electric excitability of the cerebrum was distinctly lowered. The same effect was produced by bringing strychnine directly into contact with the cerebrum. Therapeutically, the results of these experiments seem to cast light upon the curative action of strychnine in cortical epilepsy and other irritative conditions of the cortex cerebri. Lauder Brunton's recommendation of the remedy in sleeplessness also finds herein its explanation (Therapeutische Monatshefte, Aug., 1890). Paulsen has also investigated the influence of strychnine upon the nervous system (Strychninets lammende Virking, The Paralyzant Action of Strychnine; Nordiskt Med. Arkiv, 1889; Bd. 21, No. 9). He finds that large doses cause a general paralysis of the central nervous system. Benedikt's communication on "Strychnine as an Antiseptic," abstracted in the Norsk Magazin for Sægevidenskaben, 1890, p. 760, is also cited as confirming Biernacki's results.—(Norsk Magazin for Sægevidenskaben, No. 7, 1891.)

A. P.

THE EYE IN THE INSANE.

M. Roger read a paper on this subject before the French Congress of Alienists, and arrived at the following conclusions:

1. The insane present no pathognomonic ocular lesion.
2. With the right-handed the right eye, and the left-handed the left eye, is the one most generally affected.
3. As a rule, insane with ocular affections are subject to hallucinations.
4. The proportion of insane affected with eye disease is about 33%.—"Le Progrès Medical," August 15, 1891.

W. C. K.

EPILEPSY.

Frank P. Norbury, M.D., (Medical Age, July 10, 1891) considers that epileptics, as a rule, are religiously inclined and he believes the religious history of the world has been greatly influenced by this disease. He says Mohamedanism owes its popularity and great influence to it. It was epilepsy which held before Mohamed's eyes and made to sound in his ears the hallucination which led him to believe he had a message from God. The dogged persistence, brutal-like cruelty and lack of human justice of Napoleon I. no doubt had epilepsy for a basis. Reading the history of his memorable campaigns, we find the word impossible never entered therein; and Talleyrand and others speak of