

exaltation of mind after doses of bromide. Thus he reports the case of a man of thirty-six years of age who was a sufferer from frequent epileptic attacks and had slight mental impairment, but no true psychic disorders and no delusions. He was regarded as a quiet, well-behaved patient, except when the bromides were given him, when he became furiously excited and unsafe. Thus before commitment to an asylum he had been convicted of homicidal tendencies. Small doses of the bromides rarely brought on the attacks except after several days, but as much as one and a half drachms daily made him unmanageable in three or four days. Stopping the bromide stopped the mania, but allowed the return of the attacks. Bannister reports other cases, three in all epileptics under his care. This and the following report of cases illustrate the clinical fact that the arrest of epileptic attacks by full doses of the bromides produces on rare occasions evidences of nervous excitation in other forms. Thus Baker, in the *Medical Register* of December 8th, 1888, reports the case of a male of eighteen years suffering from many convulsions each day who was said to be unable to take bromides. Nevertheless he was put on fifty grains a day. This resulted in an arrest of the attacks, but they were supplanted by noisy outbreaks of ungovernable rage but no delusions. Another case of a young man was met with who had maniacal delusions which always disappeared if the bromides were stopped and the attacks allowed to return. A third case experienced mental confusion when the bromides stopped the attacks. Lepine also reports a case (*La Semaine Medicale*, December 23rd, 1891) of a tabetic young woman who received sixty grains of bromide a day for convulsive attacks. In the course of a few weeks she became progressively weaker and delirious; and Lepine believes that difficult speech, delirium and mental weakness often follow the use of bromides.

Holinden, in *The Lancet* of October 18th, 1886, also reports the case of a sailor, aged thirty-three years, who was in the habit of taking three drachms of bromide of potassium a day for the purpose of relieving insomnia, and who began to develop delusions and to be unable to collect his thoughts. Notwithstanding advice to the contrary he persisted in the use of the drug and developed delusions of persecution, maniacal symptoms, and suicidal tendencies, followed by great prostration. Recovery ultimately occurred.

Hameau (*Journal de Medicine de Bordeaux*, March, 1868) has reported the case of a young woman of twenty-two years who after taking no less than four and a half pounds of bromide of potassium in ten months developed cachexia, delirium, and after great prostration she died.

We have also the report of Eigner in the *Wiener Medicinische Presse*, Nos. 25-34, 1886, who records the case of a woman who took five pounds in a year, and after developing the ordinary symptoms of bromism developed tremor, staggering gait, followed in a few hours by excitement passing into delirium with delusions of poisoning.

Thompson in *The Lancet* for May 11th, 1889, asserts that he has frequently seen cases of maniacal insanity produced in feeble-minded persons and in the insane by drenching them with bromides. He does not, however, report any definite cases.

Gaston Lyon, in his "Traite Elementaire de Clinique Therapeutique," 1895, says in some cases the bromides have to be stopped when given to epileptics as they increase the number of the attacks, or, if they stop them, bring on cerebral disturbances.

Marked untoward effects of the bromides are recorded by Soulier ("Traite de Therapeutique et de Pharmacologie," Paris, 1895), who states that in those instances in which a bromide cachexia develops there is in