autonomic activity of each cerebral lobe are susceptible of much exaggeration. In the case of the insane the discrepancy of weight between the hemispheres is much greater than normal, and it is the right lobe which is the centre of troperic activity. Sometimes the difference in weight is as much as 25 to 30 grammes, and that too without destructive lesion.

6. In certain cases of insanity (*halluciné lucides*) the co-existence of sanity and insanity gives a rational explanation of the integrity of one lobe and the morbid hypertrophy of certain regions of its fellow of the opposite side.

7. In a great number of psychopathic conditions, ungovernable impulses, alienation with consciousness, &c., the morbid states can have no other rational and true physiological explanation than a transient discord between the hemispheres—one acting irregularly, the other normally.

8. With regard to the prognosis of mental disease—the survival and persistence of lucidity implies an integrity of one lobe with all its dynamic capabilities; and reciprocally the absence of this lucidity implies the simultaneous and parallel invasion of both hemispheres.

A. R. URQUHART, M.D.

One-sided Epilepsy with Tubercle in the Motor Zone.

—Dr. ASSAGIOLI received a girl of ten years of age into the General Hospital of Venice (see *Giornale Veneto di Scienze Mediche*, Gennajo 1879), who was suffering from pulmonary and intestinal tuberculosis.

During the last days of her life, there were convulsive fits confined to the right half of the body. The fits were principally in the leg, but also passed to the arm, neck, and face on the same side. During the attacks, which lasted five minutes, consciousness remained intact, the pupils were dilated. There were four of these convulsions in one day, and one, limited to the leg, two days after. From this till death, eleven days after, there were no more fits.

It was supposed that the lesion was in the cortex cerebri, though the possibility of its being in the ganglia at the base of the brain was not excluded.

On opening the skull there was found hyperæmia of the pia mater, and some irregular pieces of cheesy matter covering a surface of a square centimetre, infiltrating not only the superficial grey substance of the paracentral lobule, but also the underlying white

tissue. The brain substance round about was softened. The rest of the brain was healthy. There were pleuritic adhesions in the chest, crude tubercles in the lung and caseous degeneration of the mesenteric glands. Tubercular ulcers were also found in the intestines.

Una Microcefala: Osservazioni Anatomiche ed Antropologiche del Dottore CARLO GIACOMINI, con quattro tavole litografate. Turin, 1876.—Dr. Carlo Giacomini had an opportunity of examining the body of a microcephale, called Manolino, and comparing the skull and brain with that of two other microcephales, called Bertolotti and Rubiolio. The result of his studies is given in an octavo pamphlet of 90 pages, illustrated by some very fine lithographs of the brain of Manolino and the skulls and cranial outlines of all the three microcephales.

Dr. Giacomini, who has made a careful study of the literature of the subject, enumerates most of the cases of microcephaly which have been published of late years. Manolino died at the age of 17 years. She was 64 inches in height. The head was 4.10 millimètres, about 16 inches in circumference, and the weight of the brain was 550 grammes. This, of course, is not an extreme case of microcephaly, since brains of half that weight have been described. The weight of Bertolotti's brain was 323 grammes.

The intellect of Manolino was very defective, but on this point the details are scanty. The convolutions were broad and simple, and the occipital lobe did not entirely overlap the cerebellum. There was nothing Simian in the type of the brain, and a very careful dissection of the body showed that there were no anomalies which could be traced to reversion of type. The author believes that he was the first to make a careful dissection of the body of a microcephale; this, however, was previously done by Bischoff, in the case of Helena Becker. The results of Giacomini's inquiry confirm those of the German anatomist. Microcephaly cannot be considered an example of atavism, and the only thing Simian about the brain of a microcephale is its diminutive size. At the end of the pamphlet there is a stereographic profile of six skulls, beginning from the outline of a large head, and ending with that of Rubiolio, which is much the smallest of them all.

W. W. IRELAND, M.D.