

the contiguous sides of the monster run forwards together between the two vertebral columns and are attached to the broad upper border of a very irregular, fused sternum between the clavicles. In the dorsal vertebrae some of the bodies have two centres and others have the two halves of the body at a different level, each half having a special centre. In the right monster there are no less than fifteen centres representing bodies of dorsal vertebrae, some of the ribs articulating with two of these bodies.

Quinine Rash.—Dr. Shepherd read notes of this case.

Report on the Care and the Treatment of the Insane. was then read by Dr. E. E. Duquet, Medical Superintendent, Longue Point Asylum.

Mr. President and Gentlemen,—I received a letter from our secretary on the 24th day of January last asking me for a paper for this meeting. I was then writing my annual report, and I answered that I would not have time to write anything for that date, but that I could prepare a few notes on the "Report of the Medico-Psychological Association on the Care and Treatment of the Insane," and read them at the meeting of the 5th. My intention is to give the circumstances in which that report was prepared as a preface, and to read the report, hoping to interest you with it.

In the course of the year 1889 the London (Eng) County Council named a committee composed of some of its members to enquire into the workings of the present asylum system, and to find out if it would not be possible to improve the existing system of the care and the curative treatment of the insane.

The committee went to work; they sent letters to the superintendents or all the asylums in England and Wales, and to a few others, to ascertain their views on the present system and on the improvements they would propose in this report.

In the beginning of the year 1890 the committee prepared a report and presented it to the council. This report, which was addressed to non-professional men, was a popular lecture of the wants and alleged shortcomings in the present asylum system. It recommended the establishment of a special hospital in or near the city of London for the treatment of some of its curable insane. This hospital to be visited and treatment given by the most eminent physicians and surgeons of the London hospitals. The intention of the committee, as stated in the report, was the improvement of the treatment and knowledge of insanity by placing a certain number of the curable insane under conditions similar to those which have been conducive to progress in the study and treatment of other diseases, or in other words, by placing the curable insane under ordinary hospital treatment.

The report, after showing its good intentions

of helping the existing system, attacked the asylum physicians by implying that the present system had failed in the study and curative treatment of insanity; that the treatment of the insane had not shared in the great progress of other branches of the medical sciences, except as regards nursing and environment; and that this last amelioration was due more to humanity than to medical skill. It asserted that medical superintendents are mere administrators or house stewards, and have neither the training, the time, nor the capacity for medical investigation.

The report deplors the ignorance of medical practitioners on matters connected with insanity, the want of means of acquiring this special knowledge, and shows the importance of proposed hospitals for this special purpose.

This attack on the part of the committee on a body of such learned men was quickly resented. It formed the subject of the annual address of the President of the Medico-Psychological Association for the year 1890, wherein he disposed of and refuted all the charges brought against them in the report. During the discussion of the president's address it was suggested by some of the members of the Society that they should take this opportunity to give information to the medical profession and to the public at large on the subject treated in the report of the County Council, and by a series of propositions to exhibit the feelings of its members in regard to this question. Some of the best men of the Association were chosen to form a committee, and they presented at the annual meeting of 1891 the following report. They do not pretend that it is perfect; they had to compromise on a great many points, for some of the members had more advanced ideas than those laid down in some of the propositions. The report can be taken as a summary of the present knowledge on the subject of the care and treatment of the insane in our days:—

CARE AND TREATMENT OF THE INSANE.

The following is the report of a committee appointed by the Medico-Psychological Association of Great Britain and Ireland at the annual meeting in 1890, to formulate propositions as to the care and treatment of the insane. The report was adopted at the annual meeting in 1891.

Members of the Committee,—Dr. Yellowlees, president; and Drs. Clouston, Ley, E. W. McDowall, Needham, Hayes, Nowington, Rogers, Savage, Hack Tuke, Urquhart, Whitcombe, Ernest White.

The fundamental resolution passed on the founding of the Medico-Psychological Association of Great Britain and Ireland in 1841 was "that an association be formed of the medical officers attached to hospitals for the insane, whose object shall be improvement in the management of such institutions and the treatment of the insane; and the acquirement of a more