

ART. XXVI.—*Bibliothèque Diabolique.—Le Sabbat des Sorciers.* PAR BOURNEVILLE ET E. TEINTURIER. 8vo. pp. 38. Paris: aux Bureaux du Progrès Médical, 1882.

APPARENTLY our contemporaries of the Progrès Médical propose to issue a series of *brochures*, illustrative of some of the superstitions which are usually regarded as forgotten, but which have much more currency among the uneducated than is supposed by those who do not realize how ineradicable are beliefs that have once obtained possession of the human mind. As its title indicates, the present pamphlet is devoted to the nocturnal feasts which witches were believed to celebrate under the presidency of Satan, and it consists of extracts from the works of demonographers which were regarded as authoritative in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, illustrated by numerous fac-similes of wood-cuts representing the various phases of intercourse between demons and their votaries. These details, for the most part, were obtained from the confessions of the poor wretches who were examined under torture and convicted of the unpardonable crime of sorcery, and it would be a most interesting inquiry to determine how much of their stories was the result of a desire to escape from torment by satisfying their judges, and how much was simple hysterical monomania. Unfortunately the editors have not deemed it a part of their duty to investigate this, beyond a short note on p. 25, calling attention to the possible connection between the odour popularly attributed to witches and that which is recognized as exhaled by patients in attacks of hystero-epilepsy. We trust that in future issues of the series more attention will be paid to this subject, for few more interesting contributions to the history of human error could be made than an examination into mediæval demonology by the light of modern scientific knowledge of mental aberrations and nervous disease.

H. C. L.

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ART. XXVII.—*Die Pflege und Ernährung des Kindes*, von Dr. A. JACOBI, Prof. der Kinderheilkunde am College of Physicians and Surgeons, zu New York. Separat-Abdruck aus Gerhardts Handbuch der Kinderkrankheiten. H. Laupp. Tübingen (2te Auflage 1882) S. 173.

*The Care and Nourishing of the Child.* By Dr. A. JACOBI, Prof. of Diseases of Children in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York. Reprinted from Gerhardts Handbook of Children's Diseases. Tübingen.

THIS contribution of Prof. Jacobi's to Gerhardts magnificent encyclopædia of our knowledge in regard to the diseases of children has been separately printed, and would be well worthy of immediate translation entire into our language.

It appropriately opens with some general considerations in regard to the various causes which increase the death-rate among children, and our author then proceeds to consider the methods of establishing respiration and circulation in the feeble new-born infant, the care of the cord and

navel, the examination for deformities, paralysis, tumours, etc., all of which are ably and exhaustively discussed.

The next section includes advice in regard to the temperature and duration of the child's bath, and the management of the baby's breasts in which the avoidance of the rude pressing and squeezing so often practised by nurses is judiciously insisted on. The important question—whether the child should be put to the breast at once—is decided in the affirmative, on the ground that we can thus best avoid the temporary emaciation which otherwise occurs, and so imitate the tendency to gain in weight observed from almost the first day in the lower animals.

In no portion of the work is the sound judgment and profound learning of our author more conspicuously displayed than in his chapter upon nursing infants, which includes the great subjects of the period of weaning, the interference of menstruation and pregnancy with lactation, the selection of a wet-nurse, and the special treatment of this sometimes necessary evil.

On page 72 commences the very important section in regard to the substitution for mother's milk, first, of that of different animals, and further on of various farinaceous and other compounds. Prof. Jacobi's experience with goat's milk is not favourable, and as mare's milk and ass's milk are seldom employed on account of their scarcity, the most available substitute is of course cow's milk. Our author gives some curious observations by Renaud, Bernard, and others on the value of slut's milk in cases of rachitis, in which the results were very favourable (vide p. 86). Among the other substitutes is mentioned the egg drink of Hennig (p. 96) which, however, does not receive the earnest commendation bestowed upon it by Dr. Jacobi in Buck's "Hygiene," where he declares that he has saved many a baby's life by the use of a slightly modified form made with barley water.

The momentous questions in regard to vegetable substitutes for breast milk are introduced by a most instructive disquisition upon the action of the infantile salivary glands, pancreas, liver, and intestines upon the constituents of the farinaceous aliments, which involves an exhaustive consideration of the causes of costiveness in babies, and admirable rules for its dietetic cure. Much of the information contained in this chapter may be found in our author's excellent article on Infant Hygiene, already reviewed in these pages (Buck's "Hygiene and Public Health," vol. i. p. 106 *et seq.*); in Dr. Jacobi's useful little book on "Infant Diet;" and in his eloquent address, as President of the New York State Medical Society, upon "Infant Foods and Infant Feeding," where, however, the sound microscopical investigations of Eliza McDonough are unfortunately associated with pseudo-scientific observations upon so-called gluten cells.

Six pages of "Aphorismen," giving the contents of the work in an abbreviated form, on pp. 154–160, serve the purpose of an index and table of contents, while at the same time they afford a concise yet complete exposition of the author's teachings. Their value is so great that we would direct particular attention to them, especially as on account of their position in the book, they might otherwise escape observation in a cursory perusal.

The work concludes with three brief sections, in the form of appendices, on the care of the teeth, the care of the senses, and the care of the soul. In the last of these chapters our theological readers will, however (except they be priests and priestesses of agnosticism), find but little aid or comfort, since the second sentence runs as follows: "Den Gehalt an Fett und Phosphor bedingen zu einem hohen Grade die Quantität der Hirnarbeit."

We feel that our brother practitioners, to whom a work in the German language happens to be a sealed book, have reason to rejoice that most (though unfortunately not all) of this invaluable contribution to medical science has already a place in our standard American literature, and we heartily congratulate its gifted and accomplished author on that comparatively rare mastery of two distinct tongues which enables him to inculcate his teachings upon such a most important subject with equal facility to both the leading nations of the civilized world. J. G. R.

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ART. XXVIII.—*Inoculation of Leprosy upon Animals.* (*Separatdruck aus Virchow's Archiv*, 1882, Band 88.)

PROFESSOR HEINRICH KÖBNER, of Berlin, gives in this reprint an account of his attempts to inoculate various animals with leprosy. The material employed was from a German who had acquired the disease after a residence of eleven years in Pernambuco. It first exhibited itself in its macular, anæsthetic form, to which subsequently tubercles were added. On the twelfth of April, 1881, one of these nodules was cut out from the patient's thigh, and examined with the assistance of Dr. Koch, who also aided the author in the subsequent experiments. Considering the notions which prevail in leprous countries, that the disease is in some way connected with a fish diet, it was determined to make the trial upon fishes as well as upon representatives of the other vertebrate classes. The tissues and juices of the nodule, having been properly examined and found to contain the expected bacilli, were transplanted upon and inoculated into the following animals: 1. A medium-sized ape from Java, in the subcutaneous cellular tissue of the back, in the skin of both ears, of both upper eyelids, and the mucous membrane of the under lip; 2. Two Guinea pigs, subcutaneously at the bottom of the ears; 3. Three white rats and mice, subcutaneous transplantation in the groin and back; 4. Two rabbits, transplantation of a portion of the nodule into the anterior chamber of the eyes; 5. A pigeon, subcutaneously in the neck; 6. Three eels (*Anguilla vulgaris*), transplantation into the skin of the neck; 7. A mudfish (*Cobitis*), into the muscles of the back; and 8. A frog, into the dorsal lymph-sac.

The frog died April 25th, and on May 23d one of the eels, without exhibiting any bacilli in the blood or tissue. One of the rabbits died on June 7th of pneumonia, the other was killed Sept. 30th. In neither was any leprous matter or free bacilli. The rats, mice, and the dove were killed after months with the same result. The Guinea pigs, after two successive pregnancies, as well as their young, were found to be free from any signs of leprosy or bacilli, and an examination of the tissues at the points of inoculation showed doubtful vestiges of the foreign material encapsuled, but no bacilli. The fishes exhibited after two or three months an affection of the skin of a parasitic nature, in which bacilli were found, but not those characteristics of leprosy, and with which they are frequently affected, both in their ocean life, and the aquarium. The ape exhibited on July 15th a brown, nodular swelling on the upper lip, which increased so much in resemblance to a leprous nodule that at the