

intentions, the disease becomes more serious; the latest period, being the precursor of delirium is passed, unnoticed by them, frenzy suddenly and most unexpectedly supervenes, then all is clear.....but it is too late.

This knowledge is therefore necessary to the physician to allow his discovery of the nature, and degree of the disease from its commencement, and to suggest the patients removal to an asylum. Winslow, in his work on the brain and spirit, page 23, in citing the words of Sir William Ellis and Blandford at page 17 of his work : *Insanity and its Treatment*, points out the importance of the first attentions to be given by the family physician, and the absolute necessity of his possession of the knowledge necessary in such cases. Here follow these remarks :

‘ It is a melancholy fact, on a most careful personal examination of each of the 588 cases now in the house, there do not appear more than 50 patients which, under the most favorable point of view, can be considered curable. This is to be attributed almost entirely to the neglect of proper remedies in the early stages of the disease. To become acquainted with the symptoms first indicating insanity not only requires much care and attention, but much experience; for a diseased action of the brain or some part of the nervous system may be gradually undermining the health, and still be scarcely expected by common observers to exist, from the insidious manner in which it steals upon the constitution at first; it manifests itself by some trifling aberration of intellect, and that generally upon one point only; such aberration, unaccompanied by bodily pain is not only neglected by the sufferers, but disregarded by those around them. This however, is precisely