

alone, no one saw him cut the hole or shoot. He shot twice at his neighbor, the last shot taking effect in his lung, but not fatally. Every one of the prisoner's acquaintance, lay and medical, thought him eccentric, but perfectly sane. The first two interviews I had with him, I was led to suppose the same. He could talk intelligently on every topic of conversation that was introduced, but would give no reason at first for the attempted homicide. At the last interview I had with him we began to discuss religious matters. Suddenly he asserted with great solemnity, and with a request to keep it a secret, that he was more than human. I suggested that possibly he might be God in human form. He asserted that I had found out the truth. He was omnipotent, and consequently could do what he wished. He had often lived sixty days at a time without food, to show that Christ's fasting of forty days was not a miracle. When he got out of gaol he intended to fast a year. He had been shot at with bullets by his enemies as he went along the road, or worked in the fields, but having an immortal body they could not harm him. We were sitting on a bed and I suggested that he might be smothered to death, but he said that he could live without breath. If his head were cut off it would not affect him. He could make himself invisible whenever he pleased. Every one's life was in his hands, and the wife of the man he shot was his by his divine right to her. Here it will be seen that a morbid idea led to the attempt at homicide. Had I not happened to touch the key that opened the door to this chamber of fantasies, these aberrations would not have been developed. I was subpoenaed by the Crown, but the Queen's council knowing that my opinion would be that this man showed evidence of insanity, I was not put in the wit-