thence the optic nerve. Thus, with the light we have the special irritant applied to this nerve of a special sense; and, as proved anatomically as well as by physiological experiments, this nerve reflects its impression along the *third* (3rd) nerve to the iris, through the ophthalmic ganglion, and, as we know, instantaneous iris contraction is the result. But the impression reflected upon this ganglion has for us the highest interest. In it are ganglion cells with fibres connecting with other sympathetic ganglia. Now, however great or little may be the optic sensibility here, we are certain of one thing in these cases, and that is of an extreme hyperaesthesia of the ganglionic nervous system. Since externally in the changes of the iris, we can see the proof of the above supposition, it seems logical for us to assume that the sensation reflected from the optic nerve creates upon the ganglionic system such an impression that it is communicated to the vaso-motor centre—seated in the medulla oblongata—of the cerebral arteries; and that thence is communicated an irritation which causes an instantaneous contraction of the cerebral arteries, (possibly also by the irritation supplied to the depressor ganglion of the heart,) thus creating an anaemia, an abeyance of cerebral functions, and as a consequence the hypnotic state. This hypothesis seems quite the same as the one by which Ferrier accounts for related cases, where from emotional states, as anger, &c., spasm of some of the cerebral arteries has taken place, producing temporary blindness, deafness or aphasia, or which were relieved by the use of the magnet overcoming the spasm. We must not forget to note as a factor in this hypnotizing process, that in all such subjects the will-power has been passing into abeyance, since we have already seen that in proportion, as this is absent the spinal, and certainly the sympathetic, hyper-excitability is increased.

Here again let me quote from M. Jaccoud on "Cerebro-Spinal Irritation," words appropriately describing the condition here present. He says:—"The abnormal excitation of the cerebro-spinal system, causes its first effects to be felt upon the vaso-motor system, whose impressibility is so readily shown by the instantaneous production of pallor and of blushing, whence an anaemia or rather secondary ischaemia, both of brain and cord, which increases the disorder of excitability and transforms it into a persistent condition of irritable feebleness. Both clinical facts as shown by Ferrier and the experiments of Van der Becke, Callenfels, Nathnagel, and Krishaber have