

ing, it may be, in some form of work or amusement ; and he adopts the conclusion, which no opinion of the physician can shake, that the patient has recovered, or, at any rate, is so much better, that he would do equally well at home or in a private family. He can scarcely be made to believe that what he witnesses is chiefly the result of that special management peculiar to a modern hospital for the insane,—of architectural arrangements which restrain without annoyance ; of systematic regularity in the daily routine of life ; of gentle manners ; judicious firmness ; vigilant, enlightened and conscientious supervision. Now these qualities are not a matter of accident, nor are they the growth of a day. They are the elaborated result of a profound study of the mental constitution both in health and disease ; of extensive inquiry into the various arts concerned in the erection and practical working of a considerable establishment ; and of an organization of the service best calculated to effect its destined object. To suppose them otherwise would be to commit a folly like that of inferring from the quiet, easy working of a complicated machine, that its construction is very simple and was readily accomplished ; thus overlooking entirely the years of meditation, the numberless experiments, and the successive steps towards the desired object, that finally led to an admirable piece of mechanism.

The peculiar restlessness of the insane which impels them to roam about regardless of time and occasion, at the risk of their own safety and the peace of society, and which finds no sufficient restriction in the arrangements of an ordinary dwelling short of confinement in a small apartment, is effectually controlled in an hospital ; while