

picion that such symptoms would appear. In such cases the katatonic symptoms may after greater or less duration, entirely disappear, or may persist and modify the further course of the disease. That a certain number of cases of katatonia recover is admitted. The author after discussing the individual symptoms concludes that it is impossible to draw from the presence or absence of any of them, positive prognostic conclusions, though some are decidedly more favorable than others. More promising he regards the study of the psychopathological fundamental signs and an effort to learn their relation to the profundity of the cerebral affection. He urges the necessity for continued study of the results of psychophysiological experimentation and their comparison with psychopathological manifestations, and expresses the hope that by so doing we may some day gain a standard of comparison, for mental symptoms, just as for instance we now estimate the character and extent of disease of the lungs by comparing the results of physical examination of the normal and of the affected organ, a sort of "psychical auscultation," as he expresses it. ALLEN.

PSYCHOSES OF THE MENOPAUSE. J. Chapin (Philadelphia Med. Journ., Aug. 25, 1900).

The author endeavors to show that the danger of insanity beginning during the menopause has been exaggerated. Out of 8,320 women admitted into various institutions, only 188 were specified as becoming insane at the menopause, nor was it clear how many out of the 188 went mad through the special changes in the genital tract at that period of life. The statistics of the Pennsylvania Hospital show that between the ages of forty-five and fifty-five, representing the usual range of the menopause 975 men and only 876 women were admitted into that institution. S. Weir Mitchell, in his analysis of 3,000 cases of melancholia, shows that the exact percentage of cases between the ages of forty-five and fifty was 20.2 in men and 21.4 in women, the difference being very, very slight, and once more not due, on any distinct evidence, to the local changes of the menopause. The dread or risk of insanity at the approach of the menopause in a woman ordinarily of sound mental and psychical health and inheritance has no better foundation than a popular delusion based on borrowed fears. JELLIFFE.