

According to M. REGIS he belongs to the class of visuals, and has before his eyes, in printed characters, the letters of the words which he counts. The man has another peculiarity. The months of the year and the days of the week have for him a more or less luminous color. The first months of the year and the first days of the week are white; the last are black; those in the middle have an intermediate tint. Again certain figures have the power of producing in him agreeable or disagreeable emotions. Number 32 pleases him, number 13 makes him tired.

He had an attack of meningitis at the age of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  years. His father is a man of peculiar character.—*Le Bulletin Medical*.

PATHOGNOMONIC SIGNS OF CONGENITAL SYPHILIS.—P. SILEX (*Berliner klinische Wochenschr.*, 1896, xxxiii, 139). The following is taken from an address delivered before the *Berlin Med. Gessellschaft*:

The author recognizes three characteristic signs of congenital syphilis. The first relates to the eyes, the second to the teeth, and the third to the skin. As the only real pathognomonic symptom relating to the eyes, he mentions choroidea areolaris, in which he found, scattered over the fundus particularly in the neighborhood of the macula, black points and patches, which present here and there white spots of different sizes, and larger areas with a black border. These represent atrophic colonies in the choroidea, and pigment patches derived from the pigment of the stroma and pigment epithelium. The retina also being involved, vision in these cases is always very much impaired. Mercurial inunctions and exhibition of potassium iodide effected no change. In a few cases, the process, which is rare, remained unilateral. Of the numerous deformities of the teeth usually mentioned, S. only considers that one form pathognomonic where the permanent upper incisors present a central excavation, denuded of enamel, beginning on the surface for mastication and continuing upward in the shape of a crescent. As a sign which is only found in congenital syphilis, he considers the well-known scars radiating outward in straight lines, which do not confine themselves to the corners of the mouth or to the lips, but radiate rather to cheek and chin. The histological examination of a case which was particularly marked, proved that these lines are not scars in the anatomical sense, as papillæ, glands, and vessels were well preserved in the tissue under consideration. Very likely the peculiar furrow-like appearances, which are called pseudo-scars by S., are due to a muscular tension of the skin. These three kinds of conditions which were demonstrated by the author both on the subject and through illustrations, are considered by him absolutely pathognomonic. So that the presence of even one of them will lead to a positive diagnosis of congenital syphilis.—*Pædiatrics*.