interpretation of the statement from which he starts. Childish memories are sometimes much earlier than is commonly supposed; the very early cases are usually associated with an emotion of fright, and Leonardo's own account of the matter is entirely possible, though the big bird need not have been a vulture. Freud himself, at the end, admits that his essay may be treated as only "a psycho-analytic romance." He almost puts himself in the position of Alnaschar, who with one kick overturned the basket of eggs on which his magnificent day-dream was founded; in this case, moreover, there is only one egg in the basket. But if—to vary the simile—Freud sometimes selects a very thin thread, he seldom fails to string pearls on it, and these have their value whether the thread snaps or not.

HAVELOCK ELLIS.

Visual Hallucinations in the Sane State [*Hallucinations Visuelles à l'État Normal*]. (*Arch. de Psychol., Oct. and Dec.*, 1908.) *Naville, E.*

Prof. Naville, eminent as a philosopher and now æt. 92, here describes the hallucinations to which he has lately become subject. He first observed them during the summer of 1908, when staying at his châlet on Mont Salèoe (at a height of 1,200 metres). On returning to his laboratory in Geneva they reappeared after an interval, becoming still more frequent. He is in good health considering his age. Sight is also good, except for some difficulty in reading and writing; ophthalmic examination revealed no signs of disease. He is not duped by his hallucinations, though he often requires the negative evidence of other witnesses to distinguish them. They are exclusively visual, unaccompanied by any special sensations, and they cause no trouble or anxiety, but are simply an occasion of interesting study. They show no special relationship to meals or to time of day, and they appear equally in fine or dull weather.

The visions disappear as soon as the eyes are closed, and they involve no change in the natural objects surrounding them. They are usually seen from the window, at a distance of several hundred paces, and are never recognisable as actual acquaintances. They are, however, always lifelike, never fantastic, and Naville is usually able to find the germ of them in actual memories, sometimes of very ancient date. They frequently take the form of processions of men, women, or children; animals, especially sheep, and vehicles also figure in them. A kind of smoke sometimes rises from the processions. White is the prevailing colour, and nearly all the head-dresses are white.

HAVELOCK ELLIS.

On the Nightmare. (*Amer. Jour. of Ins., Jan.*, 1910). *Jones, E.*

The subject of nightmare has been almost ignored by medical writers, though there is hardly any malady which causes greater distress to the sufferer. The earlier part of this paper is devoted to an exhaustive survey of the literature of the subject.

The cardinal symptoms of the attack are shown to be: (1) Agonising dread (*angst*); (2) sense of oppression or weight at the chest which alarmingly interferes with respiration; (3) conviction of helpless paralysis.

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