

Discussing the question of more thorough and systematic medical education, would it not be well to extend it so as to embrace the whole field of medicine? What is there more difficult in the medical investigation of insanity, than in epilepsy, and the various forms of paralysis? If these and other nervous diseases receive attention in the office of the preceptor, and the lecture room, why should the most grave, and yet curable of all diseases of the brain be excluded, and assigned to the study of a few medical men? There are really no more obstacles to successful study here, than in the other diseases mentioned; and if there were, it could be no reason for the neglect, but, on the contrary, an additional reason why it should be studied. It is not characteristic of medicine not to shun difficulties. Again, all the insane before transfer to hospitals must come under the observation of the ordinary practitioner, and he must sign a certificate of the existence of the disease. Should he not then be able to recognize it and understand its treatment? Because the majority of the insane are, and probably always must be cared for in hospitals, it is no reason why the minority who remains outside should not receive treatment or if treated, be so, ignorantly, if even only a small proportion can be managed successfully at their homes it is the duty of every Physician to prepare for their proper treatment. Further, if the early symptoms were better understood by physicians generally, how many cases would be checked, or modified in their early stages, and how much human suffering thus prevented? The knowledge of the

cepts, communicates to them from his great store of knowledge and animates them to a spirit of emulation, for, with him it is not enough to work for the present alone, he also thinks and works for the future, and being laborious as well as learned, he sends forth able men, and, then capable in their turn of undertaking and performing great actions.