

to be deplored that ours has not yet been redeemed from this most injurious imperfection.

The total admissions, into the temporary institutions, appear to have been 889 ; the discharges 554, and the deaths 211. In the period since elapsed, the admissions have been 1540 ; discharges 770, and deaths 354.

A comparison of the above figures would appear to show that the operations of the temporary asylums, notwithstanding all the disadvantages connected with them, were better than those of the new institution have been,—the discharges in the former period having been equal to 62 $\frac{2}{3}$ per cent. on the admissions, whilst, in the latter, they have been only equal to 50 per cent. The deaths in the former were 22 $\frac{2}{3}$ per cent. on the admissions, and in the latter nearly 23 per cent.

Figures may be used to prove any thing ; and in skillful hands they have sometimes established, as facts, statements palpably antagonistic to common sense. In my report of last year, I had occasion to draw attention to the unreliable character of the early statistics of the Asylum ; I then shewed that the proportion of early-relapsing, or uncured patients re-admitted in that period, was more than threefold that of late years. Three cases were instanced which had enriched the statistics with no less than eighteen discharges, though the patients were certainly, throughout incurable. Two of them died in the Asylum, after long ultimate residences ; the third had vanished from the records.

The discharges of actually recovered patients, in the first nine years of the institution, did not probably exceed two-thirds the number shewn in the books, and instead of being rated at 62 per cent. on the admissions, they should stand but little above 40 per cent. With regard to the compara-

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