

I propose, as a model for this change, the annex of the medical certificate of New York State, which in ten questions, clear and precise, embraces all the supplementary information that could be desired.

I am of opinion that the society should name a committee to study this question, so that at the next meeting they would be prepared to submit a form of the medical certificate to the members.

The society adopted the motion of Dr. Villeneuve and named a special committee composed of Messrs. Villeneuve and Anglin to study the question. They will draw up a new series of certificates necessary to the committal of lunatics and submit them to the Society at its next meeting.

The Influence of Traumatism on the Mental State.

Dr. CHAGNON. Incidental maladies and traumatism befalling lunatics during the course of their mental affections are sometimes of good omen to the alienist, inasmuch as they may help to a speedy cure, which otherwise might have come slowly or never.

I have had under observation in my service at St. Jean de Dieu Asylum, a case, which after two years duration terminated in a cure thanks to traumatism. I think it will be interesting to lay before you the facts of the case.

Hugh James K., aged 25 years, the son of a farmer was admitted to St. Jean de Dieu Asylum, Longue Pointe, on October 19th, 1896. There was no hereditary taint of insanity in the family, and he himself did not show any physical stigmata of degeneracy. He was a conductor on the Street Railway cars for several days, when a slight accident happening to the car in his charge was sufficient to upset his mental equilibrium. This occurred about 15 days before he came to the asylum.

On his admission, he showed a slight trace of maniacal excitement which shortly afterwards gave place to stupor during which it was sometimes necessary to have recourse to forced means of nutrition. This stupor did not, however, continue all the time, it was broken by more or less intense maniacal attacks. Some ambitious ideas showed themselves at times and hallucinations of hearing rendered him impulsive; he gradually fell into "gatisme."

On the morning of the 13th of June, 1898, making an attempt to commit suicide, he drove a knife into the epigastric region. The course of the wound was from right to left; the knife followed the rectus muscle for the space of about half an inch, and buried itself in the linea alba by a slight oblique opening measuring one inch.

Doctor Brennan was immediately called upon to perform a laparo-