

generous heart, founded the above institution, and looked with pleasure and with pride on the *four* poor sick men, that his bounty fed, and his kindness nursed, little did he dream that nearly half a hundred demented beings would one day be congregated together on the same spot, and within an edifice unsurpassed in comfort or architectural beauty. It is situated in a most delightful part of the country. On one side the forest of Vincennes, and on the other the Marne and Seine. There are numerous gardens, promenades, pretty groves, &c. The males occupy one end of the building, the females the other; mortality is about 1 in 8.5. The number of recoveries (of intellect) not unfrequently amounts to one in 3, and it is thought that many more would recover were it not for short-coming funds compelling their removal.

HOSPICE DE LA VIEILLESSE (MALE).—This hospital is usually known under the name of Bicêtre, and is situated at the distance of a mile and a half from Paris. Almost every public building in Paris has, at one time or another, experienced those vicissitudes of fortune, those convulsive movements, which, unfortunately for the French nation, too frequently occur. The Bicêtre forms no exception, and is intimately incorporated with its country's history. It was a chateau in 1220, then the hot bed of political intrigue—afterwards the seat of diplomatic negotiations—then a retreat for *debauchés* courtiers—subsequently a military hospital—afterwards a general hospital, where diseases of all kinds were *huddled together in delightful confusion*. Idiots, knaves, and prostitutes, with the really and feignedly sick, without distinction of age or sex, were cooped up within its walls, and it was not until 1820 that the Bicêtre became, as it is now, a house of refuge for indigent old age. The situation of the Bicêtre is very favorable—an elevated piece of land, in the middle of an extensive open field. Those who have attained the age of 70 are admissible on recommendation, while those who have attained 79, by right. In connection with it there is a department for lunatics. The indigent and the insane work a certain number of hours a day (unless countermanded by the physicians attending), and to the indigent is returned one-third of the proceeds of their labor. The establishment contains 3120 beds, 100 of which are for the insane. The mortality among the latter is 1 in 6.48, precisely the same as that which holds good among the aged!

In connection with the Bicêtre, there is, for the female insane, a work-house; and an immense farm for the males; the latter work on an average 8 and 10 hours a day. Male and female teachers are attached, who go far towards bringing back dethroned reason.

SALPETRIERE.—An institution similar to the preceding, for females exclusively, above 70, and the insane and cancerous. For the indigent