lesion of the optic nerve under the name of progressive grey induration, and distinguishes it from sclerosis *en plaques*, on the one hand, and optic neuritis on the other. The symptoms are somewhat similar, but should never be confounded, as they are essentially distinct. Progressive grey induration of the optic nerves is indicated during life by certain ophthalmoscopic characters, which correspond to what is usually described as progressive atrophy of the papilla. He, with some others, considers these appearances almost proof of the existence or probable development of locomotor ataxy. He says that the great majority of women who are admitted into the wards of the Salpétrière suffering from amaurosis, present, sooner or later after their admission, more or less marked symptoms of locomotor ataxy.

To the naked eye, the alteration of the optic nerve appears in the form of a grey hardening. It begins, as a rule, at the peripheral extremity of the nerve, and then gradually extends towards the central parts. When examined microscopically, it is found that the degeneration which constitutes the grey induration, resembles what occurs in the spinal cord.

It is unnecessary to dwell at any length on the concluding lecture. It refers chiefly to the changes which occur in the joints of the ataxic. To convey a correct idea of M Charcot's observations on this subject, it would be necessary to prepare a rather lengthy abstract, and we do not feel called upon to do this at present.

These lectures contain several references to the works of English writers on locomotor ataxy and other nervous diseases, and give an excellent account of all that is essential and interesting concerning this disease.

La Tempérance. No. 1. 1873.

The French appear to be now acutely alive to the evils of drunkenness. Societies have been formed for its suppression, and the publication before us is the official organ of one of them—the *Association Française contre l'abus des Boissons Alcooliques.* It must not be imagined that this society resembles in any respect, excepting their common object, those which have flourished in this country for a number of years. Although much good has been done, it cannot be denied that the temperance cause has suffered greatly at the hands of its so-called friends, who, by their fanaticism and intolerance, have prevented many able men from lending their aid. Some distinguished men of science and leading ecclesiastics have countenanced the movement; but these, as a rule, have only tended to exhibit, by their more enlightened and judicious views, the folly of their co-workers.

The subject of temperance is beyond our province, except in its relations to insanity. We are, therefore, obliged to leave unnoticed much that might greatly interest those who study the temperance

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movement in its more extended relations. To show, however, that it had become absolutely necessary to check the spread of drunkenness in France, we need only give a few facts mentioned in the first page of the Journal.

The consumption of alcohol, which was only 350,000 hectolitres in 1820, rose to 585,000 in 1850, and to 978,000 in 1869, not including the quantities which escaped payment of duty.

This augmentation, which must be chiefly attributed to the considerable increase in the manufacture of spirit from beetroot and grain, has produced most disastrous consequences.

From 1849 to 1869, the annual number of accidental deaths consequent upon alcoholic excesses increased from 331 to 587. Cases of suicide, due to the same cause, rose from 240 to 664 during the same period.

Crimes against the person, committed under the influence of drunkenness, have augmented in the same proportion.

Lastly, the increase in the number of cases of insanity due to intoxication has constantly followed, during twenty years, the increased consumption of spirits, notably in those departments which use chiefly spirits manufactured from grain and beetroot. In the majority of these departments it has attained the frightful proportion of 25 to 40 per cent.

PART IV.—NOTES AND NEWS.

THE MEDICO-PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

A quarterly meeting of the Medico-Psychological Association was held on the evening of Wednesday, December 3rd, at Bethlem Royal Hospital. Dr. Harrington Tuke, President, occupied the chair. The following members and visitors were present:—Dr. Harrington Tuke, President; Dr. Wilks, Dr. Maudsley, Dr. Wood, Dr. Blandford, Dr. Boyd, Dr. Langdon Down, Dr. E. S. Willett, Dr. Paul, Mr. Richards, Mr. Byas, Dr. Mickle Dr. Rayner, Dr. Savage, Dr. Sutherland, Mr. Warwick, Mr. Hall, Mr. Wagstaffe, Dr. Stocker, Dr. Sabben. Dr. Balfour, Dr. Grant Wilson, Dr. Scofield, Mr. H. Manning, Dr. Hemming, Dr. Thompson Dickson, Mr. W. Williams, and Dr. Rhys Williams.

The PRESIDENT, on taking the chair, said—The custom at the quarterly meetings has always been to take the minutes of the previous quarterly meeting, as published in the Journal, as read. They are to be found in our Journal for April last. I may express a hope that as the secretaryship has now passed out of my hands these minutes may be reported more fully than they have been. If anyone has any objection to make to the report as printed, I must ask him to make it now, otherwise I must put it to the meeting that these minutes be confirmed. I would also as President ask the Secretary to preserve the MS. minutes.

The minutes were confirmed.

The PRESIDENT—We meet this evening under circumstances of great interest, from the number of eminent scientific men present; and I must congratulate you on meeting here in Bethlem Hospital, and in this old hall of medicine. There are several very interesting papers on the list, and a most important one by Dr. Blandford "On Auditory Hallucinations." It is the usual rule to spend the first

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