

acceptable prayer. It is the prayer of Faith, as it rests on faith in Christ and his promises. It is the prayer of Truth, as it asks for that which we really desire. And it is prayer in the Spirit, in as much as its object is not private or personal, but generous and large ; being essentially, in all its various forms, a prayer for the redemption of man from all evil : and therefore, necessarily, it is an humble and a forgiving prayer.

HOSPITAL TREATMENT OF THE INSANE.

BY ISAAC RAY, M.D.*

INSANITY implies the existence of bodily derangement, and therefore is a suitable object of medical treatment, which, of course, would be more skilfully applied by men who were devoting their whole time and attention to this affection, than by those who observe it only on a very limited scale. But it also implies derangement of the ideas, hallucination of the senses, perversion of the moral sentiments, all which, though the result of physical disorder, are, so far as their outward manifestations are concerned, in some degree, under the control of others, and by such control — in a way not very well understood — the morbid process may be arrested. Now, it is the moral management prevalent in the hospitals of our own time, which so strongly distinguishes them from those of any former time, and determines, in a great measure, the amount of good which they accomplish. Until within a comparatively recent period, insanity was treated by medical men very much like other diseases. Regarding it only in its physical aspect, they considered their duty

* Medical Superintendent of Butler Hospital, Providence, R. I.