The aorta was atheromatous, and the heart enlarged, weighing 11½oz.

This case appears to be a good example of syphilitic change in the cerebral vessels, accompanied, as it is said generally to be, with symptoms similar to those of certain forms of general paralysis.

Case V.

Similar to the Preceding.

W. J., a man aged 30 years, married, and a carter by trade, was admitted 2nd Feb., 1877. He was of small spare frame, and bilious temperament. He had ptosis of the left eyelid, and the pupil of the same eye was contracted and immobile; no other paralysis was observable. Mentally, he was in an extremely excited state, restless and noisy, shouting, weeping, fighting, tearing clothes, and breaking windows, and his conversation was disconnected and meaningless. He went on, with little change, till the 3rd of April, on the evening of which day he was observed to be paralysed, and unable to stand. On examination the right arm and leg were found to be quite powerless, distortion of the face was not marked, but he was scarcely able to swallow. He soon fell into a lethargic, but not comatose condition, in which he remained with but little change, till he died on the 6th of April.

At the autopsy the dura mater, arachnoid, and pia mater, were found adherent to each other, and to the brain substance in the left parietal region, so that when the membranes were removed some of the gray matter was torn away. There was a dilatation of the basilar artery for nearly an inch of its length, having in its course three rounded projections to the right side, at the most prominent of which the artery measured eight-tenths of an inch in circumference. On section the artery appeared to be nearly occluded by thickening of the walls and deposit of fibre, and the projections were principally caused by an excessive thickening of the wall. Microscopic sections taken through one of these places, where the wall was nearly one-fifth in. in thickness, showed syphilitic changes even more marked than in the previous case, the small nucleated cells appearing to constitute nearly the whole wall. There was an aneurism about the size of a pea, and having thick tough walls just at the division of the left carotid artery, and also three or four small aneurisms on the left middle cerebral and its branches. These had probably the same structure as the first-mentioned, but were not examined microscopically. In the substance of the left optic thalamus there was a spot the size of a pea extremely softened, so that when sections of the thalamus were made, the softened matter came out on the knife, and left a clean round hole.

This case is similar to the preceding, as regards the nature of the arterial lesion, and the occurrence of sudden hemi-

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plegia; it differs from it in the presence of cortical adhesions, and in the character of the mental affection during the period before the paralysis.

Rupture of a Basilar Artery, &c., in a Case of Syphilitic Insanity. By Dr. M. D. MACLEOD.*

The subject was a female, aged 47, who had an attack of syphilis three years before her admission in July last. She laboured under great depression, irritability, suspicion, and delusions that people plotted against her, that she was to be hanged, &c. She was thin and anæmic. Had slight ptosis of the right eyelid. For the first six weeks treatment was unsuccessful in her case. During September she had a transient attack of paralysis of the left hand and arm. Latterly she improved both in her mental and bodily states under the use of potassium iodide and quinine and iron. She had a sudden and very severe attack of apoplexy on the morning of the 11th November, from which she never regained consciousness, but died on the same evening.

Post-Mortem Appearances.—The skull cap was very hard. There was a small exostosis on the petrous portion of the left temporal bone. The vessels of the membranes were engorged with dark blood. A large effusion (8 to 10 ounces) of blood had taken place over the base of the brain, chiefly over the pons Varolii. The arteries of the base were very atheromatous, and a small opening was found in the basilar artery, near its termination, from which the blood had flowed. There was a small aneurism on the right middle cerebral artery. The smaller vessels in the substance of the brain were dilated and full of dark clot. The brain substance was firm and dark in colour. The other organs were apparently healthy. The Spleen was multiple, there being three such organs, each having its proper complement of vessels, which sprung from and united into a common trunk.

Embolism of the Cerebral Arteries—Softening of the Pons Varolii. By HENRY CLARKE, L.R.C.P., Surgeon to H.M. Prison, Wakefield.

Elizabeth W., æt. 35, married, three children, one living, two dead, one at four months old, from "fits," the other at six months, from "water on the brain." No miscarriages. Patient states that she never had a day's illness in her life. She was committed to prison Dec. 31, 1877, and up till the commencement of her present illness, has been

* Specimens exhibited at Edin. Quarterly Meeting—*See* Notes and News.

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