MEYER'S EXPERIMENT — MIGRAINE

Oeddings (Phys. of Soc.), instead of the term matriarchal.

MEYER'S EXPERIMENT: Gen. Meyer's experiment.

Migraine. Fr. exépérience de Meyer; Ital. esperiienza di Meyer. An experiment in visual contrast. Lay on a colored field a small piece of grey paper, and cover the whole with white tissue-paper. The colour complementary to the field spreads over the grey. The vividness of the effect is due to the diminution of saturation but to the blurring of the outline of the grey. Cf. Contrast (visual, simultaneous).


Meynert, Theodor. (1833-92.) Educated at Vienna. Privatdocent in brain anatomy, 1859; professor of the Vienna Lunen Asylum, 1866; director of the Psychiatric Clinic, and assistant professor of psychiatry in the University, 1870; professor of neurology, 1873; privy councillor, 1889. President of the Psychiatric Association, vice-president of the Vienna Medical Society, and member of the Imperial Academy of Sciences.

Michaelis, Karl Ludwig. (1802-75.) Studied law and, later, philosophy at Berlin; assistant professor of philosophy there, 1839. He is sometimes classed as one of the 'older Hegelians, one of the right wings.' Microcephaloid (Gr. μωρόσ, small; μωροφάσκειν, head) (see microcephalic); Fr. microcéphale; Ital. microcefalo. Having an abnormally small head, or one below a certain standard, or the adult less than 43 5/16 or 17 inches in circumference, or 13.350 c.c. capacity of the cranium.

The deficiency mainly affects the brain, and is proportionately most marked in the hemisphere. Microcephaloids possess almost always of defective intelligence, and are frequently idiots of various types. Only a small percentage of idiots, however, are microcephalic. The causes of this condition are obscure; the frequency with which the statures of microcephalic skulls are found closed is significant. Extreme cases of microcephaloids have attracted attention from ancient times to the present. Cf. Enceinte. (302.)


Microcosm: see MACROCOSM.

Micro-organism [Gr. μικρός, small; ὄργανον, instrument]; Ger. Mikroorganismen; Fr. micro-organismes; Ital. microorganismi. An organism too small to be visible to the naked eye. Chiefly applied to the lowest form, but occasionally to some of the Protozoa. Cf. Unicellular Organism. (N.M.)

Mide [All. middle]. The median. See Mean and Median.

Used, in various compounds, in the terminology introduced by P. Galton (Natural Inheritance) for the mathematical treatment of problems of heredity. Mid-stature: 'the median [stature] of the general population' (ibid. 91). Mid-parent: 'an ideal [supposed] person of composite sex whose stature [e.g. is halfway between the stature of the father and the transmitted stature of the mother' (ibid. 87). Mid-parent: 'an idea [ supposed] person of composite sex whose stature [e.g. is halfway between the stature of the father and the transmitted stature of the mother' (ibid. 87; transmitted meaning increased by the amount requisite to make female comparable with male stature, ibid. 96). Mid-value: probable mean (ibid. 98); cf. Excess of Observation. (J.M.B.)

Mid-parent: See Mrn.

Middle Term [and Middle] (trans. of terminus medius, medium, used by Boerhaave to translate Aristotle's ἂναμέσα, σαρώνει): Ger. Mittelterm; Fr. terme moyen; Ital. termo terzo, intermezzo. The adjective inter is applied in Greek to a third object additional to two others when the idea of intervening can hardly be detected. It is, therefore, perhaps needless to seek further for Aristotle's intention in calling that term, by the consideration of which two others are latently brought into one proposition as its subject and predicate, the middle term, or middle. It is the most important factor of Aristotle's theory of reasoning.

The same word means little more than third in the phrase 'principle of excluded middle,' which is, indeed, often called principle of tertium quid. See Lawn or Termant.

On the other hand, something which partakes of each of two disparate entities, and renders them capable of influencing one another, is called a tertium quid (Aristotle's μεταμφίσμα). (J.S.-E.B.)

Migraine or Migraine (Gr. μειγμένος, half-headed); Ger. Migräne; Fr. migraine; Ital. mal di testa. A severe headache, almost invariably confined to one side of the head (hence also termed hemicephalic), accompanied by the symptoms described below. The tendency to migraine, which is popularly known as 'sick-headache,' is often inherited. It is most apt to appear in youth, and ordi-