

attention, the nature of the psychic processes of association, ideation, etc., were not critically analyzed.

So to briefly sum up the disadvantageous features in the symptomatic method there were, first, that it did not consider the psychoses in their entirety, including a review of all phases of the condition; secondly, that it was more concerned with the matter of naming conditions than thoroughly studying them; thirdly, that the symptomatic picture did not give one a sufficient grasp of the situation to be in a position to express a fairly accurate prognosis, and lastly that the treatment was often not based on a thorough understanding of the cases, and could not be designated rational therapeutics.

That the field of neuro-histology and neuro-pathology was naturally looked upon as ground which would yield the richest harvests is not to be wondered at, and very early many most eminent workers in laboratories the world over were devoting themselves to a consideration of the conditions found post-mortem in cases of mental disease. There was also a large band of investigators who devoted themselves to a study of the normal cortex cerebri, and underlying white zone; of the men whose activity and scientific zeal have caused their names to be of true historical interests in this realm of medicine must be mentioned: Leewenhock, who in 1684 had observed by means of the rude lens designed by him, the nerve fibres; Vic d'Azyr, whose discovery of the intra-cortical zone in the occipital region was the first step in the elaboration of cortical anatomy; Ehrenberg, who in 1833 described nerve cells and fibres; Valentine, however, in 1838, really laid the first foundations in the study of the nerve-cells, and in the same year Remak described the cells in the cornua of the cord, and one year later gave the first description of the fibre elements: the axis-cylinder of myelinated fibres, which were spoken of as the "primitive-band." The observation of Virchow that certain elements in the cortex were essential nerve elements and others non-essential supporting structures, was made before staining methods were introduced. It must be remembered that all this extremely painstaking work was done by isolating the elements in fresh material. Of other early workers, Schwann, who in 1838 gave to the world the cell theory named after him; Kölliker (who elaborated the theory of Schwann), and Gerlach were also great names in the cytological period; and Deiters, who with Max Schultze carried on the work of Remak on the myelinated nerve fibres; and when one repeats Gerlach's definition of a nerve cell, "it is a cell which through its axis-cylinder process is continuous with a myelinated nerve fibre," it will be at once apparent that in certain directions neuro-histology was making rapid strides, especially when it is kept in mind that this was in the carmine period, when differential stains were