

into execution in the Home for Incurables and other such institutions would, judging by the above cases, merely produce an amount of unnecessary suffering without any good result.

Where death has resulted from improper treatment, or gross ignorance of the disease from which a patient is suffering, we have had a number of cases.

In the case of *The King against Lewis* it was shown that a child of the accused had diphtheria, that the child was treated by a healer, who did not believe that the child had anything the matter with it that could not be removed by silent treatment. In this case it was shown that at the present day only a half of one per cent. of children who suffer from this condition die from it if properly treated.

Lewis was found guilty at the Assizes of manslaughter, because he did not supply his child with proper medical attendance, such attendance being one of those things that it was necessary for a parent to supply to his child when ill. The case went to the Court of Appeal, but the Chief Justice's ruling was sustained.

In a case which occurred in this city last January, a woman was said to have some condition which was described by the irregular practitioner who had attended her, when he was called as a witness, as arising from "an impingement on a nerve which passed out of the spinal column," and for which he gave her a large number of treatments for the purpose of getting the bones of her spine into "alignment." She died rather suddenly, and the neighbors reported the case to the police, and upon inquiry I thought an inquest had better be held. I, myself, examined this poor woman's body. There was nothing whatever the matter with her spine or spinal column. There was no impingement on any nerve. The bones of the spine were not out of alignment. The history of the case was of the simplest possible character. She had caught cold, had a pleurisy which had gone on to become purulent, one side of her chest being full of matter. This is a case which might have been saved, if the woman's chest had been tapped, or if the condition had been appreciated and any treatment which would lead to the absorption of the fluid had been adopted.

The man who treated this case was examined at the inquest. He described the condition he supposed the deceased to have suffered from. When asked as to what nerve it was that was impinged upon he said it was the first nerve, and on further cross-examination he did not know the name of the nerve; he