

patient died suddenly in a state of general contracture and of intense cyanosis. Many osteophytes were found on the inner surface of the skull at the post mortem. The dura mater was tightly distended and congested; the pia mater, somewhat œdematous, transparent in the tempero-parietal regions, and somewhat opaque at the base of the brain, around the chiasma. No granulations. The circumvolutions were much flattened. No thrombus. No notable modifications in the base of the brain. No granulations of the ependyma. Marked anæmia of the cerebral substance. Considerable dilatation of the ventricles, which were full of a limpid liquid. The spinal meninges contained, also, a certain quantity of liquid. Heart normal. Subpleural ecchymosis. Acute pulmonary emphysema. Spleen, kidneys, intestines, normal. Ecchymosis in both eyes. The antemortem diagnosis was thus confirmed. E. N. B.

**Some Facts Concerning the Brains of Ataxic Patients.**—(*Le Mercredi Medical*, Feb. 1, 1893). Dr. Nageotte reported to the Biological Society of Paris, in January, some facts elucidated by him in the microscopical examination of the brains of three tabetic patients, transmitted to him by Professor Déjerine for that purpose. These examinations were made in pursuance of ideas formulated by Dr. Raymond as to the possible co-existence of locomotor ataxy and general paresis, the symptoms of the latter passing unnoticed, owing either to the prevalent cachexia, or to the fact that the pathognomonic lesions of paresis were circumscribed and not generally diffused in the brain cortex. E. N. B.

**Histological Alterations of the Cerebral Cortex in Several Mental Diseases.** (*Le Mercredi Medical*, March 1, 1893.) Dr. R. Colella reported to the meeting of the French Academy of Sciences, Feb. 20, 1893, the result of his studies on general paresis and on the alcoholic psychoses. In progressive general paresis, accompanied by a history of syphilitic infection, the histological alterations are principally those of the blood vessels, of the neuroglial cells and of the protoplasmic prolongations of the nervous elements. The cylinder axes are destroyed in but a few of the elements, and that at a late period of the disease. The alterations commence essentially in the vascular rete. In paralytic dementia, with alcoholic intoxication, a hypertrophy of the arachnoid cells takes place, as well as different degrees of degenerative trouble of the nerve fibres. Ru-