

to treatment, and show indications of becoming chronic cases, they are then certified, and sent to one of the district asylums. The time limit of six weeks may be extended in special cases.

The present Certifying Physician is Dr. Carswell, a genial, energetic young man of about sixty-eight years of age. We were fortunate in meeting him on his wards, and his thoughtful kindness in devoting a half day of his valuable time to showing his cases and explaining his unique system is among the most pleasant remembrances of our tour.

The first attempt at treating the insane in general hospitals, in Great Britain at any rate, was in London. Its desirability and feasibility was recognized, and a commission was named to carry out the project, but the movement was strangled by the opposition of asylum superintendents, who saw in the new scheme a menace to their recovery rate. Dr. Carswell, however, saw the immense advantages which such a system offered, and, after fourteen years' agitation he was able to use his influence as an alderman to have a few beds set aside in a poorhouse, for the treatment of selected, uncertified cases of insanity. He was allotted only twelve of the poorest beds in the poorest poorhouse in the district, but in spite of working under adverse conditions, he was able to demonstrate such results as to justify the Parish Council, when building their new general hospital on Duke Street, in erecting a wing of fifty beds, for mental cases, which they placed at Dr. Carswell's disposal. He examines, roughly speaking, 1,000 cases per year; of these he sends 400 direct to the asylums and 600 to the ward in Duke Street Hospital; of the latter 150 subsequently are transferred to asylums and 450 get well and are discharged. What a boon to the poor of Glasgow is this ward, to which the one absolute requirement for admission is the patient's need; and where in every 1,000 cases of mental alienation 450 are treated without the delay occasioned by troublesome legal formalities, without any wound to