

Pexiscope.

EXCERPTS WILL BE FURNISHED AS FOLLOWS:

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The Editor will not accept as ORIGINAL ARTICLES and CLINICAL CASES those that have appeared elsewhere.

Authors are requested to make none but typographical corrections on the proof sent to them. The manuscript must represent the final form in which the article is to be printed.

PATHOLOGICAL.

THE EYE SYMPTOMS IN FUNCTIONAL NEUROSES.

The authors, Herman Wilbrand and Alfred Sänger (Neurolog. Centralbl., No. 17, 1892), define the term functional disturbances of the eyes, as a diminution of the central and peripheral vision, with normal ophthalmoscopic findings, and in general normal pupils, associated with involvement of the external ocular muscles and the accommodation, and with symptoms of irritability in the course of the trigeminus and facial nerves. Functional disturbances of other nerves are almost always present at the same time. Functional affections of the visual apparatus may also arise in the course of organic diseases of the nervous system.

The contraction of the visual field resulting from fatigue, which rapidly disappears under normal conditions, is more persistent in abnormal states, and may sometimes lead to the complete but momentary suppression of the entire field. The failure to recognize these phenomena may lead to entirely erroneous conclusions. Equally concentrically narrowed fields are either found temporarily in connection with a hysterical, hysterio-epileptic or epileptic attack, or permanently in epileptics independent of the attack.

W. M. L.

A THEORY OF SUBCORTICAL APHASIA.

Bleuler coincides with Freud in the view that sub-cortical word-deafness probably arises through incomplete bilateral lesion of the acoustic field, possibly under the influence of peripheral disturbances of hearing. It is, however, quite likely that the acoustic word-pictures are conducted to the brain cortex (*i. e.*, consciousness) through the same fibres which transmit impressions made by the other qualities of sound. Otologists have recorded several cases in which the hearing for various noises, for musical sounds and for conversation, was affected in different degrees through peripheral disturbances. Incomplete word-deafness, or a difficulty in hearing words, may be induced by solely physical means. He concludes that: (1) It is not necessary to ascribe the word-deafness to a central lesion; (2) that a general derangement of hearing can suppress the acoustic comprehension of words, without any considerable alteration in the perception of other qualities of sound (Neurolog. Centralb., No. 18, 1892).

W. M. L.

THE CHANGES BROUGHT ABOUT IN THE NERVOUS SYSTEM BY SYPHILIS AND THE PATHOGENESIS OF TABES.

Marmesco (Wiener med. Wochen., No. 51 and 52, 1891). The author critically examined four cases of syphilis of the nervous system which had been under the observation of Prof. Möli, of Dalldorf, and formulates his conclusions as follows:

1. The changes in the blood-vessels which one finds in syphilitics have, in part, an inflammatory character, and belong to that variety of blood-vessel degeneration