

plains their greater immunity than passengers, and of course the various emotions, fright, etc., are less liable to affect them than the latter.

The studies of the nerve cells hitherto have given much information as to changes in structure but little as to changes in function, although Hodge found that in stimulating the nervous cells in guinea pigs he produced a state of exhaustion with a lessened amount of chromatin; this change has not been quite satisfactorily corroborated by others. In any case, attention has been fixed, perhaps too much, on the chromatin elements, which have possibly only a minor part in exhibiting the functional activity of the nerve cells. It is obvious that some procedure in demonstrating the chemical and metabolic changes which take place would be capable of throwing great light upon this matter. This want to some extent has been supplied, at least as regards phosphorus, by the method of Lilienfeld and Monti (*Ztsch. f. Physiolog. Chemie.*, 1893), who used the phospho-reaction brought out by means of molybdate of ammonia reduced by pyrogallol as an evidence of the relative abundance or lessened quantity of phosphorus compounds in the cells, which, as regards function, is perhaps a better index than the chromatin. The reaction has been used by a number of others, including Sherrington and Helde. It was