

is to gain his entire confidence. With this view, he is treated with the greatest kindness, however violent his conduct may be,—is allowed all the liberty which his case admits of, and is made to understand, if he is still capable of reflection, that so far from having arrived at a mad-house, where he is to be confined, he has come to a pleasant and cheerful residence, where all kindness and attention will be shown him, and where every means will be employed for the recovery of his health. In case coercion and confinement become necessary, it is impressed upon his mind, that this is not done for the purpose of punishment, but for his own safety and that of his keepers. In no case is deception on the patient employed, or allowed; on the contrary, the greatest frankness, as well as kindness, forms a part of the moral treatment. His case is explained to him, and he is made to understand, as far as possible, the reasons why the treatment to which he is subjected has become necessary.

“By this course of intellectual management, it has been found, as a matter of experience at our institution, that patients—who had always been raving when confined without being told the reason, and refractory, when commanded instead of being entreated—soon became peaceable and docile.

“This kind treatment, of course, does not apply to idiots, or those labouring under low grades of mental imbecility; but it is applicable to every other class of mental diseases, whether maniacal or melancholic.

“In respect to the medical and dietetic treatment, it also varies essentially in the main from the course adopted at other hospitals.

“Formerly, patients labouring under mental diseases were largely medicated, chiefly by emetics, cathartics, and bleeding. At the present time, this mode of treatment has given place to intellectual and dietetic regimen, in most European hospitals. The physician of our institution has introduced a course of practice differing from both these, but partaking more or less of each. He combines moral and medical treatment, founded upon the principles of mental philosophy and physiology. In one class of cases moral, and in another medical treatment, become the paramount remedies; but in each class of cases both are combined.

“The proportion of cures which have been effected at our retreat has satisfied your committee that the mode of treatment there adopted is highly salutary and proper. During the last year, there have been admitted twenty-three recent cases, of which twenty-one recovered, a number equivalent to 91 3-10 per cent. The whole number of recent cases in

the
twen
“
of th
cases
own
cent
On
is al
with
meet
clum
and f
refer
of th
ford,
We
ing b
lebrat
ment
found
thema
we ins
though
skill a
Wh
nounc
entere
young
to din
About
as car
which
In a
shame
tion of
The m
minute
tered,
or deve
ration
great l
others
own kn
saw an
I rel
VOL