

faeces; he eat every sort of filth he could lay his hands upon, whilst he had to be forced to partake of wholesome food. His attempt at speaking was more like the gibberish of a monkey than the speech of a man; in fact, for a man of his age, he was as good a specimen of dementia as there was in the asylum. When he was washed and cleaned, and I had a chance of examining his pulse, I found it to be 120.

Such is the description of the man who was sworn to be capable of producing priapism, or that another could produce priapism in him. As well might I be told that it could be produced in the unfortunate wretch who suffered from nerve exhaustion from being tortured in the rack.

Let us consider what is chronic dementia. All writers on mental diseases classify it under the heading of mental weakness.

Dr. Crichton Brown, who has given the result of his examination of four hundred brains of persons who had died insane, twenty-five of whom were cases of chronic dementia, viz., 17 males and 8 females, gives us the following conclusions respecting brain weight. After carefully weighing all these brains, he says, "Consecutive chronic dementia, a form or forms of mental disease embracing so many of the inmates of our lunatic hospitals, whose *nervous systems* have been irreparably damaged by the acute storms of disease, or who have subsided quietly into the depths of fatuous degeneration, is represented in table 6 by a *brain weight* only a shade greater than that of organic dementia."

....."In the dementia of general paralysis the *cerebellum* does not share to anything like a full extent in the wasting by which the cerebrum, is so seriously reduced; indeed the *cerebellum* is less wasted in the dementia of general paralysis than in any of the *other chronic forms of dementias*."....."In acute mania in both sexes the *cerebellum* is of *great weight, absolutely and relatively* to the weight of the hemispheres; and indeed in almost all forms of mental exaltation and depression the weight of the organ contrasts notably with what is seen in states of mental weakness."

We see there by the pathological researches of Crichton Brown that in chronic dementia the whole nervous system is irreparably damaged; that so much does brain-wasting take place that in weight the brain was only a

shade greater than it was in organic dementia; that the *cerebellum* is *more wasted* in chronic dementia than it even is in general paralysis; that in acute mania the *cerebellum* is of great weight, contrasting notably with what is seen in states of mental weakness.

So much for the pathology of consecutive chronic dementia. Speaking of such cases Dr. Maudsley says: "There is a group of demented patients in whom the mind is almost extinguished, who have to be fed, clothed and cared for, who evince little or no sensibility; whose only utterance is a grunt, a whine, or a cry; and whose only movements are to rub their heads or hands. Of the three degrees of dementia they represent the worst, the lowest state it is possible for a human being to sink. Their existence is indeed little more than vegetative; and, if they are not carried off by pneumonia, tubercle or some other disease, as they often are, they die from effusion of the brain, or from the effects of accident, to which through their apathetic helplessness they are much exposed. Though secondary dementia may last for a long time, it is impossible that recovery should take place. The condition, habits and conduct of patients suffering from it may often be much improved by proper care and control, but their mental decay will generally go on increasing unto the end. When death takes place it is sometimes due to effusion on the brain or atrophy of it, or it is produced by accidental disease as tubercle or pneumonia.

So much for the physiology and pathology of consecutive chronic dementia.

I beg of you to bear in mind that it is the *cerebellum*, that is the part in dementia, that undergoes the greatest change, not only that, but that in chronic, after organic, dementia, it undergoes greater changes than it does in any other form of insanity.

I will now quote from "*Eulenburg*" and "*Gutman*" to show to you the connection that exists between the *cerebellum* and the organs of generation, a fact, I have no doubt, well known to the members of this Society.

They say: "Conceiving the controlling power of the *nervi exigentes* on the *blood vessels* of the *penis*, the vasomotor nerve of the intestines and probably of most of the abdominal viscera is the splanchnic, the principal vasomotor nerve in the body. Irritation and extirpation of