

result of old age or of chronic and wasting diseases present at the time of reception. The existence of many of these patients was simply prolonged month after month by careful medical attention and nursing.

Two of our deaths were unfortunately the result of suicide. In the one case, the patient cut his throat with a sharp-pointed piece of glass, severing the jugular vein, and died within a few minutes; in the other, death resulted from strangulation, the patient suspending himself from the guard of his bed-room window. In each case the Coroner was notified and an inquest held. Both verdicts exonerated the hospital officials from any blame.

The average time in residence of those who died was about 13½ months, and their average age a little over 48½ years.

TREATMENT.

Under this head I have no specially new ideas to present. *Mens sana in corpore sano* is an oft quoted truism. To maintain mental integrity it is all-essential that the bodily health should be carefully attended to, and when the mind has, unhappily, become impaired, the first step towards its restoration is attention to the condition of the body. Good food, comfortable clothing, amusement and healthful exercise are more potent factors in the treatment of the insane than drugs, and no pains have been spared to secure these essentials. Medicines, nevertheless, have not been neglected where indicated, and in special medication, we have made some trials of thyroid feeding for cases of melancholia with stupor, with good results. As yet, however, our experiments in this direction have been too few to enable us to draw any authoritative conclusions therefrom.

ACCOMMODATION.

During the past few months the hospital has been taxed to its utmost to supply accommodation to those applying for its benefits. So far we have not been forced to refuse any proper case, but this result has only been attained, on the female public wards, by converting one of our large day-rooms into a dormitory. For male public patients, also, we are rapidly nearing the last of our vacant beds, and it is only a question of a very short time before we will be compelled to refuse admissions except as vacancies occur. Recent and probably curable cases will, in this event, become chronic and perhaps incurable. To prevent such regrettable results I trust that the construction of the annex, now in contemplation, will be pushed on as vigorously as possible.

COST OF MAINTENANCE.

The revenue for the year, exclusive of subscriptions paid to Treasurer and interest on endowment fund, was \$46,390.24, made up as follows:—From private patients, \$19,075.62; from Government