And with Emerson, believing, too, that, "One look at the face of heaven, and earth lays all petulance at rest, and soothes us to wiser convictions."

Brother, as I am collecting material for a proposed publication, whose title shall bear relationship to medical anthology and allied subjects, it will be much pleasure and satisfaction to me if you furnish me copies of such choice subjects in prose or verse, consisting of very brief extracts, articles or papers, aphorisms of the masters, etc., and in so doing, you will receive my best thanks.

"For this was the manner in former times in Israel, . . . for to confirm all things, a man plucked off his shoe and gave it

to his neighbor."

## A BRIEF RESUME OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF CLINICAL PSYCHIATRY.

BY JOHN G. FITZGERALD, M.B., TORONTO.

That the study of the various manifestations of mental alienation dates back to the earliest times need not be emphasized, and without recalling any names, antedating his, it need only be mentioned that Galen described one type of disease which in its essential features was not unlike the picture described by Georget, an eminent French alienist of the early nineteenth century. In this picture were certain features which were incorporated in one of the forms of the now well-known condition—Dementia Praecox.

When one thus considers that Psychiatry had its beginning at such a remote date, it seems hardly credible that so little progress was made in so many decades. To trace the historical development through all the ages would require considerable time, and it is possible only to sketch in the briefest fashion the

more important of the earlier events.

It is highly probable that the most important etiologic factor in the retardation of knowledge in regard to the nature of mental diseases was the view held by the Church, which was that all persons exhibiting symptoms of anomalous, mental activity were possessed of an evil spirit (this view was also held by eminent alienists of the eighteenth century), and that the proper treatment was that which the priests would administer. A second factor, which partially explains the first, was this: the activities