

ful spots, localized in varying regions and by no means in harmony with regions anatomically or physiologically delimited.

When these pains are disseminated through nearly all parts of the economy, it is the *general neuralgia* of Valleix. When they are localized in one well-defined region, and maintain themselves there permanently, it is the *topoalgia* of Blocq, or monosymptomatic and painful neurasthenia. We would point out among these defined peripheral localizations of neurasthenia the *glosso-dynia* of Verneuil, with imaginary ulceration of the tongue, *coccygodynia*, *mammary algia*, certain *myalgias*, etc. There exists sometimes at the level of the painful spots, objective affections either of the sensibility or vaso-motor troubles.

5. The *dyspeptic form* (stomachic or intestinal) conforming to the digestive affections of various kinds. It shows itself sometimes by acute symptoms (simulating, in certain cases, typhilitis or perityphilitis), but generally presents a chronic evolution. Of all neurasthenic forms, this is the one which most frequently terminates in cachexia.

6. The *cardiac form* has been described under the name of cerebro-cardiac neuropathy (Krishaber). We have discussed it in the paragraph of accessory symptoms of neurasthenia.

Huchard has, quite recently, insisted on a special form of these cardiac affections, which he calls paroxysmal, painful arrhythmia (sometimes it is permanent) and which should not be confounded with neurasthenic angor.

7. The *genital form* (the sexual neurasthenia of Beard and the Germans) presents a condition of sexual excitement soon followed by a condition of depression with impotence, spermatorrhœa and chronic irritation of the prostate region. In the female this form of neurasthenia shows itself by lombo-abdominal neuralgia, pains in the hypogastric or iliac region, pruritus of the vulva, vaginismus and menstrual derangements.

*B. Neurasthenia, in connection with signs of hereditary degeneration.* The psychical trouble dominating this form of neurasthenia, consists of *phobias*.

Legrand du Saulle has given of the most interesting among them, *the fear of spaces*, a magnificent and thrilling description.

"The fear of spaces, ordinarily compatible with all the appearances of the most robust health, is

frequently produced at the very moment that the neuropath leaves the street and arrives at a square, and shows itself by a sudden pang and a peculiar sensation about the heart. The patient, now the prey of an undefinable emotion, finds himself isolated from the entire world at the sight of the space which appears before him, and he frightens himself beyond measure in spite of the slight foundation of his fear, and in spite of the wisest and most comforting exhortations that he addresses to himself, spontaneously. He feels prostrated, does not dare to leave the sidewalk, makes no step either forward or back, neither advances nor recedes, trembles in all his limbs, pales, shivers, blushes, is covered with perspiration, is more and more alarmed, scarcely supports himself on his tottering limbs, and remains painfully convinced that he will never be able to face this void, this desert place, and cross the area, which presented itself. Let any one suddenly look down a yawning chasm, let them imagine themselves to be above a burning crater, let them believe that they are crossing Niagara on a tight rope, or that they feel themselves rolling off a precipice, and the impression felt would not be more painful, more terrifying than that induced by fear of spaces. Nothing however hinders the progress of the frightened man, who moves his feet without advancing; this is proved by the fact, that in order to dissipate his terror, to recall his normal quietude and restore his courage, there is only necessary the presence of a companion, the arm of a passer-by, the hand of a child, the appearance of the light of a lantern, the meeting of a carriage, the possible assistance of a weapon, the support of a cane or even the possession of an umbrella.

Let the agoraphobe approach a house, his courage returns; let him enter a narrow street, he is reassured at once, let him meet an acquaintance, he is himself again, let him no longer feel that he is no longer alone and his bravery returns. The idea of being left alone in the desert fills him with terror, and the feeling of assistance no matter how slight, appeases him without effort. The unexpected sight of an open place takes away his strength, and confidence based on the slightest support, a deception brings them back to him at once. There is no fear without the void, no calmness without the appearance of a semblance of protection.