

refuse outright to take medicine, either because they think they are well and need none, or on account of some delusions, that it displeases God to take it, etc. Only the slightest amount of force is justifiable to get such patients to swallow. Holding the mouth and nose are reprehensible practices. If great force is used, it will do more harm than any good in the dose can counteract. Always, too, give medicine as such, and don't deceive.

If medicine will not be taken, it may be necessary to give it rectally. If an enema has to be given by force plenty of help will be needed to avoid injury. At least one fatality has occurred therefrom. With frenzied patients you should always use your eyes.

The bath will not only be indicated for hygienic reasons, but therapeutically. The warm bath with or without cold to the head often acts like a charm to calm the restless and induce sleep. Patience and tact will often overcome curious objections they may raise to ablutions. If the patient fears the tub and will use a sponge and water, it is better to humor him.

You will have observed from all that has been said that while they have things in common, some of the differences between nursing insane patients and those you have been accustomed to are as follows :—

Nursing the insane involves a double responsibility, for both mind and body demand attention. The day may come when it will be regarded the loftiest branch of nursing, as it entails the care of the mind, the dome of thought, the most vital part of a man. You must nurse the whole patient, rather than attend to some one part of the body. Moral treatment will be more requisite. He will depend on you for mental guidance. He is like a child in many ways, and may copy your example. In insanity you depend less on what the patient tells you of his bodily symptoms. He may not notice real troubles, and his mind may be filled with imaginary ones. Unexpected changes will occur more frequently than in bodily diseases, when you will have to act on your own responsibility. More will depend on you and less on the doctor than in ordinary cases. There will be less surgical work and less medicine to give, and fewer sick in