

unusual credulities, and all traceable clearly to amnesia and paralysis of the memory centres.

Several examples of homicides, sudden, explosive, and violent, followed by suicide, have been noted. The act was committed during the amnesiac period, and on recovery, the horror of the acts caused them to take their lives. There are many instances of this character that are unknown.

Extreme remorse and depression following the awakening from the memory blank precipitates them into other more startling acts. This condition is a double personality of which Mr. Hyde and Dr. Jekyll are good illustrations. The assumption of amnesia in spirit and drug takers who commit overt acts is supported by a great variety of collateral evidence which careful analysis of conduct will sustain. It often happens that acts committed while in this condition when realized may disturb the brain to such an extent as to produce deliriums and delusions.

Examples of this are those persons who are very profuse and give exaggerated explanations of the crime committed, or most childish reasons, in a confused medley of statements that are obviously untrue.

An instance occurred in a very prominent family where the husband killed his wife and child, evidently in an amnesiac state. Soon after he became delirious and delusional, and shewed a variety of symptoms, which were misinterpreted as evidences of contrition.

In another case a homicide was committed by a very sensitive, intelligent man, who, on realizing what he had done, became so depressed that he developed acute tuberculosis, and died before the execution of the sentence. I have noted many criminals who were spirit and drug takers who became extremely melancholy, and developed acute organic diseases which caused their death. They were amnesiac cases, and the consciousness of their condition had destroyed all desire to live; and while asserting that they had no recollection of what had occurred, seemed profoundly indifferent to the punishment, and went to their death with a sense of relief.