

feelings of gratitude took the form of a "statement" contained in a small pamphlet headed "modern miracles," which was no doubt widely circulated, and of which I received a copy. Being a very clever lady, her "statement" tells most eloquently of her rapid descent into the confines of the valley of the shadow of death, and of her rescue therefrom by the hand of an angel in the garb of the "faith-cure" man. It might be mentioned, *en passant*, that this ministering angel was not above the sordid meanness of accepting the very handsome fee of \$1,000 presented to him by his grateful worshipper. This lady is now quite well and likely to remain so, having subsequently married the man of her choice, whose temporary defection was probably the cause of the entire trouble.

It is quite justifiable to take a leaf out of the book of the "faith-curers." Positive and dogmatic statements go a long way with patients of this kind, and the employment of some visible means perhaps assists in bringing about the desired restoration. This plan was adopted in the following cases with the happiest results:—

CASE III.—*Hysterical Hemiplegia*.—T. S., aged 16, servant, admitted to hospital 8th November, 1886, complaining of weakness of left arm and leg, and pain in the left side of head and neck. Three days previous to admission patient began to complain of a dull, aching, continuous pain in the forehead, not worse at any particular time. Had sensation of chilliness and slight attack of epistaxis. Took to bed at once, and next day suffered from weakness in left arm and leg, which gradually became worse until admission. Enjoyed good health until two years ago, when on waking up one morning found her left arm and leg completely paralyzed. These members were tender and painful, and of such severity as to cause her to cry out whenever touched. Sometimes the right arm and leg would become clonically contracted for a few minutes, whilst the left arm and leg would be at rest. Was quite conscious all the time. Facial expression and power of speech were not affected. Patient remained in bed until last Christmas, and at this time made some improvement, so much so that she was able to go about by the aid of crutches, and one month later was quite well. The treatment consisted in the application of liniments to the affected parts. Began to menstruate at 13½ years of age; has always been irregular, intervals between the periods varying from fifteen days to

six weeks. Appetite has been good; bowels irregular. Slept well. Patient says she has been subject to fits of laughing and crying.

Upon admission.—Complains of a dull, aching, continuous pain, localized in the forehead; of numbness and weakness of the left arm and leg; and of inability to lie upon the left side. Patient is of small stature; her features are of an Indian type (her father is chief of an Indian tribe and her mother a French-Canadian); is dark-complexioned; wears a heavy, angry expression upon face; face is symmetrical; assumes the dorsal decubitus, but, forgetting herself, turns over to the left lateral. Pupils active and equal. Tongue moist and clean, and protruded in the median line. Power of flexion, extension and abduction of upper arm, extension of forearm and hand grasp of the left side apparently very weak. Whilst conversing with her she forgets the weak condition of the muscles of the upper extremity, and raises her hand to brush her hair back. Flexion and extension in left leg slightly weaker than that of right. Muscles of affected parts are well developed and firm. Tactile sense intact throughout, though analgesia is present to a slight degree in left arm and leg only. Reflexes normal. When walking, patient limps on the left leg, keeping the foot strongly everted, and puts it down to the ground as if afraid of hurting herself.

A faradic current was daily applied to the affected limbs, and she was encouraged to rub them several times every day with a liniment. She was told that this would cure her in a few days. At each visit careful enquiries were made as to the regularity with which she had carried out her treatment. The weakness of the limbs steadily improved, the gait shortly became natural, and she was discharged quite well in a fortnight.

CASE IV.—*Hysterical Paraplegia*.—M. H., aged 22, servant brought into the hospital upon a chair, complaining of inability to walk.

History of the case.—Until day previous to admission patient enjoyed good health, when, upon awaking in the morning, she found herself quite unable to move her legs. Later on in the day, with assistance, got out of bed, but her knees suddenly gave away, thus precipitating her to the floor. Returned to bed and remained there until brought to the hospital. Was quite conscious. No perverted sensation. Complained of severe and continuous frontal headache, described by the patient herself as "boring" in character; it is not