

VOLUNTARY ADMISSION.

Since the installation of our Continuous baths, of our Hot-Air apparatus, and the equipment, in a measure, of our laboratories, the treatment of acute cases of insanity, and more especially those cases due to alcoholic and drug inebriety has been quite successful. The results have become known to the public and to the profession, and as a consequence we have had many applications for the admission for treatment of acute cases without the accompanying certificates of insanity. This of course we were unable to grant, under the law as it stands at the present time. We were obliged to tell these patients and their friends, and their physicians, that although our institution existed for the treatment of incipient and acute cases of insanity, no matter what the cause, yet, under present conditions we had no alternative. The alcoholic, the drug inebriate, the toxic following fever, the puerperal, the septic, all must be certified as insane before receiving treatment.

Admission of many acute cases of mental disorders, no matter what the cause, might be entirely voluntary. It seems positively cruel to refuse admission to the very class of patients who would respond most quickly to treatment.

The details could very easily be worked out. We throw out the suggestion for respectful consideration.
