

### Part III.—Epitome of Current Literature.

#### 1. Neurology.

*The Columnar Arrangement of the Primary Afferent Centres in the Brain-stem of Man.* (*Journ. of Nerv. and Ment. Dis.*, March and April, 1927.) Freeman, W.

A tendency has developed, especially among the American school of anatomists, to consider the brain-stem as a column, thus likening it to the spinal cord. The bulb is divided into somatic and visceral afferent, and somatic and visceral efferent columns, separated by a sulcus limitans. The author indicates that the fifth, seventh, ninth and tenth cranial nerves are similar in construction to the spinal nerves. Each one (*a*) innervates a certain cutaneous area with general exteroceptive cutaneous sensation, (*b*) innervates a certain area of mucous membrane with general interoceptive sensation, (*c*) supplies motor fibres to certain muscles which spring from the visceral motor system originally surrounding the alimentary canal, (*d*) carries proprioceptive fibres from the muscles it innervates, (*e*) contains segmental reflex fibres. The afferent divisions upon entering the brain-stem divide into two main portions, a ventral division carrying exteroceptive fibres and segmental reflex fibres, and a dorsal division carrying interoceptive and proprioceptive fibres. When the location of the columns is compared at various levels it is seen that a constant relationship is maintained, and that the relationship is practically identical with that observed in the spinal cord.

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#### 2. Clinical Psychiatry.

*Lethargic Encephalitis and Tremors* [*Encéphalite léthargique et tremblement*]. (*Bull. Soc. Clin. de Méd. Ment.*, December, 1922.) Coiin, Henri.

The author remarks on the varying character of the tremors in certain cases of lethargic encephalitis. The tremors were different in type in each of the three cases described. The first was comparable to that of disseminated sclerosis and was not under control of the will. In the second patient the tremor was under control of the will. In the third case the patient, who was also a somnambulist, suffered from a continuous generalized gross tremor, which ceased in the somnambulistic state. The existence of an associated hysterical factor in such cases is emphasized.

J. S. ANNANDALE.

*Post-traumatic Psycho-neurosis associated with Epilepsy. Gustatory and Genital Aura* [*Psycho-névrose post-traumatique et comitialité associées. Aura sensito-gustative et génitale*]. (*Bull. Soc. Clin. de Méd. Ment.*, December, 1922.) Briand, M.

A description of a case in which a fall from a motor cycle, with injury to the head, was followed by disorder of memory, with