

wards it being functional, because the manifold disturbances are intimately associated with a peculiar mental state, and one chiefly, if not wholly—of the psychic sphere.

The physician above mentioned, after years of alleged suffering, and two years of "sick leave" was compelled to resign, and go on the retired list. He complained of capricious appetite, pain in the left side near the apex of the heart, torpor of the bowels, pale, anemic skin, muscles flabby, pulse quick, heart irritable, and subject to attacks of prostration with semi-unconsciousness, the vasomotor system in a highly mobile state, with chilliness, cold hands and feet. He also experienced great difficulty in reading, with frontal headache, and a peculiar nervous explosion felt in the brain, just at the time of passing from wakefulness into sleep—something not noticed in any of the authorities on neurasthenia. Here symptoms went on from bad to worse, until my friend was a confirmed neurasthenic. In the treatment I first of all tried moral management and hygienic influences. So long as the patient is kept at home, the object of solicitous attentions of some slave of a mother, wife or husband, little or nothing can be accomplished. Removal from friends, and subjected to an entirely new set of impressions, is the first paramount object. Systematic feeding and exercise come next. Electricity comes with favorable notice from some—it failed in mine—as did all other remedies, such as cod liver oil, iron, strychnia and picrotoxin, arsenic, nuxvom, phosphites, etc.

I had been reading lately of the discovery of Dr. Barclay, of Pittsburg, in the combination of liq. auri et arsenii bromidi—commonly called arsenauero. (Charles Roome Parmele Co., New York.) As the last resort I commenced giving it to my friend, being almost as discouraged at the action of drugs as he was, I ordered five drops three times a day, after meals, but finding this in his case seemed to create some distress which he attributed to it, but I think was due to too much "fried oysters," I gave it 1-2 hours before meals, and at bed time. The effect was rapid and remarkable, the irritability of temper and restlessness was appeased, and the action of the heart was lowered in beats and lessen-

ed in intensity, and the increased excitability of the nervous system very much calmed, the eyes brightened, the frontal headache ceased, the digestive organs resumed their almost forgotten functions, the skin lost its pallor, and the blood coursed through the arteries with increased vigor. It was but a short time until the neurasthenic was compelled to confess that he not only slept some, but that life seemed brighter with future prospects—the often distressing cerebral symptoms became better, and these improvements continued until now he has quite regained his pristine vigor. This case had been treated by nervous celebrities of national fame with negative results, and I make no claim for a more acute diagnosis than others, but only for the merits of arsenauero, which alone and unaided by other stimuli, caused the cure of this case, which had continued for fourteen years.

The astonishing results of its action in above quoted case, caused me to try its running mate, mercauro, in a female patient who had travelled the road of all other neurotic cases, going from one physician to the other, and finally in the course of natural events, came to me. Here was a case of extreme susceptibility to nervous influences—fright, joy, mental emotions of any character caused her to fall into a cataleptic condition and remain so for hours at a time. Knowing the antecedents of the case, and that the father was a gay young lark browsing in pastures he had no business to be in, I came to the conclusion that this person was a victim of the "sins of the fathers shall be visited upon the children of the third and fourth generation," and suspected syphilitic contamination, I gave her mercauro. It seemed as she said, to "take hold at once." She regained her usual spirits, the attacks stopped with one exception, and that was when her husband was inaugurated as a "Menonite preacher." At the installation services she was seized with one. She was afflicted for seven years, the attacks coming on every week or so, but she is now free, having gained thirteen pounds under treatment.

