

left in bed. Seeing no variety, their thoughts become less confused. The objections to bed treatment are the danger of suicide or of falling into lazy and untidy habits.

The general sensibility is often remarkably altered in the insane. It may be so lost that wounds are not felt. Maniacs are often insensible to temperature, so you must be careful in applying heat or cold, else some would let hot applications stay on till serious blistering occurred; also to try the temperature of the bath. You will be surprised how much clothing they can dispense with on cold nights, and yet seem none the worse. In some cases you will find difficulty in keeping clothes on at all. On the other hand, many are cold-blooded, and require extra clothing.

Constipation with its train of evils is a common thing with the insane, and the condition of the bowels should be carefully looked after. Excitement or depression may subside after a free movement of the bowels.

There are some patients liable to accidents from the brittleness of the bones. This is the case with paretic demented. Unfortunately they are often pugnacious, and if handled roughly the consequences may be a fracture. Their bones may be broken when no rough measures have been used.

The temperature is not usually abnormal. When you wish to ascertain it, in many cases it may be foolish to try and insert the thermometer in the mouth, for it may be broken in a struggle, or bitten in two, and the pieces swallowed, or otherwise unsatisfactory. If you have any doubt as to his behavior, place it in the axilla and hold it there yourself.

While not within our province to-night to discuss medication, it may be said that while physic is often secondary to the means for cure already cited, tonics and sedatives are sometimes of great value, and it may be very important that they get the benefit of medicine ordered. You must therefore see that it is swallowed, for some will throw it away, if left to take it when they wish; others will hoard it. Some will try to keep it in the mouth, to spit it out when your back is turned. Some apathetic ones have been known to accumulate quite a few pills under the tongue. Patients may