

(13)¹ A young man addressed a lady in the street in the following words: 'If you will permit me, madam, I should like to "begleit-digen" you.' It was obvious what his thoughts were: he would like to 'begleiten [accompany]' her, but was afraid his offer would 'beleidigen [insult]' her. That these two conflicting emotional impulses found expression in one word—in the slip of the tongue, in fact—indicates that the young man's real intentions were at any rate not of the purest, and were bound to seem, even to himself, insulting to the lady. But while he attempted to conceal this from her, his unconscious played a trick on him by betraying his real intentions. But on the other hand he in this way, as it were, anticipated the lady's conventional retort: 'Really! What do you take me for? How dare you insult me!' (Reported by O. Rank.)

I will next quote a number of examples² from an article by Stekel, entitled 'Unconscious Admissions', in the *Berliner Tageblatt* of January 4, 1904.

(14) 'An unpleasant part of my unconscious thoughts is disclosed by the following example. I may start by stating that in my capacity as a doctor I never consider my remuneration but only have the patient's interest in mind: that goes without saying. I was with a woman patient to whom I was giving medical attention in a period of convalescence after a serious illness. We had been through hard days and nights together. I was happy to find her improved; I painted a picture for her benefit of the delights of a stay in Abbazia, and concluded by saying: "If, as I hope, you will *not* leave your bed soon. . . ." This obviously owed its origin to an egoistic motive in the unconscious, namely that I should be able to continue treating this well-to-do patient some time longer—a wish that is entirely foreign to my waking consciousness and which I would indignantly repudiate.'

(15) Here is another example from Stekel. 'My wife was engaging a French governess for the afternoons, and after agreement had been reached on the terms, wanted to retain her testimonials. The Frenchwoman asked to be allowed to keep them, giving as her reason: *Je cherche encore pour les après-midis*,

¹ [This example was added in 1912. Freud later alluded to it in the second and third of his *Introductory Lectures* (1916-17).]

² [These examples (Nos. 14-20) were added in 1907.]

pardon, pour les avant-midis [I am still looking for work in the afternoons—I mean, in the forenoons]. She obviously had the intention of looking round elsewhere and perhaps finding better terms—an intention which she in fact carried out.'

(16) From Stekel: 'I had to give a stiff lecture to a wife; and her husband, at whose request I did it, stood outside the door listening. At the end of my sermon, which had made a visible impression, I said: "Good-bye, sir." To any well-informed person I was thus betraying the fact that my words were addressed to the husband and that I had spoken them for his benefit.'

(17) Stekel reports of himself that at one time he had two patients from Trieste in treatment whom he always used to address the wrong way round. 'Good morning, Herr Peloni', he would say to Askoli, and 'Good morning, Herr Askoli' to Peloni. He was at first inclined not to attribute any deeper motive to this confusion but to explain it as being due to the numerous points of resemblance between the two gentlemen. However it was easy for him to convince himself that the interchanging of the names corresponded in this case to a kind of boastfulness: he was able in this way to let each of his Italian patients know that he was not the only visitor from Trieste who had come to Vienna in search of his medical advice.

(18) Stekel reports that during a stormy General Meeting he said: 'We shall now *streiten* [quarrel]' (instead of '*schreiten* [proceed]') 'to point four on the agenda.'

(19) A professor declared in his inaugural lecture: 'I am not *geneigt* [inclined]' (instead of '*geeignet* [qualified]') 'to describe the services of my most esteemed predecessor.'¹

(20) To a lady whom he suspected of having Graves' disease Stekel said: 'You are about a *Kropf* [goitre]' (instead of '*Kopf* [head]') 'taller than your sister.'

(21)² Stekel reports: 'Someone wanted to describe the relationship of two friends and to bring out the fact that one of them was Jewish. He said: "They lived together like Castor and Pollak."³ This was certainly not said as a joke; the speaker did not notice the slip himself until I drew his attention to it.'

¹ [Quoted by Freud in the second of his *Introductory Lectures* (1916-17).]

² [This and the following example (No. 22) were added in 1910.]

³ [Castor and Pollux were the 'heavenly twins' of Greek mythology. Pollak is a common Jewish name in Vienna.]