

side of the brain should not be a willing co-operator. A good wife governs best when she best aids her husband, but when she refuses to him the prerogative of inceptive action and predominant direction, the peace and prosperity of that house are certainly seriously jeopardized; and have we not all seen how great is the embarrassment in business affairs, of even the cleverest woman, when death has taken away her best counsellor and guide? It is just so with our speech organs when their ruling cerebral centres have been dethroned by disease; and, alas! it is too often, if indeed not always, found, that when the left motor-speech centres have become diseased, their homologues on the right side fail to assume the function of speech direction.

It has, I think, been clearly established, that motor-aphasia has been, in the great majority of cases, associated with some lesion or disease of the left cerebral centres. It is also a well-known fact that the great majority of mankind are right-handed. There surely must, in these coincidences, be something other than mere accident. But if right-handedness be, through the intermedience of left brainedness, the normal associate of speech articulation, and if both stand in directive relation with the same side of the brain, so that paralysis of the one is usually associated with the same morbid condition in the other, what should we expect to be the autopsic cerebral findings in the cases of left-handed aphasics? Hitherto but few opportunities for learning the facts in this class of cases have been presented. Westphal has, however, recently detailed a case bearing directly on this question. "It was that of a man of 45 years, who from the year 1879 had been subject to convulsive attacks in his right members, accompanied by loss of consciousness. At a later period paresis of these parts presented, with bilateral papillary stasis and complete blindness. There was no disturbance of his speech nor any sign of motor aphasia, or of verbal deafness. This person was, from his childhood, left-handed. He died on the 9th of November, 1883, and at the autopsy there was found a large tumour in the left temporal lobe which was by it completely destroyed." This case is in perfect analogy with the fact of absence of motor aphasia in those left-handed persons in whom the convolution of Broca (the foot of the third frontal) was found destroyed. Westphal's patient,

as we have seen, was left-handed, and the lesion of the left temporal lobe ran its course without any symptom of *verbal deafness*.

It is here to be observed that Dr. Seppilli was treating, not of *motor aphasia*, but of that other form which Kussmaul has called verbal deafness or sensorial aphasia; this latter form, Seppilli labours to prove, has its cerebral location paramountly in the first temporal convolution on the left side. The case is of little value as regards the absence of motor aphasia, for we are not informed of any morbid condition of the frontal lobe in Broca's convolution, or in the island of Reil; but if it be the fact that sensorial aphasia, or deafness to words, stands related to the left temporal lobe, then in Westphal's left-handed man the lesion was on the wrong side for production of this speech affection. The brains of left-handed men would therefore seem to be properly called right-handed.

In amnesic aphasia, or that form which consists in the loss of memory of words, and which may or may not be associated with loss of articulating power, a very interesting fact is the progression of the affection as regards the order or sequence in which the parts of speech cease to be remembered. It is usually found that nouns are the first to be forgotten, and next to these verbs. I think the very same fact obtains in aged persons, and here I have the unpleasant advantage of speaking from personal experience. Kussmaul expresses the belief that this progression of failure of recollecting power probably depends on the greater or less degree of intimacy in which the conceptions are connected with their corresponding verbal signs, and as the idea of a person, a thing or an action is conjoined with its designating vocable less intimately than are the abstractions of quality, resemblance, properties, etc., it is clear that when the memory begins to fail, those symbols which are most feebly bound to thought will be the most readily obliterated. It is easy to discover that the mere name contributes but in a very slight degree to enable us to acquire the concepts of personalities or objects; we might almost say that it is an accessory element joined to a sensitive image, which image has within itself whatever suffices for constituting a distinct objectivity; abstract ideas, on the contrary, exist only in so far as they are to us symbolic expressions