

the time when medical aid is the most capable of being beneficial, and could the patients but be placed under proper care then, certainly three-fourths of them would be cured. But unfortunately, the golden opportunity is too often neglected. Diseased action is allowed to proceed unchecked until diseased organization has taken place, and the patient has become incurable, and it is only in consequence of the commission of some violent outrage that he is at last sent to an asylum. Until something serious has occurred, the friends hope in a few days the mind will recover its tone.

“Unfortunately, this unwillingness to consider the patient sufficiently insane to be sent to an asylum, is not confined to the friends of the patient. There have been instances of the magistrates themselves, from the kindest motives refusing to grant warrants for the admission of a patient, even after he has been examined by a medical gentleman, who has given a certificate of his insanity, because when brought before them he has been able to answer certain questions correctly. The consequence is that from this delay, instead of returning to his friends in a few weeks, which, in all probability, would have been the case if proper medical and moral remedies had at once been applied, he becomes incurable, and remains in the asylum for life, a burden to the parish. In some instances similar delay has been attended with fatal consequences.

Blandford, addressing the students attending his lectures speaks thus :

“There are diseases described in the lectures you here attend which throughout your lives may never come before you ; you may never see a patient die of hydrophobia ; you

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