

Functional Neurotic Disorders.

The various vital functions of the organism are so intimately associated and correlated that it is impossible to definitely attribute any chronic nervous illness to disease or derangement of *but one* of the great bodily systems, *i.e.*, circulatory, respiratory, digestive, lymphatic or nervous. The many neurotic conditions which the physician is so frequently called upon to treat cannot be successfully attacked by *confining treatment to the nervous system exclusively*, any more than can the cutaneous affections—acne, eczema, or urticaria, be permanently relieved by lotions, washes and unguents alone. Neurasthenia, Nervous “Break-down,” Nervous Prostration, “Brain-fag,” and allied states are usually but neurotic manifestations of some constitutional metabolic fault, which must be sought out and remedied if intelligent therapy is to be applied. Among the various pathologic conditions which oppose the relief of neural disorders, anemia, whether primary or secondary, is always worthy of therapeutic attention. Unless the blood supply is relatively normal in both quantity and integrity, its oxygen-carrying capacity is “below par,” and, consequently, metabolic exchange and interchange is embarrassed and the necessary improvement in bodily nutrition is difficult of accomplishment. Pepto-Mangan (Gude) stimulates and encourages oxygenation and nutrition, by furnishing the more or less impoverished blood with an immediately appropriable form of its vital metallic elements, iron and manganese. The vital stimulus thus imparted is often the one thing needful to initiate the substantial systemic “building up” process which must precede the desired recovery from neurotic disorders.

Catheterization.

Cystitis has been found so often to follow not only a foul catheter, but careless catheterism, that it is important to employ the most careful asepsis in the preparation of the patient, instruments and the operator's hands. And if the patient should essay to catheterize himself the above precautions should be enjoined upon him. After catheterization it is well to instill a few drops of a 1-1,000 solution of silver nitrate to the trigonum and throughout the urethra, and to administer by mouth sammetto in teaspoonful doses, in a half wine-glass of warm water every two hours.