

designates as the "stupendous whole," and as an illustration of these more or less psychic studies I wish to bring before you this evening a type of individual who is known as "the neurotic," in which, as Dr. Weir Mitchell states, we must never lose sight at any time of the character of the patient.

Neurotic, as you know, means nervous, and is derived from the Greek *νευρωσις*, French *névrotique*, but I wish to use it in its broadest sense, as implying an individual who presents what Osler terms "an ill-defined, motley group of symptoms," which are manifestations of a morbid action on the part of the nervous system over and above the indications of simple inefficiency. The condition has been referred to as general nervousness, nervous exhaustion and neurasthenia, and the prefixes cerebral, spinal, cardiac, and gastric, have been employed to denote special localized forms. I shall dwell upon general nervousness as a whole, and more especially with the intellectual phenomena connected therewith, and as we must first have our patient, I cannot do better than use Dr. Clifford Albutt's own words in introducing to you a common type of the intellectual neurotic: "He enters your room with a brisk step and a quick, observant eye, you see a slightly built, meagre man, of sallow complexion, or if coloured, the colour painted high upon the cheek bone. The cheeks and temples are hollow, and the temporal arteries are visible under the lean skin, which often shows tanned markings, deepened during attacks of pain; the hair is straight, fine and sparse upon the scalp; the features are sharp, often prominent; the lips thin, and the skin dry; and some remnants of eczema may be seen about the chin or ears. The bodily frame is lightly and often finely built, the bony fingers and wrists and the visible sinews and radials betraying the absence of fat. Here and there, in later life, a knotty knuckle will tell of gouty parentage. The pulse, when most tranquil, usually ranges between 70 and 80, and accelerates on the least excitement. The clavicles and ribs in like manner are prominent, and the heart's apex may be seen to beat sharply before the eye; its systole to the ear is likewise short and sharp, and the second sound very audible over a wide area. The limbs are small, but often very sinewy; such persons are as active as birds, and the absence of fat in their muscles often gives to these, in states of health, the quality of hardness under the hand. Their conversation, again, is lively and voluble, often keen and brilliant, but impressionable rather than imaginative; you may generally notice in them, too, some little blinking, twitching, or tattooing trick which quickens as thoughts and words come faster. His companions will tell you that he is subject to great fluctuations of the animal spirit; gay, even fascinating in society; brisk, orderly,