

toplasmic voltaic action at the negative element during repose, are decomposed and produce a current in an opposite direction. The chemical, oxidizing, katabolic, protoplasmic foci of the liberated energies are ascertainable by the peculiarity of—the electric—that it inhibits polarity.

A. F.

Society Reports.

NEW YORK NEUROLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Meeting of February 2d, 1892.

The President, Dr. L. C. GRAY, in the chair.

PACHYMENINGITIS AND MYELITIS.

Dr. MARY PUTNAM JACOBI read an account of a case of this condition which was at first supposed to be due to a Pott's disease, but where a solid tumor had developed against the spine during the last weeks of life and was diagnosed as sarcoma. The case was compared with one related by Dr. Gee, in the St. Bartholomew Hospital report, and close resemblances pointed out between them. In Dr. Gee's case the sarcomatous nature of the disease was demonstrated by an autopsy, which could not be obtained in the case under discussion.

THE SURGICAL TREATMENT OF EPILEPSY.

By JOSEPH PRICE, M.D.,

Philadelphia.

Epilepsy was defined as an apyretic, nervous affection, characterized by seizures of loss of consciousness with tonic or clonic convulsions. Its history, from a therapeutic standpoint, was one resource of scientific medication. Its treatment had been one of trial and disappointment, for it still remained one of the greatest opprobria of medicine. Its attacks were visited upon both sexes, hystero-epilepsy for the most part being confined to females. These latter class were attacked when a marriageable age was reached. Debauchery had frequently led to it. Young widows were prone to attacks, and its origin, outside of physical causes, might be traced to amorous songs and certain stimulants such as chocolate and coffee. For its cure various suggestions had been made, among other things that of resorting to venery. It had, however, been abundantly proven that excessive lust had produced epilepsy, and was no doubt yet to be