

ear is assailed with a clamorous din, and the nose with the smell of tobacco. The men wear their hats during the performance, and are rarely found polite enough to give up their seats to the ladies.

The hospital is a superb building, where both sexes are attended by nurses, and visited by the most celebrated physicians in Pennsylvania. The beds are placed in different rooms designed for different diseases: they are well ventilated, and only warmed sufficient to prevent the cold being disagreeable to the patients. The apartments destined for advice and operations, are the most beautiful, and the library is supplied with every book which may be required. After having visited the various apartments, I was conducted to the galleries, in which the insane are confined. They are placed in small chambers, and only deprived of their liberty when it is injurious to society. These chambers are eighty in number, and by the assistance of tubes are kept of an equal temperature. Their food is good, and they are supplied with any thing they stand in need of. Being astonished at their numbers, I enquired of the physician to what this disproportion of insane persons could be ascribed. He answered, without hesitation, that more than half owed the loss of their reason to ebriety! of the other half, one third to love or jealousy; another, to religious fanaticism; and the last, to a variety of maladies.

The revenues of the hospital are augmented by individual charities and the improvements of the lands belonging to it. They are let to respectable tenants by the state of Pennsylvania. The physicians and surgeons exercise their professions gratuitously during one, and sometimes two years. The same humanity which watches over the sick, is shewn to those whom accidents, misfortune, or old age have deprived of the means of supporting themselves. They are removed to the poor-houses, where they are occupied in the most easy employments, decently clothed and maintained. There is a room set apart for the old, the lame, the blind, and all those who are afflicted with any disease which by slow degrees conducts them to the grave. The men are separated from the women. The men are employed in untwisting old cables, washing, and cleaning the tar from them, that they may be made use of again: the women card or spin cotton and wool. Tailors, shoemakers, and others who are unable to gain their living in the world, follow here their respective businesses, when their health permits.

The revenues of the houses, like those of the hospital, are managed by respectable inhabitants, who are appointed every year by the state of Pennsylvania.

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