be examined bacteriologically and carefully treated. The hot bath, frequent lumbar puncture, the serum of Wassermann and of Flexner are mentioned in treatment.

C. E. ATWOOD.

ON INSANITY, WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO HEREDITY AND PROGNOSIS. A. R. Urquhart (The Edinburgh Medical Journal, N. S. Vol. XXI, No. 3). Lecture I—Prolegomena.

In this, his first Morison Lecture on the subject, Dr. Urquhart gives an interesting historical review of the methods of study and investigation of insanity from the time of Hippocrates down, and discusses some of the modern opinions. Acknowledging himself to have been a follower of Sankey, whose generalization that all insanities begin with melancholia and tend to pass through mania and dementia unless interrupted by recovery (or death), he now recognizes later influences and lauds especially the work of Bruce and Robertson; that Bruce has finally brought insanity into the category of other somatic diseases through his clinical studies into the toxic nature of insanity; and that Robertson's conclusions in reference to general paralysis, the failure of the organism to protect itself against bacterial invasion, he thinks may be extended to forms of ordinary insanity which hitherto have evaded the skill of the pathologist; and finally states that it is necessary to revise the opinions of yesterday and recognize that the physical conditions are the more important considerations which render insanity an affair of medicine. In compiling statistics, the neuropathic heredity should be more carefully studied. Want of mental balance, eccentricity, alcoholism, paralysis, should be especially inquired into. It is his custom, so far as possible, to construct graphic charts of each family under observation. From these it appears that the incidence bears heaviest upon the eldest members of the families in fraternity, and that there is a fairly constant diminution of frequency as the families increase in size.

C. E. ATWOOD.

PLASMA CELLS IN NORMAL GASSERIAN GANGLIA. E. Meyer (Anat. Anzeiger XXVIII, Bd. 3, 4).

This article as reviewed by Dr. Goldstein of Königsberg (Centralblatt f. Nervenheilkunde, January 1, 1907), says that Meyer was able to demonstrate plasma cells in all human Gasserian ganglia. The cells were situated within the capsule and they were either singly or in groups. His observations are of great interest inasmuch as plasma cells are usually found in pathological conditions of brain and spinal cord.

MORRIS J. KARPAS (Ward's Island).

TUMOR OF THE HYPOPHYSIS WITHOUT AKROMEGALY. Kollarits (Deutsche Zeitschrift f. Nervenheilkunde, Band 28, Heft. 1.)

Kollarits tabulates a series of cases in which there was tumor of the hypophysis cerebri, without akromegaly. Among these he includes two cases of his own. Usually these tumors occur in young persons, but Kollarits is of the opinion that a careful consideration of the cases suggests that tumor of the hypophysis is merely one of the symptoms, and not the cause of akromegaly.

J. SAILER.