

relations to each other of the whole class of convulsions occurring in the puerperal state. The horrible symptoms attending their manifestation, so painful to behold, and so dangerous to the patient, urge us on to fathom the mysteries of their causation, and apply effectual remedies for their prevention or relief.

Mrs. S., the subject of the malady, was a primipara, 27 years of age, and born in England. Her complexion is dark, and her temperament nervous. In the books to which I have had access I found the notes of only three cases of a similar kind, and in all of these the epileptic attacks began at the age of puberty, and in two it is mentioned that they were connected with irregularity in the production of the catamenia. The history of this case is similar, as the epileptic seizures, which at first occurred only during the night, began when she was 14 years of age. At this time menstruation took place only once, slightly, and did not occur again for five years, when it was fully established.

As is generally the case in these instances some unusual occurrence is given as the apparent cause of this unfortunate weakness, and here the onset of the attacks is attributed to fright from having seen the suspended body of a female companion who had committed suicide by hanging. This nervous excitement was also said to have been kept up, by her having frequently, late in the evening to carry letters to the post office in a garrison town in which she lived. Until her marriage, which took place about two years ago, she had two fits in the month, and after that event they became more frequent. During the first few months of her pregnancy she had about half a dozen fits altogether, which, she thinks, were more severe than formerly, but in the last months she was entirely free from them, and, as she says: "forgot all about them." In the fourth month of her pregnancy she was threatened with abortion, the danger of which, however, by the employment of rest and opium soon passed away, and I heard no more