Abstracts.

Neurology.

ETIOLOGY.

[1] Juvenile tabes, with especial reference to hereditary and constitutional factors (Die juvenile Tabes unter besonderer Berück-
sichtigung der hereditären und konstitutionellen Momente).—
BAUMGART. Zeits. f. d. g. Neurol. u. Psychiat., 1921, lxxi, 321.

The author has analyzed no less than 130 cases of juvenile tabes or tabo-
paralysis, personal and from the literature, so that the documentary value
of the paper is considerable. Of these 130 cases, 49 were in patients whose
parents (one or both) had suffered from metalutic nervous disease. Since,
however, in 37 no information as to the parents was forthcoming, the pro-
portion is in reality 49 out of 93. As regards these 49 cases, in 39 the parents
(one or both) were tabetics themselves, while 10 (one or both) were general
paralytics. The female sex supplied 32 and the male 16 examples of the
affection; in one case the sex was not stated; of the whole number of
130 cases, 74 belonged to the female sex. In addition to the marked
hereditary element a large proportion of cases of juvenile tabes is char-
acterized by a constitutional inferiority, seen more particularly in the
persistance of stigmata of infantilism. To this the author attributes a
pathogenic significance, but these characteristics may perhaps partake
more of the nature of effect than of cause.

S. A. K. W.

PATHOLOGICAL ANATOMY.

[2] The pathological histology and pathogenesis of amaurotic idiocy
(Contribution à l'étude de l'histologie pathologique et à la patho-
génie de l'idiotie amaurotique).—G. MARINESCO. L'Encéphale,
1921, xvi, 481.

Professor Marinesco gives us in this paper a minute and painstaking
study of the nervous system from a case of amaurotic family idiocy which
presented all the usual clinical features.

The results obtained by the methods of Nissl and of Bielschowsky
and Cajal were in every way similar to what many others have reported,
viz., swelling of the cell bodies and dendrites, disappearance of the intra-
cellular fibrils except round the periphery, and so on. Special attention
is drawn to the fact that the nuclei of the cells were relatively unaltered.
Of greater novelty are his findings obtained by the methods of Perls for