

infancy with regard to our knowledge of diseases attacking nervous structures; and much of what we do know is of such small practical importance, that in many cases but little aid is afforded in effecting our diagnosis. Dr. Da Costa has evidently bestowed great care on this portion of his book, and the various symptoms are detailed with great accuracy and fidelity, analysed carefully, and so well grouped under the head of each particular disease, that we are sure every physician who obtains the work, will find his knowledge of nervous disorders vastly improved by its perusal. Regarding the uncertain nature of nervous complaints, our author says:—

“From the preceding pages it will have become apparent how many of them are functional, or are at least of necessity so regarded, and how these functional disorders may be attended with the signs of quite as great, or even greater, disturbance than the organic maladies. And nothing is more difficult than to fix their seat; for after death not the slightest structural alteration may be discernible. In consequence, there is very great confusion, and much doubt is thrown over any anatomical or pathological classification of nervous complaints. I subjoin a table of the main nervous affections, arranged according to their supposed sites. It may not suit a rigid critic, but it is convenient for purposes of reference, and I do not contend for its being unimpeachable.

“TABLE OF THE DISORDERS OF THE BRAIN AND SPINAL CORD.

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| CEREBRAL | Organic | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Congestion. Meningitis, in its various forms. Hydrocephalus. Softening. Hæmorrhage (Apoplexy.) Tumors, etc. |
| | Functional | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delirium. Insanity. Headache. Trance. Ecstasy. |
| CEREBRO-SPINAL. | Organic | Cerebro-spinal meningitis. |
| | Functional | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Epilepsy. Catalepsy. Hysteria? |
| SPINAL | Organic | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hyperæmia. Spinal meningitis. Myelitis. Spinal apoplexy. Tumours, etc. Spinal irritation. |
| | Functional | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chorea. Tetanus. Hydrophobia. Reflex spasms due to irritation of the cord. |