

or choking, lasting half an hour, during which time he could not speak distinctly, but only mutter. Nothing further happened until last January, when one day, at work, suddenly felt numbness in the right hand, which crept up the arm and side of the face, and in the right leg to the knee; had to drop his tools; the fingers of the right hand became flexed, but he could force them to open. Numbness and spasm continued for a quarter of an hour, and then completely disappeared. Was able to walk home immediately after, when it was noticed that his speech was very indistinct. There was no headache, vomiting or feverishness. He continued to work even up to a short time before his admission, but his friends soon noticed that his mental and general physical condition were much changed. He became dull, slow of speech, and somewhat stupid. Having been a good tradesman, he could not perform the work given him in a proper way, and was discharged from one shop after another, protesting all the time that he was quite well and capable. His memory failed a good deal. During the summer he had repeated attacks of the kind already described. His wife says that he would come home after one of these quite dazed and dull, could hardly speak at all, and would go to bed. Would sleep a great deal for the next twenty-four hours, rising only to take food, and saying a few words in a heavy, thick fashion. This would pass off and he would return to work. On examination, good physique, medium height, good intelligence, a slow, hesitating and deliberate mode of speaking, which he says began with the first attack. Says he does not suffer in any way; has nothing the matter, except that he is afraid of the attacks coming on. There is good motor power in all the limbs, and sensation is intact. Thoracic and abdominal viscera appear normal. Examination of eyes negative. On searching for evidences of syphilis, nothing could be determined beyond the occurrence of gonorrhœa twenty years ago. No traces of the constitutional disorder could be detected. He was given gr. 1-12 Bichloride of Mercury three times daily. Remained in hospital two weeks, and was, at his his own request, discharged, without any material change in his condition, and no definite numb-attack having occurred in the meantime.

In this case, the slow, deliberate speech is like that from multiple sclerosis, but there is no tremor, and the attacks have never been of the apoplectiform character which belongs to the latter. There is no optic neuritis or other sign of brain tumor.