

of proteid metabolism"; or if not the end-products, then the products that are formed half-way to complete metabolism. Gout we have known for a long time as a cause of arterial degeneration; and this is but another way of saying that hearty eaters and drinkers are prone to this degeneration, even if in the process of its production, we cannot recognize the particular symptoms and signs which are familiar to us as gout. Fothergill was fond of the phrase, "The Protean forms of Gout," and pointed out that there were many signs which said "gout" to him, which did not do so to the average physician. It is these latent gout signs or premonitory signs of gout that are here referred to, but you are asked to count them under the head of "early arterial" disease rather than the term "gout." You will recognize throughout the man who lives too well, and Fothergill, like many physicians of his time, spent much energy in finding which wine would do the least harm, and what form of meat was best to forbid, leaving a fair latitude, probably too wide a latitude in the quantity consumed. The question of drink the patient understands; the question of food is what he needs to be told. Here lies the success of quack methods which add to austerity of diet some foolish trick, such as wading through wet grass while the morning dew is on it. The patients scarcely note the ascetic diet, the early rising, implying early going to bed, and the lay mind fastens upon the trick that is exploited by the learned quack.

Recalling to you that this toxic state may show itself in a great many different ways, we shall deal with these various manifestations in classes, taking up first the one which is most obscure,—the cerebral symptoms.

There is a series of symptoms that are very indefinite, such as headache, dizziness (as when one laces his shoe), irritability, lapses of memory, sensory disturbances in the extremities, and many similar slight departures from absolute well-being. How very likely one is to say that such things mean an over-worked state of the nervous system, and that the subject of them needs a rest. Remember that the neurasthenic in the strict sense of the word offers just exactly such symptoms, and