

direction. Every Asylum ought to have on its staff, an able and thoroughly educated man as Pathologist, who would be provided with all necessary appliances, and whose sole duty it would be to study insanity in all its aspects—through its literature, by observation of the insane during life, and especially by microscopic examination and other means after death. The Medical Superintendent would, of course, assist in all these investigations, and the results of them would be embodied in the annual and other reports of the different institutions; the discoveries made and the conclusions arrived at in one Asylum would be checked and compared with those reached in others, both by the interchange of reports and at annual meetings. Through the press, through the schools, and perhaps also to some extent through the pulpit, the results arrived at should, as rapidly as possible, be communicated to the people at large, and I believe it is safe to say that through the means indicated many years would not elapse before each State might be saved, even in money, far more by the prevention of lunacy than the means employed would have cost. And in the end I believe the good produced would be simply incalculable. The interests at stake are enormous; the evil is great, pressing, and every year increasing; at present no means are being taken to meet and combat it. Surely we should do something more than bear it passively. To bear patiently inevitable ills may be heroic, but to bear patiently ills that, by the proper exercise of our intelligence and energy, might be avoided, is the reverse of heroic. We know enough at present to avoid a large part of all the insanity that occurs, and it is undoubtedly in our power to learn how to avoid nearly all of it. The question is, shall we try to learn?—and having learnt, shall we act upon our knowledge, or shall we passively bear this terrible evil for want of manliness to rise up and face it?

WATER SUPPLY.

Mr. Cope, the engineer, has reported to me that it will be necessary to overhaul and repair our steam pump in the course