

As regards the family history of the patient, her mother had, so she says, three paralytic strokes, two, the patient affirmed, before she (the patient) was born. So far as she knew, the rest of the family history proved negative. The father of the monstrosity was strong and healthy, and of good physique; no deformities. The patient herself had to do heavy domestic work all her life, and even up to within a month of her confinement. During her pregnancy she had three or four bad frights, one in particular scaring her very much when she was about three months pregnant. She was not told that she had been delivered of anything but an ordinary child, dead. The patient was strong and robust, weighing about 150 lbs.

The anencephali are the most common of all forms of monsters, one usually falling to the lot of every practitioner during his lifetime. Puech estimates that they occur about 14 in 100,000, *i.e.*, one to 7,143.

A STRANGE CASE OF EXFOLIATION.

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The case which I am about to describe is a very interesting one, and one which is seldom met with. It is peculiar, inasmuch as it presents a feature so entirely different from the ordinary, every-day case of alcoholism.

Treatises on medicine and text-books on surgery do not reveal the much-desired information concerning these cases, and thus we are compelled to resort to empiricism in their management.

These anomalies, however, tend to stimulate research, the results of which are being rapidly shown by the improved methods and treatment of to-day.

The previous history of this case is negative, no similar train of symptoms having occurred before September 30th, 1898, although the patient had been an habitual consumer of alcoholic beverages.

Wm. W—, age 69, was admitted to the hospital on September 28th, 1898, suffering from sub-acute alcoholism. His temperature stood at 102°, pulse rate 100, respirations 22.

The following symptoms were present: Nervous—Tremor, restlessness, irritability, insomnia. Digestive—Tongue coated, breath foul, nausea, anorexia, bowels constipated. Urinary—Urine scanty and highly colored.

He was immediately given a course of alteratives and salines and placed on a milk diet. Bromides were given to allay restlessness. Quinine was also administered.