

brain, and perhaps give us a hint as to how it had occurred. In at least some diseases it was possible to give results, although causes were not so clearly made out. The microtome and microscope could, after all, only reveal results, and causes were still to be looked for in many cases of insanity. It is not a hopeful state of affairs when we must wait for the findings of the post mortem room to make our diagnosis.

I must frankly admit that even at present there is not any certain foundation on which to build a definite classification of the various psychoses we meet, because many cases of insanity are without any ætiological factors.

Kahlbaum, Wernicke and Kraepelin have enabled us to select a better starting point in psychiatry, and now the endeavour is to study a given psychosis, not only in some of its phases, but rather as an entity. In this way the old groupings of melancholia and mania have been practically obliterated, because it is discovered that melancholia and mania are truly phases of the same disease, or may even appear in combination.

The older way of doing things was to select the different kinds of melancholia, label them in an artistic way and treat them as practically belonging to one disease, whereas we know now that if a complete picture had been given of the whole course of the disease we should learn that depression might easily belong to several groups. It would be just as logical to say: in typhoid fever we frequently get a temperature of 105 deg.—this case has a temperature of 105 deg., therefore it is typhoid fever. I have been belaboured privately and publicly because I have adopted German methods of investigation, and German systems of classification, instead of showing a delightful imperialistic spirit of patriotism, which must in its narrowness select British models as the best. As science is international, or perhaps to put it in a better way, is without nationality, I am free to confess that I shall willingly accept a South Sea Island method if it is better than the