

fil many, if not all, of his civil duties, but was prone to acts incompatible with the recognized laws of society. This ran through all degrees, from mere eccentricity to pronounced idiocy. One common form of it was habitual lying, and there were well-authenticated cases in which habitual stealing was the most prominent symptom. This was a condition which presented more difficulties to the jurist than to the pathologist or psychologist. Given a child born under circumstances adverse to the development of his brain, and who, as he grew up, evinced symptoms of not being as his fellows were in regard to his moral nature, although his intellectual faculties might be but slightly imperfect, was not the pathologist, he asked, bound to connect such a peculiarity with the physical condition? Passing on to speak of idiopathic mania and melancholia, which are so often attributed to over-excitation of the brain, Dr. Tuke remarked that the most violent emotion very rarely caused insanity directly. Acute insanity was not the outcome of a few minutes or hours of functional disturbance, it was the result of brain exhaustion, which, in its turn, was the result of loss of sleep. There was a sequence of symptoms leading on to explosions of madness, as steady, in nine cases out of ten, as the course of symptoms in any recognised fever; only the stages were not marked off into distinct periods of time; and even this might be due to the fact that the disease had not as yet been thoroughly studied. The lecturer proceeded to show how the brain-cells, when not recuperated by rest, underwent degenerative physical changes, and, with the view of shewing that the sequence of symptoms corresponded with those changes, he gave the history of an interesting case which had come under his notice, and whose bearing he promised to discuss more in detail in the next lecture.—*Public Health*.

Books and Pamphlets Received.

"Dictionary of Hygiene and Public Health," by Alexander Wynter Blyth, M. R. C. S., F. C. S., &c., &c. (Charles Griffin & Co., London).

"Manual for Medical Officers of Health," by Edward Smith, M. D., LL.B., Lond., F. R. S. (Knight & Co., London).

"On Tracheotomy, especially in relation to Diseases of the Larynx and Trachea," by W. Peyin Thornton. (J. & A. Churchill, London).