

The dining-rooms were visited several times during my visit, and, with the exception of the lack of milk for porridge, the food was good and sufficient.

The night previous to my visit an irregularity of a very serious nature occurred in the Asylum. One of the attendants, who had been engaged as night-watch only for a short time, entered the upper Refractory Female Ward during the absence from that corridor of the female watch, and made his way to the room of one of the female patients, where he was subsequently discovered by the female watch, and it is presumed, from all the evidence that can be obtained, that he had improper connection with the lunatic. That a man's brutish in nature could be found to perpetrate this act was hardly to be expected in the Asylum service; but that such an act has taken place appears to show that there is a necessity for making a change in the system of night-watching but as the proposed change involves additional expenditure the sanction of the Government will have to be obtained. In the meantime I would call attention to the fact that allowing one of the night-guards of each sex to be off duty on Saturday nights and holidays is not permitted in any other Asylum, and the Superintendent will see that it is stopped here. He will also, pending the change that is proposed, see that respectable men and women, (married, if possible) are engaged for night-watch duty. He will also arrange that visits shall be made by the Medical Staff of the Asylum at irregular periods at night, so that it may be ascertained whether the night-watchers are performing their duties properly, and are constantly on the alert. The Medical Superintendent is to be commended for the prompt manner in which he took out warrants for the apprehension of the criminal, but it is to be regretted that he succeeded in making his escape from the constable who had him in custody.

Another unfortunate circumstance occurred in the Asylum, through which it appears a patient's arm was broken by one