

Not that I wish to cast the slightest reflection on our provincial institution, which I believe is the best in the Dominion, but I would prefer my wife or daughter to experience recovery at home rather than in the state institution.

The great majority of female insane patients, some 91 per cent. in my statistics, present well defined abnormalities of the pelvic organs and a large per cent. of those patients recover their mental condition after the removal of the pelvic disease. By this I do not mean to say that the pelvic disease is wholly accountable for their abnormal mentality, but I do say that the pelvic disease is one of the factors in the causation of the condition we call insanity.

Insanity is the psychic sum of physical abnormalities, and the removal of a measure of the disease is often sufficient to turn the mental scale. I therefore believe (and practise) that any insane patient presenting any disease which causes irritation or auto-intoxication, or interferes in any way with the patient's comfort or nutrition, that, whenever possible, the patient should be freed from such depressive factors.

Recently, during the last few weeks, two cases have come under my observation and treatment, the results of which apparently corroborate these statements.

Mrs. F., aged 30, married six years, three children, mother healthy, father drunkard. After the second child she did not appear very well for a few months. She submitted to appendectomy for right sided pain. Ten months afterwards the third child was born. A few weeks after confinement she became careless of her children and was stubborn and insolent. This continued about six weeks, when homicidal and suicidal impulses became apparent. She had prepared a pot of hot water to boil her children in, and a few days afterwards jumped over a cliff into the water attempting to drown herself.

When she came under my observation she was anemic, extremely emaciated and constipated. She was also greatly agitated and in constant fear of death. Examination showed lacerated perineum and tenderness over the right ovary.

Section showed omentum adherent to right ovary. This