

Science and Technology is opened in Kingston there would be classes ready to take advantage of it, and as already mentioned, the opportunity afforded to farmers' sons and others to attend winter courses in their special subjects would undoubtedly render it in a short time one of the largest and most popular of our educational institutions.

We trust that you will give the subject a generous and intelligent consideration, and that your Council will unite in taking action in the matter.

J. L. WHITING, Mayor.
J. MCINTYRE,
C. F. GILDERSLEEVE.

MEDICAL.

ABERRATIONS OF THE WILL IN MENTAL AND NERVOUS DISEASES.

BY PROF. SELDEN H. TALCOTT, M. D., MIDDLETOWN, N. Y.

NO. 1.

"Aye! who doubts that, a will, a wicked will,
A woman's will, a cankered grandam's will."

IN considering morbid mental processes, or pathological conditions of the mind, we should first acquire a general knowledge of the normal mental processes, and also agree upon the meaning and scope of those terms which are used to define each step in the course of mental action. Then we may readily note departures from the normal standards of thinking and acting, and by due comparison estimate aright such departures.

Mental operations are carried on in the following manner:

First, Impressions are made upon the brain cells through what are called the five senses.

Secondly, The perception by the mind of an impression made upon the brain is termed consciousness. Consciousness is a simple cognizance of the fact that the external impressions have been made.

Thirdly, When the mind becomes conscious of the fact that two or more impressions have been made, the mental process styled comparison, is inaugurated. In making comparisons the faculty of thought is stirred into activity. As a result of thought, ideas—mind images—are generated. Our thoughts and ideas may be based upon both present and past impressions. The retention of a past impression by the mind is termed memory. Memory is simply the power of reproducing, in the mind, impressions which have been made upon the brain cells in the past. Knowledge is a consciousness of material facts. The alleged knowledge of immaterial facts is a product of the imagination based upon analogous material facts. Imagination is the mind's faculty of creating new and immaterial images, but these airy creations of the mind are based upon impressions produced by things which are actual and real.

Fourthly, By instituting a comparison of ideas generated in the mind, and by seeking to ascertain the truth or

falsity of propositions based upon perceptions and ideas, we have a process termed reasoning. A comparison of actual impressions stimulates thought and promotes the formation of ideas. The comparison of ideas, and the estimate placed upon their origin, value, power and uses, is made and determined by what is called reasoning.

Fifthly, As a conclusion of that active and healthful operation known as reasoning, we come to what may be properly termed the understanding. Consciousness is the primal and simple perception of an impression. Understanding is a conclusional perception of many impressions, a knowledge of associated facts, and a final and truthful estimate of the value and importance of such facts.

Sixthly, After arriving at an understanding of the ordinary propositions of life, we form a secondary conclusion in our minds, which conclusion is termed the judgment. The judgment is the final verdict passed upon the effects of impressions, upon the bearings and tendencies of generated ideas, upon the conclusions of the reasoning processes, and the consequent enlightened state of the human understanding.

Seventhly, An opinion having been formed, that is, a judgment having been concluded, the final and highest type of mental action is called into action for the purpose of executing the determination of the mind. Here we find the human will, without which there could be no impulse to action, and no conservative force to restrain from unwise and illogical action.

Having glanced for a moment at the seven normal processes by which the human mind performs its functions, we shall invite your attention in the next issue of the JOURNAL to those disturbances of the will which indicate the highest forms of disordered condition of the mental powers.

A. M. SOCIETY.

THE regular meeting of the above Society was held Saturday evening, January 22nd, the President in the chair. A large number were present and there was a decided improvement in the manner in which business was transacted. A few changes were made in the personnel of the JOURNAL staff, the names of Messrs. Marshall and Poole being added.

Several matters relating to the approaching Inter-collegiate debate were taken up and disposed of.

A notice of motion was tabled whereby it is proposed to fit up and furnish the Sanctum. This is a matter of great necessity and it is hoped the Society will deal liberally with and do all in its power to assist the staff that has done so much for the JOURNAL.

The usual programme was carried out, which consisted of a song by Mr. Phelan, and a song by Mr. Koyl. The debate was:

Resolved—That a lawyer is justified in defending a client whom he knows to be guilty.

Mr. McLennan—Affirmative.

Mr. Logie—Negative.