

## Editorial Notes.

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### PROMISES.

The JOURNAL now completes its twenty-first birthday.

Once it had a narrow, isolated, weak environment; now in its manhood it encircles in its strength the entire medical world. Its capabilities are greater than the average reader realizes. By a unanimous effort on the part of the neurological workers in America this coming year, it will out-distance all other (combined) neurological journals.

We intend to see this consummated very shortly, and it is this promise that we trust will bear fruit—*unanimity*. The JOURNAL is for the advancement of American Neurology. If you have a good paper send it to us.

The JOURNAL has been promised for the coming year a number of interesting editorials, and it here gives notice that it desires anyone who has any topic to discuss, editorially or otherwise, to write us as soon as possible in reference to the matter, as space is valuable.

The Weir Mitchell *address and discussion* has drawn world-wide attention and comment. We have not been able to give room to all letters, articles and criticism on this subject, and hope to be understood that we are not intentionally thwarting or obstructing the "good cause" (as you like it) one way or another, except by Shakespeare's process of not *over* repeating. We are expecting to receive much information from not only our State Commission of Lunacy but from others in the way of *true* medical progress. We trust to be able shortly to give a careful analysis of the State Commission of Lunacy's Report on the Ward's Island Investigation. We have been assured that the Commission intend to turn their attention to some practical way of utilizing the vast material under their charge and disposal, to systematic scientific study. They are at work on the question of Pathology and Pathologist. We hope it is not in *statu quo* too long. We trust soon to see something in this line accomplished. Promises and politics are stubborn things. It is the purpose of this JOURNAL, as its title implies, to not only combine mental and nervous diseases in its text, but to exert an influence in the direction of bringing them together as a mutual science. It was the JOURNAL's purpose of the past year, and it will be its purpose for all time, to advocate the neurologist entering the closed gates and narrow environments of the asylum, and study with his brother alienist at the hospital bedside and in the Sol-

arium or on the fields the cases once ascribed only as in his domain. It is just and right. So we call upon all to go on with the good work.

If it had not been for the generous and hearty support from the leading Pharmaceutical houses the JOURNAL could not possibly have been as generous in its circulation, size and general excellence, or keep as it has done its promises. We think that our columns are, to say the least, clean—nothing to offend; and our advertising pages are valuable records of new remedies.

We would be unfair to ourselves if we did not draw especial attention to our Directory of Institutions—the very best in the country, and complete in as far as those represented are the leading ones. This Directory has been of value many times as a reminder of an address or special place of treatment.

There have been fifty-five contributors to the JOURNAL the past year. We promise room for fifty more, if they are only the right kind.

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### SOMATOSE.

The new meat nutrient.

A monograph with experiments. July, 1894, London.

This is worth reading, and is one of Helbing's Pharmacological Records. The following recapitulations are interesting, to say the least:

1. Somatose is readily absorbed even in diseased conditions of the stomach and intestinal tract.
2. Somatose is tolerated and retained in sufficient quantities to ensure against the evils of mal-nutrition, and unlike artificial peptone preparations, which become obnoxious to the palate, Somatose actually stimulates the appetite.
3. Somatose does not disturb the most delicate stomach, never causing flatulence or diarrhœa.
4. Somatose is tasteless and odorless, and therefore agreeable and easy of administration, so that if desired it can be given without the knowledge of the patient, and in all cases without exciting the repugnance produced by the use of peptones.