

may follow.

As very closely related to the Dancing Mania stand those common, fanatic public outbreaks which have persisted to the present generation. Generally of religious origin, they are sometimes based on other motives, and made possible by a combination of strong abnormal environmental influences which upset the balanced mental equilibrium and allow rule of exaggerated emotions.

Only one or two shall here be mentioned on account of their general importance and interest. In 1727 there died in Deacon Paris an opposer of the Ultramontanists, after considerable discussion and division on the papal bull "Unigenitus." In September, 1731, a rumor spread that miracles occurred at his tomb. Individuals visiting it were seized with spasms and convulsions, acted like persons possessed and showed disturbed body and mental activities. An immense crowd from Paris went out to see this wonderful spectacle, which the two divided camps of ultramontanists and their opposers ascribed, the first, to Satanic, the second, to Divine influences. It gave rise in women to the first cases of "clairvoyance," which until then had not been known. One blindfolded woman attracted especial attention by being able to read writings before her and to distinguish the characters of unknown persons. The earth from the grave was supposed to exercise miraculous powers and was distributed among the sick. From that day dates the following couplet:

"De par le Roi, defense a Dieu
De Fair miracle dans ce lieu."

It was prompted by an order of Louis XV. to close the cemetery.

The actions of the afflicted were most peculiar: Patients would bound from the ground like fish, and women and girls, anticipating these movements in fear of infection put on special gowns, made like sacks, in order to prevent indecent exposures. Bystanders would beat them with wooden clubs, mallets, stones, swords, but generally without much effect, thousands of blows being sometimes inflicted without effect on a person.

Eventually the disease degenerated further into true insanity and idiocy. It lasted to the year 1790, and, like other spreading psychic epidemics, led to immoral practices and bewildering devotional exercises. Even during the excitements of the revolution it persisted in secret meetings.

Equally remarkable are the exhibitions of certain English and American psychic disturbances which may be noted to the present day. The sect of the Jumpers, founded in 1760, in the county of Cornwall, by two fanatics, collected a considerable party. By use of meaningless words they worked themselves into a state of frenzy and lost control of all reasoning. They then jumped with queer gestures until exhausted