"I cannot tell thee who lies buried here; No man that knew him followed by his bier; The winds and waves conveyed him to this shore, Then ask the winds and waves to tell thee more.

"Wherefore should I vainly try
To teach thee what my love will be
In after years, when thou and I
Have both grown old in company,
If words are vain to tell thee how,
Mary, 1 do love thee now?"

"O Bruscus, eease our aching ears to vex, With thy loud railing at the softer sex; No accusation worse than this could be, That once a woman did give birth to thee.

"Treason doth never prosper. What's the reason?

For if it prospers none dare call it treason."

4 Ward has no heart they say, but I deny it; He has a heart, and gets his speeches by it."

From its very brevity there is no small danger of the epigram passing into childish triviality: the paltriest pun, a senseless anagram, is considered stuff enough and to spare. For proof of this there is unfortunately no need to look far; but perhaps the reader could not find a better collection ready to his hand than the second twenty-five of | valuethe Epigrammatum Centuria of Samuel Erichius; by the time he reaches No. 11 of the 47th century, he will be quite ready to grant the appropriateness of the identity maintained between the German Seele, or soul, and the German Esel, or ass.

Of the epigram as cultivated by the Greeks a detailed account has been given in the article on the ANTHOLOGIES, those wonderful collections which bid fair to remain the richest of their kind. The delicacy and simplicity of so much of what has been preserved is perhaps their most striking feature; and one cannot but be surprised at the number of poets proved capable of such work. In Latin obscenity. On the subsequent history of the epigram, indeed, Martial has exercised an influence as baneful as it is extensive, and he may fairly be counted the far-off progenitor of a host of scurrilous verses which he himself would almost have blushed to write. Nearly all the learned Latinists of the 16th and 17th centuries may claim admittance into the list of epigrammatists, -Bembo and Scaliger, Buchanan and More, Stroza and Sannazarius. Melanchthon, who succeeded in combining so much of Pagan culture with his Reformation Christianity, has left
us some graceful specimens, but his editor, Joannes Major
spite of Rapin's dictum that a man ought to be content he includes in his collection some translations from the Psalms. John Owen, or, as he Latinized his name, Johannes Audoenus, a Cambro-Briton, attained quite an anusual celebrity in this department, and is regularly distinguished as Owen the Epigrammatist. The tradition of phrase to have been "une machine a saillies, a epigrammes, the Latin epigram has been kept alive in England by such men as Porson, Vincent Bourne, and Walter Savage epigram has been recognized in France as a regular weapon Landor; and at one at least of our universities there is an annual prize for the best original specimen. Happily gether a hopeless task to compile an epigrammatical history there is now little danger of any too personal epigrammatist | from the Revolution to the present time. suffering the fate of Niccolo Franco, who paid the forfeit of his life for having launched his venomous Latin against Pius furnish examples that for keenness of wit would be quite

In English literature proper there is no writer like Martial in Latin or Logau in German, whose fame is entirely due to his epigrams; but several even of those whose names can perish never have not disdained this diminutive form. The designation epigram, however, is used by our earlier writers with excessive laxity, and given or withheld without apparent reason. The collection which bears the title of One and thyrtye Epigrammes, wherein are bryefly touched so many abuses that may and ought to be put away: Compiled and Imprinted by Robert Crowley, 1550. is of almost no literary value, consisting of rugged and in many cases vulgar and pointless attempts at satire. Those of Henry Parrot, published in 1613 as Laquei ridiculosi, or Springes to catch Woodcocks, are only not quite as worthless, though, as far as the mere form goes, they better deserve the name they assume; for, according to the author's poetical simile-

"We make our epigrammes as men taste cheese Which hath his relish in the last farewell."

John Weever's collection (1599) is of interest mainly because of its allusion to Shakespeare. Ben Jonson furnishes a number of noble examples in his *Underwoods*; and one or two of Spenser's little poems and a great many of Herrick's are properly classed as epigrams. Turberville is just as graceful in this department as he is in everything else; but he has left one at least which is not without

"A miser's mind thou hast,
Thou hast a prince's pelf,
Which makes thee wealthy to thine heir,
A beggar to thyself."

A few quaint specimens may be culled from the pages of Thomas Fuller; but most of the fifty-nine epigrams recently published by Mr Grosart are poor affairs at the best Cowley, Waller, Dryden, Prior, Parnell, Swift, Addison, Johnson, Goldsmith, and Young have all been at times successful in their epigrammatical attempts; but perhaps none of them has proved himself so much "to the manner born" as Pope, whose name indeed is almost identified with literature, on the other hand, the epigrammatists are comparatively few, and though several of them, as Catullus modern poets have followed in his footsteps, and though and Martial, are men of high literary genius, too much of what they have left behind is vitiated by brutality and is no one who has a distinct reputation as an epigrammatist. is no one who has a distinct reputation as an epigrammatist. Such a reputation might certainly have been Landor's, had he not chosen to write the best of his minor poems in Latin, and thus made his readers nearly as select as his

The French are undoubtedly the most successful cultivators of the "salt" and the "vinegar" epigram; and from the time of Marot downwards many of their principal authors have earned no small celebrity in this department. It is enough to mention the names of J. B. Rousseau, Jaochimus, has so little idea of what an epigram is, that if he succeeded in writing one really good epigram, those of Lebrun alone number upwards of 600, and a very fair proportion of them would doubtless pass muster even with Rapin himself. If Piron was never anything better, "pas et à bon-mots." Perhaps more than anywhere else the

While any fair collection of German epigrams will V., though he may still incur the milder penalty of having his name inserted in the *Index Expurgatorius*, and find, like the moral and didactic has given rise to a class but John Owen, that he consequently has lost an inheritance sparingly represented in French. The very name of

Sinngedichte bears witness to this peculiarity, which is exemplified equally by the rude priameln, or preameln, of the 13th and 14th centuries and the polished lines of Goethe and Schiller. Logau published his Deutsche Sinngetichte Drey Tausend in 1654, and Wernicke no fewer morbus sacer, morbus divus. It was also termed morbus than six volumes of Ueberschriften oder Epigrammata in 1697; Kästner's Sinngedichte appeared in 1782, and Haug and Weissen's Epigrammatisch. Anthologie in 1804. Kleist, Opitz, Gleim, Hagedorn, Klopstock, and A. W. Schlegel all possess some reputation as epigrammatists; Lessing is facile princeps in the satirical style; and Herder has the honour of having enriched his language with much of what is best from Oriental and classical sources.

It is often by no means easy to trace the history of even a single epigram, and the investigator soon learns to be cautious of congratulating himself on the attainment of a genuine original. The same point, refurbished and fitted anew to its tiny shaft, has been shot again and again by laughing cupids or fierce-eyed furies in many a frolic and many a fray. During the period when the epigram was the favourite form in Germany, Gervinus tells us how the works, not only of the Greek and Roman writers, but of Neo-Latinists, Spaniards, Dutchmen, Frenchmen, Englishmen, and Poles were ransacked and plundered; and the same process of pillage has gone on in a more or less modified degree in other times and countries. Very noticeable often are the modifications of tone and expression occasioned by national and individual characteristics: the simplicity of the prototype may become common-place in the imitation, the sublime be distorted into the grotesque, the pathetic degenerate into the absurdly sentimental; or on the other hand, an unpromising motif may be happily developed into unexpected beauty. A good illustration of the variety with which the same epigram may be translated and travestied is afforded by a little Lucubrations on the Epigrain-

'Ει μεν ην μαθείν α δεί παθείν, Καὶ μὴ παθείν, καλὸν ἦν τὸ μαθείν. Έι δὲ δεῖ παθείν ἄ δ' ἦν μαθείν, Τί δεῖ μαθεῖν; χρη γὰρ παθεῖν.

The two collections of epigrams most accessible to the English reader are Booth's Epigrams, Ancient and Modern, 1863, and Dodd's The Epigrammatists, 1870. In the appendix to the latter is a pretty full bibliography, to which the following list may serve as a supplement:—Thomas Corræus, De toto co poematis genere quod epigramma dicitur, Venice, 1869, Bologna, 1890; Cottunius, De Conficiendo epigrammate, Bologna, 1632; Vincentius Gallus, Opusculum de epigrammate, Milan, 1641; Vavassor, De epigrammate liber, Paris, 1669; Gedanke von deutschen Epigrammatius, Leinsie, 1898. Destissingerum metter intervente epigrammate. mate liber, Paris, 1669; Gedanke von deutschen Epigrammatibus, Leipsic, 1698; Doctissimorum nostra atate italorum epigrammata: Flaminii Molea, Naugerii, Cotta, Lampridii, Sadoleti, et aliorum, cura Jo. Gagnati, Paris, c. 1550; Brugière de Barante, Recueil des plus belles épigrammes des poètes français, 2 vols., Paris, 1698; Chr. Aug. Heumann, Anthologia Latina: hoc est, epigrammata partim a priscis partim junioribus a poetis, Hanover, 1721; Fayolle, Acontologie ou dictionnaire d'épigrammes, Paris, 1817; Geijsbeck, Epigrammatische Anthologie; Sauvage, Les guépes gauloises: petit encyclopédie des meilleurs épigrammes, de., depuis Clement Marot jusqu'aux poetes de nos jours, 1859; La récréation et passe-temps des tristes; requeil d'épigrammes, et de petits contre en user étimorium en tristes: recueil d'épigrammes et de petits contes en vers réimprimé sur l'édition de Rouen 1595, &c., Paris, 1863. A large number of epigrams and much miscellaneous information in regard to their origin, application, and translation is scattered through Notes and Queries. A pleasant anonymous article on the subject is printed in The Quarterly Review, No. 233.

EPILEPSY (from ἐπί, upon, and λαμβάνω, to seize), synonym, Falling Sickness. The term as generally understood is applied to a nervous disorder characterized by a fit of sudden

Herculeus, from Hercules having been supposed to have been epileptic, and morbus comitialis, from the circumstance that when any member of the forum was seized with an epileptic fit the assembly was broken up. Morbus caducus, morbus lunaticus astralis, morbus demoniacus, morbus major, were all terms employed to designate epilepsy.

The forms which this disease manifests have been differently described by different writers, but there are two well-marked varieties of the epileptic seizure, either of which may exist alone, or both may be found to occur together in the same individual. To these the terms epilepsia gravior and epilepsia mitior, le grand mal and le petit mal, are usually applied. The former of these, if not the more common, is at least that which attracts most attention, being

what is generally known as an epileptic fit. Although in most instances such an attack comes on suddenly, it is in many cases preceded by certain premonitory indications or warnings, which may be present for a greater or less time previously. These are of very varied character, and may be in the form of some temporary change in the disposition, such as unusual depression or elevation of spirits, or of some alteration in the look. Besides these general symptoms, there are frequently peculiar sensations which immediately precede the onset of the fit, and to such the name of "aura epileptica" is applied. In its strict sense this term refers to a feeling of a breath of air blowing upon some part of the body, and passing upwards towards the head. This sensation, however, is not a common one, and the term has now come to be applied to may be translated and travestied is afforded by a little volume published in Edinburgh in 1808, under the title of precursor of the attack. The so-called " aura" may be of mental character, in the form of an agonizing feeling of momentary duration; of sensorial character, in the form of pain in a limb or in some internal organ, such as the stomach, or morbid feeling connected with the special senses; or, further, of motorial character, in the form of contractions or trembling in some of the muscles. When such sensations affect a limb, the employment of firm compression by the hand or by a ligature occasionally succeeds in warding off an attack. The aura may be so distinct and of such duration as to enable the patient to lie down,

or seek a place of safety before the fit comes on. The seizure is usually preceded by a loud scream or cry, which is not to be ascribed, as was at one time supposed, to terror or pain, but is due to the convulsive action of the muscles of the larynx, and the expulsion of a column of air through the narrowed glottis. If the patient is standing he immediately falls, and often sustains serious injury. Unconsciousness is complete, and the muscles generally are in a state of stiffness or tonic contraction, which will usually be found to affect those of one side of the body in particular. The head is turned by a series of jerks towards one or other shoulder, the breathing is for the moment arrested, the countenance first pale then livid, the pupils dilated, and the pulse rapid. This, the first stage of the fit, generally lasts for about half a minute, and is followed by the state of clonic (i.e., tumultuous) spasm of the muscles in which the whole body is thrown into violent agitation, occasionally so great that bones may be fractured or disloss of consciousness, attended with convulsions. There located. The eyes roll wildly, the teeth are gnashed may, however, exist manifestations of epilepsy much together, and the tongue and cheeks are often severely less marked than this, yet equally characteristic of the disease; while, on the other hand, it is to be borne in (often tinged with blood) issues from the mouth, while mind that many other attacks of a convulsive nature have the contents of the bowels and bladder are ejected. the term "epileptic" or "epileptiform" applied to them The aspect of the patient in this condition is shocking

return of consciousness, the patient looking confusedly about him and attempting to speak. This, however, is soon followed by drowsiness and stupor, which may continue for several hours, when he awakes either apparently quite recovered, or fatigued and depressed, and occasionally

Epileptic fits of this sort succeed each other with varying degrees of frequency, and occasionally, though not frequently, with regular periodicity. In some persons they only occur once in a lifetime, or once in the course of many years, while in others they return every week or two, or even are of daily occurrence, and occasionally there are numerous attacks each day. According to Dr Reynolds, there are four times as many epileptics who have their attacks more frequently than once a month as there are of those whose attacks recur at longer intervals. When the fit returns it is not uncommon for one seizure to be followed by another within a few hours or days. Occasionally there occurs a constant succession of attacks extending over many hours, and with such rapidity that the patient appears as if he had never come out of the one fit. The term status epilepticus is applied to this condition, which is sometimes followed with fatal results. In many epileptics the fits occur during the hight as well as during the day, but in some instances they are entirely nocturnal, and it is well known that in such cases the disease may long exist and yet remain unrecognized either by the patient or the physician.

The other manifestation of epilepsy, to which the names epilepsia mittor or le petit mal are given, differs from that above described in the absence of the convulsive spasms. It is also termed by some authors epileptic vertigo (giddiness), and consists essentially in the sudden arrest of volition and consciousness, which is of but short duration, and may be accompanied with staggering or some alteration happen to be engaged in conversation, by an abrupt termination of the act. In general it lasts but a few seconds, and the individual resumes his occupation without perhaps being aware of anything having been the matter. In some instances there is a degree of spasmodic action in certain muscles which may cause the patient to make some unexpected movement, such as turning half round, or walking abruptly aside, or may show itself by some labour has been bestowed upon the investigation of its unusual expression of countenance, such as squinting or grinning. There may be some amount of "aura" preceding such attacks, and also of faintness following them. The petit mal most commonly co-exists with the grand mal. but has no necessary connection with it, as each may exist alone. According to Trousseau, the petit mal in general precedes the manifestation of the grand mal, but sometimes the reverse is the case.

Although the above account represents the phenomena usually observed in the two varieties of epilepsy, it is to be noted that many cases occur exhibiting other symptoms which cannot be included in such a general description.

Epilepsy appears to exert no necessarily injurious effect upon the general health, and even where it exists in an aggravated form is quite consistent with a high degree of bodily vigour. It is very different, however, with regard to its influence upon the mind; and the question of the relation of epilepsy to insanity is one of great and increasing

to witness, and the sight has been known to induce a similar attack in an onlooker. This stage lasts for a period varying from a few seconds to several minutes, when the convulsive movements gradually subside, and relaxation of the muscles takes place, together with partial restraint. These attacks are by no means limited to the more severe form of epilepsy, but appear to be even more frequently associated with the milder form—the epileptic vertigo—where they either replace altogether or immediately follow the short period of absence characteristic of this form of the disease. Numerous cases are on record in a state of excitement which sometimes assumes the of persons known to be epileptic being suddenly seized, either after or without apparent spasmodic attack, with some sudden impulse, in which they have used dangerous violence to those beside them, irrespective altogether of malevolent intention, as appears from their retaining no recollection whatever, after the short period of excitement, of anything that had occurred; and there is reason to believe that crimes of heinous character, for which the perpetrators have suffered punishment, have been committed in a state of mind such as that now described. The subject is obviously one of the greatest medico-legal interest and importance in regard to the question of criminal responsibility, and it is now justly receiving much greater attention than formerly.

Apart, however, from such marked and comparatively rare instances of what is termed epileptic insanity, the general mental condition of the epileptic is in a large proportion of cases unfavour bly affected by the disease. There are doubtless examples (and their number according to statistics is estimated at less than one-third) where, even among those suffering from frequent and severe attacks, no departure from the normal condition of mental integrity can be recognized. But in general there exists some peculiarity, exhibiting itself either in the form of defective memory, or diminishing intelligence, or, what is perhaps as frequent in irregularities of temper, the patient being irritable or perverse and eccentric. In not a few cases there is a steady mental decline, which ends in dementia or idiocy. It is stated by some high authorities that epileptic women suffer in regard to their mental condition more than men. in position or motion, or may simply exhibit itself in a look of absence or confusion, and, should the patient disease shows itself the more likely is the mind to suffer. Neither the frequency nor the severity of the seizures seem to have any necessary influence in the matter; and the general opinion appears to be that the milder form of the disease is that with which mental failure is more apt to be

Epilepsy has ever been regarded as one of the most formidable diseases that can afflict mankind, and much pathology. It must, however, be confessed that morbid anatomy has hitherto failed to throw any satisfactory light upon the real nature of this disease. In the very rare instances of persons dying in the epileptic fit, the post mortem appearances presented by the brain are in general either entirely negative, or of such indefinite character as cerebral congestion, while, on the other hand, in chronic cases of epilepsy, such lesions as atrophy and degeneration of brain substance or vascular disease are frequently met with, but are, as is well known, common to many other forms of nervous disease, and are much more probably the consequences rather than the causes of the epileptic attacks. The disease is commonly regarded as one of functional character.

It is impossible in this notice to refer in detail to the vari-

ous doctrines which have been held by physicians and pathologists upon the subject of the site of the lesion in epilepsy. It is now generally admitted, as the result both of observation and experiment, that the upper part of the spinal importance. Allusion has already been made to the occa-fional occurrence of maniacal excitement as one of the re-other ganglia at the base of the brain, are the parts affected in epilepsy; and it is supposed that a condition of irritability or over-action of the ganglionic nerve cells in these parts, which are concerned in controlling the vasothese parts, which are concerned in controlling the vasomotor nerves, the muscles of respiration, and the muscular system generally, is the immediate cause of a fit. as far as possible the patient from injuring himself while The fact, however, of the loss of consciousness and other sensorial phenomena being the earliest occurrences in the attack, preceding the convulsions, and in not a few instances, as has already been observed, being the only indications present, is regarded by some as pointing to other parts of the cerebral centres as being implicated in the origination of the fit. The whole subject, however, is still involved in obscurity. There are, nevertheless, certain

gards its causation.

The influence of hereditary predisposition in epilepsy is very marked. It is necessary, however, to bear in mind the point so forcibly insisted on by Trousseau in relation to epilepsy, that hereditary transmission may be either direct or indirect, that is to say, that what is epilepsy in one generation may be some other form of neurosis in the next, and conversely, nervous diseases being remarkable for their tendency to transformation in their descent in families. Where epilepsy is hereditary, it generally manifests itself at an unusually early period of life. A singular fact, which also bears to some extent upon the pathology of this disease, was brought to light by Dr Brown Séquard in his experi-ments, namely, that the young of animals which had been artificially rendered epileptic were liable to similar seizures.

In connexion with the hereditary transmission of epilepsy it must be observed that all authorities concur in the opinion that this disease is one among the baneful effects that often follow marriages of consanguinity. Further, there is reason to believe that intemperance, apart altogether from its direct effect in favouring the occurrence of epilepsy, has an evil influence in the hereditary transmission of this as of other nervous diseases. A want of symmetry in the formation of the skull and defective cerebral development are not unfrequently observed where epilepsy is hereditarily transmitted.

Age is of importance in reference to the production of epilepsy. The disease may come on at any period of life, but it appears from the statistics of Dr Reynolds and others, that it most frequently first manifests itself between the ages of ten and twenty years, the period of second dentition and puberty, and again at or about the age of

Among other causes which are influential in the development of epilepsy may be mentioned sudden fright, prolonged mental anxiety, over-work, and debauchery. Epileptic fits also occur in connexion with injuries of the head and organic disease of the brain, as well as with a depraved state of the general health, and with irritations in distant organs, as seen in the fits occurring in dentition, in kidney disease, and as the result of worms in the intestines. The epileptic symptoms traceable to these causes are sometimes termed sympathetic or eccentric epilepsy; while, on the other hand, many authorities refuse to designate attacks thus brought about by the name epilepsy, unless the has been removed, which would seem to be sometimes the

Epilepsy is occasionally feigned for the purpose of extortion, but an experienced medical practitioner will by Solon to Athens (about 596 B.C.), in order to give the rarely be deceived; and when it is stated that although many of the phenomena of an attack, particularly the convulsive movements, can be readily simulated, yet that the the great lawgiver. Having accomplished the desired condition of the pupils, which are dilated during the fit, cannot be feigned, and that the impostor seldom bites his Epimenides was loaded by the Athenians with wealth and

unconsciousness continues. Tight clothing should be loosened, and a cork or pad inserted between the teeth. When the fit is of long continuance, the dashing of cold water on the face and chest, or the inhalation of chloroform, or, as has been recently proposed, of nitrite of amyl, may be useful; and in some cases, where there is great congestion of the face and threatening asphyxia, bloods letting may be called for; in general, however, the fit terfacts which have been brought to light in the investigation | minates independently of any such measures. When the of this disease which are of interest and importance as re- fit is over the patient should be allowed to sleep, and have the head and shoulders well raised.

In the intervals of the attacks the general health of the patient is one of the most important points to be attended to. The strictest hygienic rules should be observed, and all such causes as have been referred to as favouring the development of the disease should as far as possible be avoided. Of medicinal remedies for epilepsy there are innumerable varieties, but only a few deserve mention as possessing any efficacy in controlling or curing the disease. For no disease has a greater number of specifics been vaunted and found to be useless. The metallic salts, especially those of zinc, silver, and arsenic, are much employed, and apparently with benefit in some cases, but they seldom can be continued for any great length of time, owing to their liability to produce evil effects upon the health. The two remedies which have been found most serviceable are belladonna and bromide of potassium. The former of these has the strong recommendation of Trousseau, who advises its administration either as a pill composed of the extract and powdered leaves, or in the form of atropia in gradually increased doses, and continued for a length of time. This drug certainly succeeds in many cases in diminishing the number of the attacks, but it has not yielded such encouraging results as have been attained by the other substance above mentioned, the bromide of potassium, which is the remedy now generally employed in the treatment of epilepsy. This salt, given in from 10 to 30 grain doses three times a day, is generally followed with some amelioration of the symptoms either in regard to the severity or frequency of the attacks, and in a few instances with apparent cure. Its employment, more-over, can be persevered with for a long time with little inconvenience. Some physicians combine with it an equal proportion of the analogous salt, the bromide of ammonium, while others employ belladonna along with the bromides, and apparently with good effect. As adjuvants to these measures, counter-irritation to the nape of the neck by blisters or setons is sometimes attended with benefit. (J. O. A.)

EPIMENIDES, a poet and prophet of Crete, was born at Phæstus, or according to others at Gnossus, in the 7th century before the Christian era. In the account of his life as given by Diogenes Laertius (i. 12), it is impossible to distinguish between what may be true and what is obviously fabulous. When keeping his father's sheep one day, he is said to have retired into a cave, where he fell symptoms exhibit a liability to return even after their cause into a profound sleep which lasted fifty-seven years. Returning home to the altered abodes of his family, he was hailed as the especial favourite of the gods, and venerated as the possessor of superhuman wisdom. He was invited city previous to the promulgation of the political code of