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after an apparent cure, for the general reason that epilepsy of long standing is extremely liable to recur when the sequence of the fits has been interrupted by any means whatever; and for the particular reason that after an interval of ten months, during which the patient had not had a single convulsion, the fits again recurred with the same frequency and severity as before. It is also to be noted that some of the premonitory symptoms of an attack were manifested at times, more than a year and a half after the fits had ceased.

Over five years have now elapsed since patient has had a fit, and more than two and a half years since treatment was entirely stopped.

ART. VI.—*Singular Development of Language in a Child.* By E. R. HUN, M.D., of Albany, New York.

THE subject of this observation is a girl aged four and a half years, sprightly, intelligent, and in good health.

Her mother observed when she was two years old that she was backward in speaking, and only used the words papa and mamma. After that she began to use words of her own invention, and though she understood readily what was said, never employed the words used by others. Gradually she enlarged her vocabulary until it has reached the extent described below.

She has a brother eighteen months younger than

herself, who has learned her language, so that they talk freely together. He, however, seems to have adopted it only because he has more intercourse with her than with others, and in some instances he will use a proper word with his mother and the sister's word with her. She, however, persists in using only her own words, though her parents, who are uneasy about her peculiarity of speech, make great efforts to induce her to use proper words.

As to the possibility of her having learned these words from others, it is proper to state that her parents are persons of cultivation, who use only the English language. Her mother has learned French, but never uses the language in conversation. The domestics, as well as the nurses, speak English without any peculiarities, and the child has heard even less than usual of what is called baby-talk.

Some of the words and phrases have a resemblance to the French, but it is certain that no person using that language has frequented the house, and it is doubtful whether the child has on any occasion heard it spoken.

There seems to be no difficulty about the vocal organs. She uses her language readily and freely, and when she is with her brother they converse with great rapidity and fluency.

The following is the vocabulary which I have been able at different times to compile from the child herself, and especially from the report of the mother. In the spelling I have endeavored as much as possible to reproduce the sound of the words.

Gummigar. All the substantials of the table, such as bread, meat, vegetables, etc., and the same word is used to designate the cook. The boy does not use this word, but uses *Gna-migna* in the same sense, which the girl considers a mistake.

Migno-migno. Water, wash, bath.

Go-go. Delicacies, as sugar, candy, or dessert.

Ma. I, myself.

Odo. To send for, to go out, to take away.

Ma odo. I (want to) go out.

Gar. Horse.

Gar odo. Send for the horse. (When the father sends for a carriage, he writes an order and sends it to the stable. Hence the children, from seeing him write the order, use the same expression, (*gar odo*), to denote pencil and paper.

Too. All, everything.

Too odo. It is all gone, or in reference to food, "it is all eaten up."

Feu. (Pronounced like the French word.) Fire, heat, light, cigar, sun.

Gaän. God. When it rains the children often run to the window and call out, "Gaän odo migno-migno, feu odo," which means, "God take away the rain and send the sun." *Odo* before the object meaning "to take away," and after the object, "to send."

Ne pa. Not. *Ne pa feu.* "I am not warm." *Feu papa?* "(Do you want) a cigar papa?" *Ne pa feu dere.* "(There is) no cigar there."

Deer. Money, of any kind.

Pa-ma. To go to sleep, pillow, bed. *Mamma ma pa-ma.* "Mamma (I want) to go to sleep."

Waia-waiar. Black, darkness, a negro.

Mea. Cat, furs. *Mea waia-waiar.* Denotes "dark furs." *No waia-waiar mea.* "Light furs."

Beer. Literature, books, or school. *Didi odo beer.* "Lizzie goes to school."

Papa-mamma. Church, prayer book, cross, priest, to say their prayers.

Bau. Soldier, music. From seeing the bishop in his mitre and vestments, thinking he was a soldier, they applied the word *Bau* to him.

Manar. Good.

Keh. To soil. *Ma keh no.* "I will not soil myself."

Peer. Ball. (During the last few days the boy has commenced to use a number of English words, such as up, down, please, boy, charcoal, etc., and upon his mother saying to him that grown-up persons did not call a ball "*peer*," he at once called it *ball* to her, but continued to use the word "*peer*" when speaking to his sister.)

Baby. The name used by the boy in addressing his sister until a younger brother was born. After which the girl objected to being called "*baby*," and her name was changed to "*Tu-tu*."

Petee-petee. The name given the boy by his sister.

Babia. The name by which they both call their younger brother.