formication in the hands and feet which soon turned a dark-blue color. Neuralgic pains were absent. The paresthesiæ and discoloration, at first paroxysmal, soon became more intense and persistent. The patient's attention was soon attracted to an increase in size of the hands and head. Symptoms of intracranial pressure, eye-disturbances or rheumatic pains were absent, nor could any retinal or other ocular changes be demonstrated. The tongue was wider, the nose thicker, and a radiograph showed a decided increase in volume of the bones, and more particularly of the soft parts of the right arm and left hand. The skin of the palm was tough, hypertrophied and showed excessive cornification; the hands themselves were cold and moist, but the most prominent symptom was the bluish-black discoloration, mottled with a few irregular reddish spots, and extending above the wrists. The sensation of touch was perfectly normal, and pain was elicited only on penetrating for some distance into the skin. The susceptibility to heat and cold was much diminished.

In discussing the case the author says that it is not the first one of its kind; indeed, there often are peripheral vasomotor neuroses in the beginning stages of acromegaly. There are, in short, close relations between the latter disorder and Raynaud's disease, since stasis is not rare in the one and swelling and thickening may occur in the other. In both, the seat (hands, feet, nose, ears, and, later, arms and legs) is the same, and similar pathologic vessel changes have been discovered. Boettiger does not believe in the hypophysis theory of acromegaly, but on the basis of the cited case develops a new explanation. It seems to him illogical to refer so general a disease to so small an organ; then, too, the fact that the pituitary body is so often diseased without