

two or three hours, paced to and fro in his room with measured stride, exhaling his breath in violent jets, and when he spoke dividing his words into syllables, each of which he brought out with a jerk, at the same time turning his hands at his sides as though they were the cranks of imaginary wheels; and who, arising to taste water from a pitcher, set it down with a yell of laughter, crying out, "How can I take water into my boiler when I am letting off steam!"

3. Closely connected with the preceding illusion is another as regards the computation of time. The mind under Haschisch forms no correct estimate of time,—seconds may extend themselves into years, and minutes into centuries. While watching the progress of his case, my friend woke up after a short reverie of a few minutes duration, and, without any reference to antecedent associations, for they had probably rolled far away into an interminable vista of oblivion, he gravely assured me that since then, the period when he had taken up his last wondering tale, two thousand five hundred years had come and gone; while in verity his watch had scarcely sounded one tenth the number of ticks!

4. A proclivity to extreme hilarity or laughter is established, rendering the patient ridiculously susceptible of the least humor, and causing him to exhibit his unwarrantable appreciations in an outrageously absurd or silly manner. The desire for laughter is often irresistible, and, even when not incited, peal upon peal of baseless merriment may astound the ear of the astonished beholder; at other times the exhilaration may give itself vent in a jovial song, loud shouting, or energetic dancing, or some other equally extravagant action. About the time of the occurrence of the above case, I had prescribed ext. cannabis to two other patients. One, a gentleman, who took a pill containing two grains three times a day. A short time after the first he said he got into a sort of hysterical state ready to laugh at anything, and with a constant inclination to giggle and behave unsoemly. At the same time his eyes felt as if too large, and altogether strangely curious. He persevered in the use of them for over a week, as he derived great benefit from the symptoms for which they were ordered; but he assured me that although the effects first experienced never recurred, yet he had always, more or less, a feeling of slight intoxication till he discontinued taking the remedy. The second was a lady to whom it was prescribed in half-grain doses; and I considered that I could subsequently detect in the slight veil of unusual cheerfulness, over-spreading a naturally amiable countenance, the delusive power of Haschisch. In the original case, or that first narrated, this proclivity was not so marked as might have been expected. I