

Giddings (*Princ. of Sociol.*), instead of the term matriarchal. (F.H.G.)

**Meyer's Experiment:** Ger. *Meyer'scher Versuch*; Fr. *expérience de Meyer*; Ital. *esperienza del Meyer*. An experiment in visual contrast. Lay on a coloured 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 not to the diminution of saturation but to the blurring of the outline of the grey. Cf. CONTRAST (visual, simultaneous).

*Literature:* H. MEYER, Pogg. Ann. (1855), xiv. 170; HELMHOLTZ, *Physiol. Optik* (2nd ed.), 547; EBBINGHAUS, *Psychologie*, 221; SANFORD, *Course in Exper. Psychol.*, expt. 152 c. (E.B.T.)

**Meynert, Theodor.** (1833-92.) Educated at Vienna. Privatdocent in brain anatomy, 1865; prosecutor of the Vienna Insane Asylum, 1866; director of the Psychiatric Clinic, and assistant professor of psychiatry in the University, 1870; professor of neurology, 1873; privy councillor, 1885. President of the Psychiatric Association, vice-president of the Vienna Medical Society, and member of the Imperial Academy of Sciences.

**Michelet, Karl Ludwig.** (1801-93.) Studied law and, later, philosophy at Berlin; assistant professor of philosophy there, 1829. He is sometimes classed as one of the 'older' Hegelians, one of the right wing.

**Microcephalic** [Gr. *μικρός*, small, + *κεφαλή*, head]: Ger. *mikrocephal*; Fr. *microcéphale*; Ital. *microcefalo*. Having an abnormally small head, or one below a certain standard; in the adult less than 431 mm. or 17 inches in circumference, or 1,350 c.c. capacity of the cranium.

The deficiency mainly affects the brain, and is proportionally most marked in the hemispheres. Microcephalic persons are almost always of defective intelligence, and are frequently idiots of extreme types. Only a small percentage of idiots, however, are microcephalic. The causes of this condition are obscure; the frequency with which the sutures of microcephalic skulls are found closed is significant. Extreme cases of microcephaly have attracted attention from ancient times to the present. Cf. IDIOCY. (J.J.)

*Literature:* W. W. IRELAND, *Idiocy* (with literature); VOET, *Les Microcéphales ou Hommes-singes* (1867); GIACOMINI, *Cervelli dei Microcefali* (1890). (J.J.-E.M.)

**Microcosm:** see MACROCOSM.

**Micro-organism** [Gr. *μικρός*, small, + *ὄργανον*, an instrument]: Ger. *Mikroorganismus*; Fr. *micro-organisme*; Ital. *microrganismo*. An organism too small to be visible to the naked eye. Chiefly applied to the lowest fungi, but occasionally to some of the Protozoa. Cf. UNICELLULAR ORGANISMS. (C.S.M.)

**Mid-** [AS. *midde*]. The median. See MEAN AND MEDIAN.

Used, in various compounds, in the terminology introduced by F. Galton (*Natural Inheritance*) for the mathematical treatment of problems of heredity. Mid-stature: 'the median [stature] of the general population' (ibid. 92). Mid-parent: 'an ideal [supposed] person of composite sex whose stature [e.g.] is halfway between the stature of the father and the transmuted stature of the mother' (ibid. 87; transmuted meaning increased by the amount requisite to make female comparable with male stature, ibid. 56). Mid-error: probable error (ibid. 58); cf. ERRORS OF OBSERVATION. (J.M.B.)

**Mid-parent:** see MID-

**Middle Term (and Middle)** [trans. of *terminus medius, medium*, used by Boethius to translate Aristotle's *ὁ μέσος ὄρος, τὸ μέσον*]: Ger. *Mittelbegriff*; Fr. *terme moyen*; Ital. *mezzo termine, termine medio*. The adjective *μέσος* 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 illatively 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 *principium exclusi tertii*. See LAWS OF THOUGHT. On the other hand, something which partakes of each of two disparate natures, and renders them capable of influencing one another, is called a *tertium quid* (Aristotle's *ἡ τρίτη οὐσία*). (C.S.P., C.L.F.)

**Migraine or Megrin** [Gr. *ἡμικρανία*, half-headed]: Ger. *Migräne*; Fr. *migraine*; Ital. *emicrania*. A severe headache, almost invariably confined to one side of the head (hence also termed hemicrania), and 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-