objects fused with eight degrees of prism, no matter whether used in one glass or in various combinations with two glasses. When the patient looked to the right or to the left the diplopia disappeared. This is characteristic of so-called divergence paralysis in distinction from diplopia due to paralysis of ocular muscles. Again, when an object was brought within two feet of the patient the diplopia disappeared. This is another characteristic feature. There are about twenty cases on record of this variety of diplopia. It has been attributed to paralysis of the divergence center, the theory being that just as there is a center for convergence (presumably in the mid-frontal lobe) there is a center for divergence which is inhibited when we converge, but called into play together with inhibition of the convergence center, when we look at distant objects.

TRACTION-SPLINT FOR MUSCULAR SHORTENING

By G. L. Walton, M.D.

Dr. Walton also showed the splint of Sir William Gowers, for use in cases of toe-drop to obviate tendency to shortening of calf muscles. The objection to the use of an elastic muscle attached to the toe and to a band about the leg is that the local pull is irksome and cannot be borne continuously. This apparatus was described and figured in a lecture in the *Clinical Journal*, March 6, 1895, and reprinted in Gowers' "Clinical Lectures," Blakiston, Philadelphia, 1895, in a lecture on the treatment of muscular contracture, but it seems not to have attracted in this country the attention which it deserves.

This apparatus is admirably adapted to remedy this condition by causing the pull to be extended over the surface of the boot. The boot consists of a single piece of sole leather "connected by a narrow part about two inches wide, behind the heel, which allows flexion of the ankle and yet affords sufficient vertical resistance to prevent any pressure on the skin at the source of the pull." The leather having been soaked in cold water is allowed to harden about a cast of the leg and foot in such a way that the narrow strip of leather forms a hinge at the heel. Lacings are inserted, and the elastic is stretched from rings attached to the back of the foot sheath and the sides of the leg piece. In the model shown (which Sir William Gowers had forwarded Dr. Walton at his request, together with directions for its manufacture) the latter was continued to the thigh and cut out for another hinge at the knee. This extension is for use in case of tendency to contracture of the hamstring muscles, in which event the elastics are extended crosswise over the knee. This appliance may be worn continuously day and night for months, and if desirable, the patient can walk about the room with the apparatus on.

BRAIN SHOWING CIRCUMSCRIBED CORTICAL ATROPHY.

By Dr. McDonald

Since Marie's views regarding aphasia have been so widely discussed and received with such marked favor in many quarters, one runs the risk of being regarded as behind the times in attempting to find special centers in the brain having for their function the focalization and preservation of concrete memory concepts; that is, concepts dependent for their complete