

based on a fundamental double consciousness. This theory, which is both biological and psychological in character, Sabatier terms "duplicism." In a series of four long and detailed articles, Dr. Bonne, of Braqueville Asylum, traverses the entire field and shows that duplicism is contrary to all the data of biology, and also fails to afford any satisfactory theory of the psychological facts it undertakes to explain. He points out that even the concessions made twenty years ago by Ribot as to the possible independence of the cerebral hemispheres under some circumstances are to-day no longer admissible. Dr. Bonne's articles are too closely argued to be easily summarised, but they may be commended to those who may still be inclined to think that the theory of a duplex brain furnishes an easy explanation of complex psychic phenomena.

HAVELOCK ELLIS.

The Affective Characters of Perception [*Les Caractères Affectifs de la Perception*]. (*Journ. de Psychol., Norm. et Path.*, July, 1907.) Waynbaum.

The mental product of perception is a state of knowledge. Besides the intellectual factor, however, perception also possesses an affective factor. This emotional element arises in one of two ways: (1) because the perception is not in harmony with the preceding mental state, and thus enters the mind with a certain shock, or (2) because the perception intrinsically contains an emotional element, the latter being, as it were, carried in from the outside world. As regards the first variety the emotional element disappears with repetition, and varies inversely with the preceding state of preparedness of the consciousness. In this case the emotion is due to a direct action upon the lower centres without the intervention of the higher—it is perceptive-emotional. In the second variety, however, the higher centres are essentially involved, and the process is ideo-emotional. The perception originates an idea, and the idea originates an emotion. The arousal of sympathy is an excellent example of this second type.

BERNARD HART.

2. Neurology.

Remarks on the Investigation of the Ganglion Cells in the Fresh State [*Einige Bemerkungen zur Untersuchung der Ganglien-zellun in frischem Zustand*] (*Centralbl. für Nervenheilkunde*, No. 238.) De Montet, Ch.

After describing some of his methods of staining nerve-tissue, Dr. Montet observes that when an examination of considerable area is to be speedily made it is best to examine the tissues in the fresh state without fixing them in any way. He makes a thin section with a double knife and then stretches the preparation. The object glass should be large and slightly warmed, and the staining solutions carefully dropped upon it. After a minute the covering glass is put on. Under this treatment the form of the nerve-cell is preserved and the Nissl corpuscles come well out. Dr. Montet has found that with this

process of stretching the preparations suffer less change than when subjected to great variations of temperature and osmotic pressure, and that they present the most natural forms. In sections made on frozen tissues, without formalin hardening, the nerve-cells are too much injured. After formalin hardening the colouring by neutral red does not turn out well.

Dr. Montet observes that this method of stretching sections is not adapted to all inquiries nor can it take the place of sections with the microtome. It is most useful when the examiner is pressed for time.

WILLIAM W. IRELAND.

3. Ætiology of Insanity

On the Direct Descent of Hereditary Insanity [Ueber die Klinischen Formen der Psychosen bei direkter Erblichkeit]. (Centralbl. für Nervenheilkunde, No. 230.) Foerster.

Dr. Foerster has made a diligent inquiry into the history of families in which there was a neurotic heredity. He carefully excluded all cases in which the diagnosis was doubtful and arranged his material into two groups. The first group, consisting of ascendants and descendants, comprised twenty-five families; the second group, consisting of sisters and brothers, comprised thirty-one families. Each of these groups were sub-divided into *a* and *b*, which stands for similar or dissimilar heredity. Group 1*a* consists of eleven families in whom the children were born eight times before and three times after the nervous disease of the parents. In Group 1*b* out of fourteen families the descendants were born twelve times before and twice after the appearance of the disease in their parents. Group 2*a* comprises twenty-three, and Group 2*b* only eight families. It is difficult to go into further details without a prolonged abstract. One result comes out that dementia præcox and manic-depressive insanity often occur in direct descent. Only in four families was the hereditary disease more severe with the children than with the parents. In the discussion, which followed the paper, Dr. Thomson stated that in his observations, he found the disease more severe with the children.

WILLIAM W. IRELAND.

4. Clinical Psychiatry.

Writer's Cramp treated by the Method of Ligature [Crampe des Écrivains guérie par la Ligature élastique]. (Arch. de Neurol., July, 1906.) Hartenburg, P.

The author has systematically employed the method of ligature, originally advocated by Bier for arthritic cases, in various neuromuscular disorders, contractures, spasms, cramps, etc. The results have, on the whole, been satisfactory.

In the case of writer's cramp described in the present paper, the