

But I only made this the rule, there are exceptions to it. There are those who will not let their friends be placed in an asylum, under any consideration ; and there are those, who, if placed in an asylum would receive more harm than good ; when you meet with those cases you will have to treat them in their own dwellings. You will then have to convert a part of the house into an asylum, in so far that you must separate your patient from the immediate family, and provide a good keeper and nurse-tender for them who will strictly carry out your instructions. Five different members of the society have had such cases, where I have been called in consultation, and each and every case have recovered their sanity. So you see it is necessary that you should give some of your attention to the treatment of insanity. I do not see why many cases of mental disorders should not be treated at home, and by any medical practitioner who chooses to treat them, particularly cases of puerperal mania, when removal is sometimes attended with great danger to the patient : but I also think, as I have already said, that the necessary physical as well as the moral force should be used, and the treatment that has proved efficacious in asylums, should be applied to similar cases when treated outside. But as a rule, for the reasons already given, I believe an asylum the best place for the treatment of the insane.

There is one thing, however, you can all do, and which you are bound to do, and that is to always remember that prevention is better than cure ; and it is for you to use your best efforts to prevent the increase of insanity by opposing with all your persuasive powers, brain forcing in both the young and middle-aged ; by, when you are consulted on the marriage question, honestly telling those who seek for your advice the danger to be apprehended from persons marrying where there is hereditary taint, by teaching men to live sober, chaste and cheerful lives, observing moderation in all things. Above all you must impress upon society that if we wish to diminish insanity and its twin sister crime, we must do so by diminishing poverty and ignorance. It is not yet established, and I am not prepared to say that it ever will be, that all criminals are insane, yet it is very hard to believe that a man can be *very sane* who forces society to deprive him of his freedom and place him under restraint.