

rior limb of the capsule; the other, coarse fibers, passing through the internal capsule into the crus and ending apparently in the *substantia nigra*. The fibers representing degeneration secondary to the lesions of the facial center are situated in the middle third of the crus, mingled with the fibers of the pyramid, and not occupying a separate space mesial to the pyramid. These experimental findings are especially noteworthy, since they in some degree are opposed to the teachings of Meynert and others.

The pituitary body, long an enigma as regards its function, has been the subject of especial study by Andriezen (*British Med. Journal*, January 13, 1894), and Sacchi and Vassali (*Centralbl. f. Allgem. Path. Anat.*, May, 1894). They find that the function of this body is essentially trophic, enabling the nerve tissues to take up and assimilate oxygen from the blood stream. It also exerts an influence upon metabolism, destroying or rendering innocuous certain waste products. The pathological findings in acromegaly involving disease, usually of hypertrophic type, of this gland are strongly confirmatory of the experimental findings of Andriezen.

The cerebellum has perhaps been the subject of more extended and enthusiastic study than any other special portion of the cerebro-spinal system during the past half decade. Marchi, Luciani, Risien Russell (*British Med. Journal*, July 28, 1894), Turner (*British Med. Journal*, August 21, 1894), Biedl, and Ferrier are among the large number who have made notable contributions to our present knowledge of the subject. Ferrier (*Annual of Univ. Med. Sciences*, 1895, Vol. 2 section, Brain), in his presidential address before the London Neurological Society, reviews critically the published researches in this field of Luciani and Marchi. He accepts as proven by them the facts; (1) That the cerebellum has no share in psychical manifestations; (2) its removal causes no evident impairment of any of the special senses, nor cutaneous nor muscular sensibility; (3) it has nothing to do with sexual impulse or desire; (4) the influence of the cerebellum is direct and not crossed; (5) the middle lobe is not, as taught by Nothnagel, the essential lobe. Some of these statements, as will be noted, are radical innovations in teaching and belief.—*William Broadbent Pritchard, M.D., in Medical News.*—*The American Practitioner and News*, January, 1896.

URIC ACID AS A FACTOR IN DISEASE.

The part that uric acid plays in the production of morbid conditions is now fully recognized. It is of no mean import then when we find it accountable for a long train of