1858

On Insanity

James Little

Unfraged
It is very difficult to give an unobjectionable definition of Insanity from the impossibility to select and specify the exact circumstances which essentially constitute it. It may be said to be a habitual aberration either of the intellectual or of the moral judgment on practical subjects rendering restraint and security of the individual necessary for his own good and the well-being of Society.

Insanity may be conveniently divided into:

I. Mania
   Ia. Moral Insanity
   Ib. Manic Insanity

II. Puerperal Mania

III. Delirium Tremens

IV. Monomania

V. Dementia

VI. Idiocy
Moral Insanity is the first sub-
-division of Mania. It consists in a moral
inversion of the natural feelings, affections,
inclinations, temper, habit, moral disposition,
and natural impulses, with any remarkable
disorder or defect of the knowing and reasoning
faculties, and without any insane illusions or
hallucinations.

In this form of insanity, very often the sym-
ptoms are not well marked; but there is generally
something eccentric in the character of the
individual affected with it, which would lead
an attentive observer to entertain doubts as to
his sanity; and, on enquiry, he may discover cir-
stances which strengthen his suspicions.
The person’s temper and disposition may have
not to have undergone a change, he has become an
altered person, and the alterations may have been
noted from the time when he may have sustained
a reverse of fortune, the loss of a friend near and
dear to him, or some severe bodily shock. In
some cases, the alteration of temper and habits has
been gradual and imperceptible, and is considered
only a mere increase of peculiarities which were
more or less natural to live. He becomes more fickle and capricious, continually engaging in new pursuits, and suddenly leaving them off without any apparent cause. He becomes worse and worse, from a state of gloom and melancholy depression, begins to be opposite conditions of preternatural excitement.

Sometimes the disorder state of the mind dies. plays itself in a want of self-government, in continual excitement, in an unusual expression of strong feelings, or in thoughtless and extravagant conduct. Thus, a kinder and unconscious female, becomes violent and abrupt in her manners, talkative, impetuous, uses indecent expressions, and shows unbecoming feelings and trains of thought.

As the disease goes on, the individual takes a dislike to his friends, and his affection are entirely reversed. At this stage the friends may take alarm, but as he generally displays great ingenuity in accounting for and justifying the peculiarities of his conduct, it is difficult to find insane, and thereby put him under restraint.

This form of insanity may last through the life of the individual, without getting much worse.
may, from any exciting cause, lead to the other form
of Mania, as from the excessive use of intoxicating
liquors, for which, persons thus affected, have a great
craving.

The mental excitement, which constitutes this dis-
gree, may be connected with religious feelings, and
this is often the case. When the period of excitement is
preceded by one of melancholy, during which, the
individual has laboured under depression and
fear, and is seized with apprehension as to his religious
state, he may have, for a long time, suffered under
a sense of condemnation and abandonment, and
thought that nothing was left to mitigate the sorrow
and gloom of the present, and the dark and fear-
ful and anticipations of the future. When suddenly
his feelings became entirely changed, and with rapture
and ecstasy, he contemplates the designs of Providence
towards him, very often his friends hail such a
change, as a happy transition from a state of religious
destitution to one of acceptance and mental peace: But
the excitement is too high, and the expression of tristo-
lines too ecstatic, to be long continued without a break.
He becomes proud and haughty, violent and bittered, which
are very unlike the effects of religious influence, and
soon shows the real nature of the case, as it may also appear from his becoming selfish, losing his natural affections, and his mental habits becoming irregular.

Besides those forms of moral insanity, refering to morbid depression and excitement, these are those which are marked by the prevalence of certain passions, and mental habits, when displayed under modifications of which, the human mind in a sane state, appears scarcely to be susceptible. The most common of these forms is one characterized by an unusual prevalence of anger and malignant feelings, arising without any foreboding a preceding excitement, and depending on a physical morbid cause. In another form, the person is continually indulging enmity, and plotting mischief, and even murder, against the unfortunate object of his enmity. If this be connected with the false belief of some personal injury actually sustained, it is not a case of moral insanity, as it involves enduring con- 

victions of the understanding, but when there are merely expressions of intense enmity without either actual or supposed provocation, it does belong to that form.

There is another form of moral insanity, called suicide insanity, which, as its name implies, belongs
to old age. It appears in old men, who have never before shown any signs of mental derangement, and consists in a brooding excitement of passion, and great perversion of temper and propensities. The moral character of the old man is entirely changed. It is well described by Dr. Burrow: "the pious" lapshe" become impious, the contented, and happy, discontented and miserable, the prudent and economical, imprudent and ridiculous, only prudent, the liberal, prevaricators, the sober drunkard in fact the reverance which age, and the conduct suited to it always commands is converted into shame and folly by the perversion of those moral and social qualities which perhaps have hitherto adorned the patient's declining days." Such a description accurately coincides with the character of moral insanity, as it consists in a disordered condition of the moral or active powers alone.
Having gone over the different forms of mental
insanity, I will now proceed to the other divisions of
mania; viz.: Raving madness.

In this form of insanity, which affects all the intel-
lectual faculties, the mind is perpetually in a state
of confusion and disturbance; the individual
paves on every subject which may at the time at-
tract his attention, and is often chiefly intent upon
impressions of a particular description; he may have
ironcently about subjects connected with religion,
be may inspire the curses upon those who surround
him and restrain him in his fury, or he may talk
in the most obscene and indecent manners.

In some cases the mind passes in rapid transitions
from one subject to another, and the current of ideas
is liable to be turned aside by any casual association
or suggestion.

This is called acute mania from its generally sudden
appearance and reaching its height in a few months
rapioly, than other forms. In it, there are in most in-
stances premonitory symptoms, similar to those in
mental insanity, which last for a short time before
the existence of insanity can be fully proved; and,
during which, the person has occasional fits of sleep and confusion, by which his understanding is disturbed; he passes days in a state of uneasiness and agitation, is very active, and displays a certain energy in the feverish, on which he is intent, but in which he really does nothing. He neglects food, loses his appetite, passes sleepless nights, either rising from his bed and walking about the room in a state of uneasiness and perturbation, or lying awake, he fatigues his mind with various speculations, at length he begins to talk nonsense, repeats his words frequently, and is unable to complete the sentence which he begins. He appears irritable, impatient at the smallest trifling irritation, and is obstinate and capricious.

The state of mind of persons thus affected resembles very much that of a person in a state of intoxication, and his attempts to collect his thoughts and express himself correctly are very like the efforts of a drunkard to continue conversation, and prove himself sober. He generally gets worse, and it may even be weeks before the disease reaches its highest degree of intensity; during this time the phenomena of derangement varies according to the particular feeling which predominates, which is generally some violent emotion as fear, anger, grief,
or anxiety, and whatever that phenomenon may be, the insensibility is always a predominating symptom. His appetite also becomes abnormal or irregular. He has a craving after stimulants, takes long walks, makes absurd purchases; his habits are entirely altered; duties are now omitted, which he used from formerly to be punctual in performing; the frugal become lavish, the religious, wicked, the cautious, uncharitable; the envious, cheerful and vice versa. The dearest friends are treated as the worst enemies; all mental operations are increased; he loses all self control, talks incoherently, becomes angry under imaginary delusions; get enraged, afraid, or is seized with fits of laughter. If he is not thwarted, he seldom becomes furious.

Persons labouring under this kind of insanity have a great desire to strip their clothes, either from a delusion that some internal agony is burning, or to allow of more muscular movement.

The loss of self control is first over voluntary motion, then over feelings, emotions, and passions, and last over ideas, which do not follow any law of succession. Incoherence may be caused by the rapid succession of thought, the ideas coming too quick for their utterance.
Physical symptoms. The countenance is much altered, and slaty coloured, the brow contracted, the eye brows drawn up, the hair stands on end, the breathing is hsted, the eyes burning and red, the eyeballs prominent, the hearing very acute, the tongue hard, white, dry, the mouth offensive; the look wandering, and secretly ever fixed; and the skin greasy.

The patient will eat or drink anything, his pulse is frequent, small or weak; his bowels alternately constipated and loose, his habits are peculiar; he has a great desire to go walked; if left alone he mutters and talks as if he were in company; he loses all sense of cleanliness, and very often smears his body, clothes, and the walls of the room in which he is confined, with his own excrements. He sometimes even devours them. He has generally great thirst, is very restless, continually rolling about; he is often very violent, but his violence is insipid, and easily roused.

This form is more common in males than in females, in the latter, obscenity of language and language is more especially marked, the most obscene generally becomes the most obscene, swears and exposes her person. Very often in females it is periodic.
and

acute attack generally occurs at
the menstrual period. It may also be periodic in
the attack coming on weekly, monthly, or yearly.

Having entered this great tendency to
pass into dementia, but before that deplor-
able state is reached, there is (in most cases)
a period in which the disease may be said to
be chronic—and in that chronic state the patient
may live for years, in some cases all his life.
The mental faculties never becoming intensified.

It is a state of great intellectual weakness, none
of the faculties being performed with any
energy. The individual is wholly inadequate
to the duties of society, and is incapable of
any continued conversation. His memory, judge-
ment, and powers of attention and combination
are impaired; his actions and conduct are
without steadiness and constancy. His thoughts
are wanting in concentration and coherence.

In fact, it may be considered as the commencement
of dementia, as it is a combination of the pheno-
mena of mania with dementia.
Necrophoral Mania.

This form of madness occurs in females within a month after their delivery. It most commonly commences about the fourteenth, but sometimes as early as the third or fourth day after the birth of the child.

In some cases, the attack is a continuation of the nervous affection of pregnancy, and the probability of an attack is increased by the approach to mental derangement during the period of gestation.

The premonitory symptoms vary very much. There is generally some degree of exhaustion, great excitability, headache, and want of sleep; or the attack may follow convulsions, the countenance becomes flushed, the eyes assume a remarkable vivid red. The look is wild and suspicious, the milk is secreted in less quantity. The patient may be cheerful or sad, singing and talking incessantly or obstinately silent. She is suspicious of every one going that all around her intends her some injury. She either looks on the child with aversion, and would destroy it, or takes no notice of it. The heat of the head is generally slightly increased, there is throbbing in the temples and Nice in the ears; the heat of the body is very little altered, the skin is relaxed and moist, the face pale, the tongue coated and white, the pulse weak, the ab-
Diverse were the last and free from tenderness, the bowels are
stiff and the stools unhealthy.
It is not generally accompanied by fever, but and if
fever is present then it may be suspected.
The duration and termination of this disease vary
a good deal in different patients. Of ninety-two
cases given by Egerton fifty-five recovered; four of these
in the first month, seven in the second, six in the third,
seven in the fourth, five in the fifth, nine in the sixth, fifty-
fifteen between the sixtieth and twenty-fourth, and two after
two years. Of thirty-seven cases given by Burrose thirty
five recovered; twenty-eight of these were within six months;
three within twelve months, and the whole within two
years; Dr. Haslam gives eighty cases of which fifty recovered.
Delirium Remens

This is a kind of insanity brought on by the excessive use, or rather by the abuse of alcoholic liquors, the system is completely saturated by the poison and then the symptoms are produced.

It is said by some that discontinuing in the use of the stimulant is the cause of this disease, but such is not the case, else our jails would be completely filled, as the majority of the prisoners have been hard drinkers before their confinement, and although the drink is taken from them, very few become affected with the disease.

The symptoms of it are sleeplessness, restlessness, delirium during which the patient recognises things around him, answers questions rationally, and if he is desired to do any thing, he does it hurriedly, and with a sort of unsuccessful anxiety to do it perfectly. Trembling of his lips and hands is generally present, more especially in speaking or making an effort to do any thing.

The patient talks incoherently and evinces a great desire to be doing something: very often he fancies that he is surrounded by enemies, or that he is in a strange place from which he is constantly endeavouring to escape, or he may think some
great evil is suspending, or has actually elapsed. He is suspicious of those around him, is tormented with frightful visions or sounds, and will often be found lying crouching in unlikely places for some object or other on which his mind is intent. Lough in his autobiography gives a very vivid picture of this condition. He says: For three days I endured more agony than man can describe, even were it quitted by the hand of a Dante. Who can tell the horrors of that horrible malady, aggravated as it is by the almost ever-abiding consciousness that it is self-sought? hideous faces appeared on the walls, and on the ceiling and on the floors; feet thing crept along the bed clothes, and glaring eyes peered into mine. I was at one time surrounded by millions of monstrous spiders, which crawled slowly, slowly over every limb, whilst beaded drops of perspiration would start to my brow, and my limbs would shiver until the bed rattled again. Strange lights would dance before my eyes, and then suddenly the very darkness of darkness would appear and by its dense gloom. All at once while gazing at a frightful creation of my disturbed mind, I seemed struck with sudden blindness...
I knew a candle was burning in the room—but I could not see it. All was so pitch-dark. I lost the sense of feeling too, for I endeavoured to grasp my arm in the hand, but consciousness was gone. Put my hand to my side, to my head, I felt nothing, and still I knew my limbs and frame were there. And then the scene would change—had falling, falling, swiftly as an arrow for down into some terrible abyss; and so like reality was it, that as I fell I could see the rocky sides of the terrible shaft, wheremocking, yoking, hiving, windlike forces were reached, and I could feel the air rushing past me, making my hair stream out by the force of its unwholesome blast. Then the sensation sometimes ceased for a few minutes, and I would sink back on my pallet drenched with perspiration, utterly exhausted, and feeling a dreadful certainty of the renewal of my torment. The patient is rarely violent, at least in the best marked cases of the disease, but he soon tempts himself to great danger in endeavoring to effect his escape. There is profuse perspiration, a moist and slightly furred tongue, and a frequented pulse.
This disease is more frequent in men than in women. Its essential nature consists in scarcely imitative. It is very liable to be mistaken for inflammation within the head, but if closely examined there will be formed in the present state of the patient and in his former history enough to direct with between them. In this disease the patient is busy and logopoeous, while in delirium connected with inflammation in the head, he is fierce and mischievous.
Monomania.

In this form of insanity the person affected is incapable of thinking correctly on subjects connected with his particular illusion, while in other respects he betrays no palpable disorder of mind. In this there is little or no perversion of character, whatsoever distinguishes it from mania.

When the desires, emotions, and passions only of the person are affected; without any delusions it may be called moral insanity of monomania, when, on the other hand, the intellect or understanding is affected, accompanied with delusions, hallucinations be, it may be called "intellectual insanity of monomania."

From the term monomania a person would infer that the patient was deanged on one subject only; but this is not the case; as he is however only partially insane, but there are some occasional cases where the person is only deanged on one subject, as that of the Revd. Mr. Bannen, who thought that his soul was completely annihilated and that he was only possessed of instincts like the lower animals; also that of Cooper, who thought that he, of all the human race
was the only one for whom our savages did not shed his blood.

Melancholia need to be the term applied to what is now called Mania, but it is now considered as one of the forms of Mania.

The subjects of Melancholia are generally spare and thin, if a dark complexion, have an anxious look, and watch people with a suspicious eye; their pulse is slow, skin cold, sleep interrupted and constantly troubled with dreams; they are extremely sensitive to external impressions, and easily disturbed; their spirits are depressed, and they are extremely unhappy, fond of solitude, timid, and fickle tempered. It is very often accompanied with disorder of the digestive system, with flatulence and costiveness.

The mind of the patient pursues one certain object or train of thought which in general has a near relation to himself or to his affairs; creating a most groundless, yet anxious, fear and generally accompanied with a desire to terminate his existence.
Homicidal Mania.

Cases are very common in which lunatics, under hallucinations, without any malignant or destructive propensity, have attempted to put men to death for the purpose of conferring upon them some great fancied benefit, or under the impression that they are fulfilling the command of God, as in the case mentioned by Esquibel, of a military officer confined in Clonacody, who talked reasonably on various subjects, but was often intent on inflicting mental wounds on those who conversed with him, he used to say to them, in a tone of kindness, to approach him, and then said to them, "let one cut off your head? I will immediately make you alive again, and you will be purified." I will perform the same office to every body." He showed no signs of anger or dislike, and he only regretted being confined, because it prevented him from performing the commands of the Almighty. Then are on the other hand, cases occurring often, where there are no hallucinations, the persons affected, experience no other mental
change than a powerful impulse to destruction. And if, in some particular individual, against whom, even at the time of commission, it has sometimes appeared, that he entertained no malicious feeling, as in a case related by Whickham, which occurred in the family of Baron Hambleton. "The mother of the family" says here "coming home one day, met one of the servants, against whom she had no cause of complaint, in the greatest state of agitation, she began to speak with her mistress alone, threw herself upon her knees and entreated that she might be sent out of the house; her mistress, astonished, enquired the reason, and learned that when the unhelpful servant addressed the little child which she carried, she was struck with the whiteness of its skin, and experienced an irresistible desire to tear it to pieces. She felt affraid that she could not resist the desire, and pre-ferred leaving the house."

Crichton, in his work on mental derangement, also relates a case very illistrative of this kind of monomania. Daniel Cochran says he was born in Ireland, his father when
he was fourteen years of age, about which time he was put to apprentice to a shoe-maker. After his apprenticeship was finished he went to Dartmouth with a view of prosecuting his trade, but he enlisted himself into the service of his Danish Majesty.

He completed his sixteenth years of study. He went to an all-house and enlisted himself into the cavalry and on the seventeenth March eight hundred and fifty-five was drafted into a regiment of.

It would appear that from this period to his twenty-third, murderous ideas sprang up in his mind, and unhappily it also appeared that they owed their origin to religious enthusiasm. According to the testimony of his comrades and bed fellow, Thomas Senneville, this man lived a pious life, singing religious hymns, and reading good books. According to Wellnath's own testimony he had long entertained the idea of murdering a child, three weeks previous to the act he suffered indescribable anxiety and uneasiness; it appeared to him as if he was obliged to fulfill some one, on some nights he slept well, on others not at all, but the idea of murdering some one always returned with the light of day. At last on the twenty-third of May in the evening he accomplished this horrid purpose. A little girl who had a companion at the house where Wellnath was quartered came that evening to pass her a visit, the landlord of the house and his comfortress both were out about an hour before
Volkner invited the two little girls to his room, and divided between them his supper, immediately after which, placing his hand on the forehead of one of them he bent her head back and with a knife, which he had sharpened on purpose "a day or two before, he cut her throat." He then went to the guard house, surrendered himself, told what he had done and acknowledged that it was caused him much regret.

He was immediately taken to prison, where he slept safely the whole night. For he acknowledged that the whole unreason in excess he had experienced for three weeks before ceased on his committing the act.

Neptunia

This kind of insanity is very often complicated with other forms of the disease, as in a case related by Richard G. a lunatic confined in an asylum, who would often eat when he had stolen the food, and his keeper made it a matter of constant practice to fast into some corner with his reach various articles destined for his consumption in order that he might discover and take them fortunately.

But cases are also met with of persons having a propensity to steal, without any desire to keep the things after they were stolen, though they are of sound mind.
in other respects. This is well exemplified by the case of Mr. William in Edinburgh who stole all the books he could lay his hands on. Also by the case of a lady in Bath, who was taken to the police office a few years ago for stealing handkerchiefs, her propensity was generally known amongst the shopkeepers in town and they always set a watch on her while she was in the shops.

Pyromania

Some people have a desire to set or give every thing that will burn, though devoid of any feeling of malice. Hence, as in the case of Mr. Jonathan Martin who set fire to Munster on fire—also the case related by Mr. Wake of a youth who escaped from confinement and when setting fire in his way to Bishop's Palace with the intention of setting it on fire. He expressly gave two cases which are good examples of this disease. Mr. Millwright's apprentice says he, "eighteen years of age, dwelling in a rural district, had committed sixteen acts of incendiarism in the space of four months, he always carried with him a sponge and thread, the latter being daubed with sulphur and though he was restrained to suffer to satisfy his debauchery, and though he might be in want of money..."
he always abstained from theft during the fires he had lighted; he was moved by no passion, but at the sight of the flames he was in great delight, which was much increased by the sound of the fire bells. The lamentations, the cries, clamours and disorder of the crowd— fest from the moment the fire bell sounded, he was obliged to leave his work, so violently agitated did he become both in body and mind.

The other is nearly of the same character, but shows the profound influence of pregnancy on the physical side in addition to the promptings of the dominant thought. A girl named Chalais was brought before the Cour de Assises J— accused of being one of an incendiary band, which in 1830 desolated several of the departments in France. "This young woman," said her advocate, "at seventeen years of age is a poor orphan, who has gained her own livelihood, since she was ten years of age— reduced because her necessities were in want of due succour and good counsel, she has become pregnant, and is now seven or eight months advanced, she protests with an air of conviction that can leave no doubt of her truth, that she has twice lighted incendiary fires, urged by an irresistible instinct; a victim to the suggestions to which was exposed by her pregnant condition, and by..."
theucceeding scenes and narratives which frighten
the whole country, exciting her civil brains.

_Dyspepsia._

In this disease there is a great craving after certain
drinks and wines, spirits, whisky, brandy &c. Persons laboring
under this disease are generally very deceitful and have
an utter disregard for truth. It is very difficult to decide
between those who drink from a diseased appetite for stimu-
lates, and those who drink from habit; the former are
generally worse, not fond of company, and drink not from
pleasure, but are, as it were, forced by their desire for it;
the habitual drunkard on the other hand is generally
jovial and drinks for the sake of the company more than
for the liquor. Sometimes the disease is periodic, as
is the case of a gentleman in Edinburgh, who has for
the last fifteen years laboured under it, also that of
a medical man in Edinburgh who, when the attack came
as goes to a shop and orders a certain quantity of drink
pays for it, takes it home and eats in his room until
he has finished it.
Sotyrasis and Hypochondria

Most the age of puberty, some people have great puerile inclinations; are addicted to lying, are very irascible and ill-natur'd, they steal, are quarrelsome and show great want of cleanliness. This very often leads to increased sexual stimulus and great desire for sexual intercourse. In the male it is called Satyrasis and in the female Hypochondria. Persons affected with this disease are generally fretful.

As Layard says that "in many cases of aggravated sotyrasis there is a slight degree of hypochondria. But the slightest of it is usually confounded to low-viviousness."

As for the other cases, although it is difficult to tell, cases have been presented to me in which the medical attendant was solicitid, and I have heard of others.

This depraved feeling leads the patient not infrequently to sign retention of urine, that catheterism may be performed.

Monomania of Pride.

So this form of insanity is very closely allied to self-esteem: love of appreciation, love of honors, &c. There are cases often the absurd combined with other kinds of insanity, the patient is generally half crazy and hyp.
ful, he endeavoured himself a king or an emperor to the Pope, and that the attendants and other servants in the house with him are his servants and subjects. He in a word giveth such the case of a patient of the Pope. He enjoyed, for I may in truth see the term, the art of lying and the pleasure of trusting to an extreme degree. To a stranger he invariably represents himself as a man of great wealth, vast importance in his neighbourhood, a magistrate, and all that was grand. His title was even brief; he had the art of making it as plausible that few were in haste to leave him, and none ever left him without feeling regret that so many of their friends so soon should be shut off from society. He usually laughed at the effects of his title when the visitor was gone, and especially if he succeeded, which he always attempted to obtain. Money or spoil he would then ridicule the gait as he returned them, and truth he owed his success, certainly the tax that levied, as a legitimate right. Now, then, in a matter here, from those whose ill-directed curiosity prompts them to look at the effects as they would at an exhibition of wild animals. His proneness to lying was not confined to the gratification of his own wants and wishes by false representations. The most general application of this well educated hypocrisy was in the production of mischief and disturbance. He had always a false report to give, if the servants who superintended him, his
not was in held from him, his face was drawn by the keeper, or a fellow patient, his clothes were wound up, and he was robbed of his snuff and tobacco. Amongst his fellow patients he was delighted in creating a disturbance, and when this resulted he invariably reported the offended party to be the aggressor.

He would prepare himself on every day when the visiting magistrates were expected to examine the house, with a budget of lies and representations, and with the most unfounded and malvolent calumnies against the officers and servants of the establishment. If he succeeded in exciting attention to his own complaints, and to create a suspicion that there existed some grounds for the serious charges he preferred, his next plan was to observe the gentleman who had been an ear to his complaints and to boast how easily he could deceive the unwise magistrate, or the least careful examinee. He was equally an adept at stealing as in lying. Once in a week, at least, it was necessary to unplug the lining of his coat, waistcoat, and breeches, to pull the ticking of his bed, to remove the hair of his beard, and to examine holes in the wall of the airing ground, which he was known to have made, and which he had partly filled with dust and leaves. Here were found the knife, clothes, shoes, forks, and all the small articles belonging to the gallery, the night-caps, handkerchiefs, combs, and brushes of his fellow patients, half finished shoes which he had at
abstracts from the plates of his fellow patients, in order to taste portions of bread and cheese taken in a similar manner, and articles of more solid food for the more pleasure of eating, these were eaten, as observed, in holes or in his bed or occur upon his dresser, and not unprofitably a pocket was made in the fall or back of his shirt. He was not often passionate, sometimes he was violently so. But on ordinary occasions he had the power of controlling his anger, he was in reality one of the least gifted fellows alive, but he was ever complaining and expressing dissatisfaction and discontent. He had no bodily ailment, but he would be always sick, if merely he could improve or vary his diet. He was very fond of novelty, and would devise various plans in order to be moved to different parts of the establishment, sometimes he would become sly, for this purpose. On other days, he was extremely cool, indifferent to offended, but the feeling did not last long. For as soon as the bodily inconvenience which attended the offence had subsided, his disposition to injure ceased also, though he was one of the least depraved beings that I ever saw, he got processual being good quantities, he was extremely watchful and serious for the sick, was always ready to assist the moan when a patient was rebellious and likely to do mischief, even defended the keepers. If there charged there with individuals, would make himself extremely useful when any thing was to be done in his gallery, corrected obscene or impertinent language in others.
and seemed to tolerate the belligerent or unkindness which was not entirely his own. In general his judgement was quick and correct, he had partial perception, strong memory, great discretion in matters of business was a good calculator and could tell one what his quarterly expectation had been from what source the amount should be paid with all the accuracy of a bookkeeper, though he was occupied with calculations for the sake of counting and putting a small property into an immense wealth he knew and spoke frequently of his exact income and was always careful that his expense should not exceed it.

The case of Bakhad, who shot at the Queen, is a poor example of love of possession; he has often said since he was put in confinement, that he wanted to become something in the eye of the wonder-seekers world.

Monomania of Suspicion

This is often complicated with some of the other forms of Insanity, but cases are met with in which the intellect is apparently sound in all other respects. The individual labouring under this disease is most miserable. He thinks himself the object of persecution and hatred.
of secret machinations and plots of every description. He thinks his nearest friends are his enemies, suspects his food to be poisoned, and imagines that injuries of every kind are designed against him. He nearly all kinds of insanity, the patient is more or less suspicious. When the mind is carried away by passion there is a great deal of suspicion shown. Dr. Pochard relates a case where a person labouring under hemiplegic pains suspected the physician who attended him of torturing him with electricity. He gives another case in which suspicion was the principal affection under which the patient laboured. He says that a gentleman about 30 years of age had laboured for several years under symptoms of moral insanity. He has been long dejected in spirits and worse in temper and dissatisfied with himself and suspicions of all around him. He was suspicious.
and mistaking in his pursuits, frequently engaging in some new study in the most
frantic and hasty manner and soon abandoning it in despair of making any progress,
though possessed of good talents and considerable acquirements of knowledge.
He passed the requisite period of time at one of the universities but could
dest not be prevailed upon to go in for his degree either through timidity
or want of resolution or as his friends conjectured, from a mortified apprehension
that the benefactors would not deal
fairly with him and award him
that station to which he aspired
and believed himself entitled.
He applied himself afterwards to the
study of medicine and then to that
of metaphysics but especially relinquished
both. He frequently changed his
residence but soon began to fancy
himself the object of dislike to every
person in the house of which he became an inmate.
His peculiarities appearing to increase he was visited by two physicians who were desired to investigate the nature of the case. On being questioned narrowly as to the grounds of the persuasion expressed by him that he was declaimed by the family with which he wished he replied that he heard whispers uttered in distant apartments indicative of malvolence and allusion. An observation was made to him that it was impossible for sounds so attuned to be heard by him. He then asked of the sense of hearing could not by some physical change in the organ be occasionally so increased in intensity as to become capable of affording distinct perception at an unusual distance as the sense of mariners are well known to be accommodated by long efforts to very distant vision. This was the only instance of what might be termed hallucination discovered in the case after a minute scrutiny.
Demonomania

Formerly cases were common in which the individuals fancied themselves possessed of demons just as the ancients were possessed and agitated by the Furies; but now cases of this kind are rarely met with although they do occasionally occur as in a case which occurred in Edinburgh some years ago. A very intelligent youth now was in the street and being seized with the disease forgot his road home. Then he began to hear terrific sounds. He thought the policeman's lamps were the eyes of demons and fled from them. He fled the whole night and was found the next morning some miles from town. Completed 2: Insane. After being taken to the asylum he still imagined that demons came from all quarters and hovered over him about to seize him. In a short time sleep left him altogether.
Deprived of coherence
This is a very well marked form of mental disorder. It may be considered as consisting of diminished action of the mind or impaired activity of the mental actions thereto appertaining from monomania which consists of an increased action of the mind. It ranges from the slightest disturbance to a state of second childhood and in persons affected with it the mind is continually occupied with incoherent thoughts and evanescent emotions. He is incapable of continued attention and reflection and at length loses the faculty of distinct perception.
or apprehension.
Denial may be divided into four different stages.  
First: When in which there is loss of memory which may be called Forgetfulness.
Second: When there is loss of reasoning power called Irrationality.  
Third: When the individual is unable to comprehend the meaning of any thing said to him which may be called Incomprehension.
Fourth: When he is dictated even of animal instinct and cannot obey the calls of Nature.  This may be called Impetuosity.

The first forgetfulness is characterized by the failing memory and that principally with regard to recent events.  The individual remembers things which are long past and his power of reasoning upon affairs of which he has a distinct recollection is unimpaired as also the faculty of judgement when the attention can be sufficiently roused.  It is particularly in sickness once as the accompaniments of old age.
that the second degree are most clearly recognized and distinguished — and in this form likewise the approach, con
vencement, and slow advance of the first stage can be most distinctly traced and its various phenomena observed — Value of perception appears to be the commencement of it.
The organs of sense are not so perfect, and sensation not so acute in old age as in the more healthy and vigorous time of life, but the defect lies more in the subsequent recognition which the mind makes of the ideas presented to it than in sensation itself — Perception takes place but the impression is momentarily transient — The person replies to questioning which are put to him, but his attention is so little rectified that he soon forgets what he has said and in a few minutes after may repeat the same remark or inquiries —
He is capable of calling up ideas long ago impressed upon his mind whereas his attention is directed to them and they appear to have remained nearly in their original freshness. He may recollect these without difficulty, persons with whom he has been long acquainted yet sensations produced by present objects he so slight and the notions connected with them so indistinct and confused that he scarcely knows when he is.

The first stage of Puerile Dementia is quite distinct from Moral Insanity consisting in the old age. In it (i.e. in true dementia) there is no moral state of the feelings and affections, no tendency to depraved habits, and no change in the temper and disposition of the mind but much a loss of energy in some of the operations of the intellect.

Persons troubled with forgetfulness are seldom unhappy on account of it but generally bear it with patience and cheerfulness.
In Insanity the second stage of Dementia there is a total abetion of the power of reasoning, the energy of the will directing the course of the thought is so impaired as to preclude the exercise of that faculty. In this loss of voluntary power over the succession of ideas so great that the person affected is incapable of any effort of mind to carry him through the sentence he has begun. He leaves a question sometimes knows its meaning and attempts to answer it but before he has half replied some accidental suggestion turns aside the current of his thoughts, his mind becomes confused and careless. Frequently his impresions become absurd and illogical. Until near the end of this stage the individual displays some renderings of sense and reason. He affixes some meaning to his words but soon forgets it; the memory being not entirely lost but very much impaired.
The defects of memory in this stage resembe those of the first but exceed them in degree. The individual seems to know his friends but shows no signs of motion or sensibility when reacted by them. He generally enjoys good health, has a good appetite, sleeps well and even if he has become smacked by previous disease recovers his enfiliency.

Incomprehension (the third stage) is generally the sequel of the last. Persons affected with it are quite unable to comprehend the meaning of anything which may be said to them. If their attention can be drawn slightly towards the answer which they attempt to give, he has so little connection with what has been said to them as to show plainly that they do not understand it. It may be called the instruction stage as all reason has entirely left them but the instruction or mechanical principles of action are still regions.
They often display great physical activity which has the appearance of habit. Some jump about, run to and fro, or walk continually over the same place. Some dance and swing, or bob up and down, frequently. Some are continually talking without having any meaning in their words. Others are incessantly uttering half-sentences or broken syllables in which there is little or no connection and the connection that may exist depend upon some object that for the moment attracts their attention. Many on the contrary sit in silence with a sedate and tranquil look. Sometimes with a vacant smile or an aimless stare, and without uttering a syllable for weeks or months. Some will remain crouched in particular postures which to the by-stander may seem unnecessary or even painful but which they seem to prefer for if placed in a different
position they will in a short time resume the former one —

Some persons in this state have a

propensity to adorn themselves in

a strange manner. They will take

any thing that happens to be in their

way and attach it to their dress.

Persons labouring under Inappetency

(the fourth stage of Dementia) — have lost

even animal instinct. They have

lurched organs of physical existence and

appear scarcely conscious of life.

They have neither desires nor aspirations and

are unable to obey the calls of nature.

Some will always stand erect and immovable

with their heads bent down, their eyes fixed on

the ground, even turning to the one side or the

other or appearing by any gesture to be conscious

of any impressions or even of their own existence;

others will sit on the ground rocking to & fro, or

sometimes thrashing their limbs out in all directions

and sing or rather gobbip engravures of words of

which shew a total want of ideas or feeling.
A great proportion of the constantly ill, with the
Knees drawn up, their chins resting on their breast, their
eyes half closed to their knees, write down, unconscious of
hunger or thirst and almost destitute of the feelings
which belong to even to Physical life; they would never
lie down or rise up were they not placed in bed by
the attendants. Sometimes, patients affected with
this disease have lucid intervals. Richard gives
a good example of this in a patient of his "who, all
day in a wooden slatted chair with his chin hanging
over his breast, appearing hardly conscious of his exist-
ence, and unable to assist himself in the least, who could
not eat or drink, was not actually put in this state, he
has been for several years in this state, except that he
occasionally appears to raise himself and for a short
enough to recover an unusual degree of animation. At such
periods he will now and then read a chapter in the Bible with
a clear voice and a distinct and intelligible articulation."

He very often persons laboring under this stage of the dis-
ease use the use of their limbs in a more or less degree.
Schistery

A person affected with Dementia was once endowed with, but has now lost, the faculties of understanding. He has some thoughts of time past, his conduct and actions preserve the characteristics of consistent age, and in him there remain some signs of his previous sanity. The idiot on the other hand has never possessed the faculties of the understanding in a state sufficiently developed for the display of reason. He lives neither in the past, the present, or the future, and his habits and manners resemble those of a child.

Idiocracy ranges from perfect sanity to that state in which the faculties of the understanding are entirely wanting and even the instinctive faculties are in a defective state. When this individual has some use of speech and display some indication of mind, of intellectual faculties, and of feelings & affections he is called insane.
The imbecile shows the same varieties of character and inclinations as persons of stronger intellect. In some the power of recollection is tolerably strong whilst in others it scarcely exists. In some the senses are dull and fickle, in others they are more acute. Some are able to do certain particular things tolerably well whilst there are other things which they are quite unable to perform. Some have retentive memories and show talent in certain branches of study whilst their mental powers are deficient in every other respect. The power of thought and attention is defective in all imbeciles, and if they are left to themselves they become careless and lazy. Their health is in general good; sometimes they become melancholy and sunk under a gradual loss of health. They may sometimes become subject to fits of violence, to hysterical attacks, or to synaphomnias or satyriasis.
The true idiot has hardly any trace of memory, judgment, or imagination; and even his instinct is defective. If he has any power of speech at all, it is extremely limited, and he is scarcely capable of expressing his most urgent physical wants.

The internal conformation of the idiot plainly shows that he is incapable of thought. In general his head is not in proportion to his body and ill-shaped. His features are ill-formed; his eyes are deep set; his lips are thick; he keeps his mouth continually open. His organs of sense are defective; he sees badly; he is deaf or hard of hearing; dumb or stammering in his speech; his taste and smell are often imperfect; and he eats without any selection of food. His chest is narrow and contracted; his limbs ill-formed which, combined with the want of power and muscular action, causes him to walk awkwardly and unsteadily.
When young, the idiot is fable, lean, of bad complexion, and unable to learn anything, very often attaining the age of puberty before he is able to walk. Dr. Esquirol says that Idiots are monsters which appear destined to destruction if the tenderness of parents or the compassion of others did not interfere to prolong their existence.
General paralysis of the Insane

This is the most common of all the diseases which are complicated with Insanity. It is a peculiar morbid affection which may occur in the advanced stages of the different forms of Insanity; but is the most common accompaniment of Dementia. The person affected with this disorder does not lose the power of motion or sensation, but he wants the power of control over motion. Sometimes it appears early, sometimes before, and sometimes not until after the mental disorder; and continues to increase as the power of the mind diminishes. Its occurrence is far more common in males than in females; and whatever may be the form of Insanity under which the patient labours when he is attacked with it, it assumes ultimately the form of dementia. The first symptom of General Paralysis is an impediment in the action of the tongue. At first this is so slight that it.
would escape the notice of any person not acquainted with the disease, or even one acquainted with it should he not direct his attention towards it. As the disease advances the impediment increases till at length the patient is obliged to use one effort in speaking. He speaks slowly and with a sort of hammering and rumbling like a person who is intoxicated. The attentive observer may notice a peculiar expression of countenance along with the broken speech — the eyes and mouth having a peculiar dull depression, and there is a want of animation about the patient; and very often the pupil of one of his eyes is more dilated than that of the other. The next symptom that makes its appearance is loss of control over the action of the lower extremities. If the patient be sitting and attempts to walk in rising he takes hold of something within his reach.
and with the assistance of his arms raises himself to his feet. When he has regained the most position he totters from side to side and has to balance himself before he is able to proceed forwards. He then fixes his eyes on some object before him and makes his way straight forward without raising his eyes from the spot before he has reached it. If he closes his eyes he immediately loses his equilibrium and falls forward. When he wakens himself being forced to close his eyes he totters back of something or places on of his hands against the wall to assist prevent himself from falling forward. His speech gradually gets worse, in a short time he is unable to pronounce a word this twaddle and can scarce make him self understood. He has lost to little control over his legs that he is unable to stand, but like a drum where he can raise them it is quite impossible for him to walk. His arms and hands become affected.
His general functions and common health in good order is that he gets fat, but occasionally his system breaks up and from being round and plump he becomes lean and delicate. He gradually becomes quite helpless, and his secretion passes constantly without his knowledge. When lying in this helpless condition he is able to throw his limbs about as well as he could do before he was affected. Sometimes his muscles get rigid and he will lie for a whole day in a position which it would be very painful if not impossible for a sane person to keep.
Causes of Insanity

The exciting causes of insanity may be divided into: 1st. Those which exert an influence immediately on the mind, or are states of the mind itself giving rise to disorders in the exercise of those faculties which are called moral causes.

2nd. Those which affect the body and exert their influence upon the mind thence. The medium of organic structure; called Physical Causes.

In Edinburgh Royal Asylum, the number of patients who have become insane, from moral causes is considered to be, that from physical causes.

Mr. Georgi considered that out of every hundred, thirty-five became insane from moral causes. Mr. Pinel thought they were in the proportion of 464 brought on by moral causes, to 219 brought on by physical causes.

The following table drawn up by Esquirol shows the particular nature of the causes which are most common.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Case</th>
<th>Cause</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>89</td>
<td>From domestic grief</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Disappointment in love</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Devotion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Jealousy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Excessive study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Sight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Reading romances</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Injured self-love</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Passion for poetry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Excess of joy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Throat irritation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Of those arising from physical causes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Case</th>
<th>Cause</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>93</td>
<td>Throat irritation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64</td>
<td>Abuse of wine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Libidinism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Masturbation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Use of mercury</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Suppression of mental excitation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Consequence of masturbation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Blows on the head</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Effects of carbonic acid</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
From these tables it appears that domestic grief and reverses of fortune taken together comprise more than one half the number of cases which have been brought on by mental causes and the influence of these or cultivated society may be accounted for as one of the reasons why insanity increases with civilization. I refer to the principle causes seem to be love, jealousy and excessive devotion. With the exception of those caused by domestic grief and reverses of fortune. Strong emotions and passions may be assigned as the causes of the greatest number of cases of insanity. Terror and violent anger or hate the nervous system of mind very severely, indeed they are the most powerful emotions to which the mind can be subjected, as may be seen by the fits of convulsions, terrors, and syncope which sometimes follow violent attacks of these emotions. The passions produce their effect by a more direct and constant operation.

The erotic passion sometimes gives rise to mental disorder although its effects and influences are greatly modified by education and other external circumstances. This is well seen in comparing the married with the unmarried persons.
in public asylum. In the report of the civil hospitals near Paris by
M. Depoix it appears that of 764 males in Bicêtre and 1726 female in
Salpretière

492 males - unmarried
980 females - unmarried
2017 males - 397 females married
59 males - 291 females widowers
3 males - 3 females divorced

Religion is not so often the cause of insanity as one would be inclined
to suppose from seeing so many lunatics whose minds seem to be con-
tinually occupied with thoughts of
the future state. The patients indulging in gloomy forebodings and
peaceful thoughts is a proof that
impressions connected with the same
subject produced the mental
disturbance, and although the
affective may have had a physical
cause the diseased mind very often
threw on the terrors of the invisible world.
which presents wide scope for their imagination. But in however its effects
must distress. Such anxieties does sometimes really give rise to mental
allegement. Sometimes persons
who are predisposed to insanity by
attending churches the ministers of
which have a severe and impassioned style
of preaching and who direct out the
terror without setting forth the hopes
and consolation of Christianity.

Blow adds:

'socially, cause insanity which may
come on immediately after the inju-
ry as in the case of a lady mentioned
by Requiao who fell from a horse &
struck his head on a door.

Cases are on record where
blows on the head have been known to
cure idiots, and Indiciles of their
derangement, intestinal irritations
looked on by too much indulgence
of the appetite in the rich, and in
long continued constipation unholo-


child: Exposure to cold and want of neglect African clothing in this poor. Sometimes give rise to mental distress. In moderate use of stimulants is a very common cause of insanity and of these and its effects seem to be kept injurious in their effects. The healing of old ulcers, the cessation of various discharges, and the disappearance of cutaneous symptoms are sometimes observed to bring about this transplant of literal functions as by moonshine. It is also a frequent cause what is Cancer Wals in the brain.
Treatment

The treatment of Insanity is usually divided into two kinds—First, the use of those remedies which act upon the body and are intended to correct the disorder of the Cerebral and other functions. And the Second includes all the means which are known to exercise immediately on the mind an influence tending to restore the healthy and natural state of its operation.

Formerly bloodletting was much used as a remedy, but the experience of all modern authorities contra-indicates its use. In some cases where the disease is not fairly set in cautious bloodletting may ward off the attack, but these are rare. The causes of the disease generally also cause intemperance and inaction and bloodletting would only make the patient less firm, which is the more need of something to strengthen him.
If there is much vascular excitement and heat in the head it may be shaved and shower baths used; or cold clothes applied to the part. In such cases the effusion of cold water or the application of a cloth containing ice has been found very beneficial. The warm bath is one of the most useful remedies. It may be combined with cold applications the body being in a state of the warm bath while at the same time ice is applied to the head. In females whose case has been brought on by uterine derangement the sitz bath is useful. The bowels if habitually constipated should be relieved occasionally by mild purgatives, but all purging without good reason should be avoided. Then purgatives are given they should be given concealed as the extract of senna or porter or Colonel or bread and butter.
Injuries need to be much in scope but experience has proved them to be deleterious. Opiates are very beneficial in Delirium Tremens and should be given in large doses.

Helbore, Digitals, Cannabis, Etc. have been given, but require further trial to prove their utility.

All local diseases must be re:

-Morrh and suppressed discharge restored. The best treatment of insanity is that based on a general knowledge of the practice of medicine.

Moral Treatment

It is very essential for the recovery of the insane person that his mind should be distracted from the subject of his disease and for this purpose he should be entirely separated from his friends and relations and from all habitual associations which very often contribute to keep up and foster it.
It is very often the case that insane persons feel an aversion towards their former acquaintances and will not bear kindness or attention from familiar friends. Therefore they should be placed amongst entire strangers whose presence may also have a good effect in suspending their delusions. Either by the influence of new impressions (which are always useful) or from a secret feeling of self-respect which induces lunatics to conceal their State of Mind.

In asylums the patients were formerly kept in control by the influence of fear and physical force, but they should on the contrary be managed with the greatest kindness which plan is now universally adopted. It has been found that the mildest methods are the most successful in the case. The physician and those around the patient should take care not to inspire fear.
or dreaded, but use the greatest gentleness of manner along with firmness and determination to gain respect. They should take care to make no promises to the patient but what they intend to perform as if they do they will certainly lose the respect which the patient would otherwise have for them. Exercise is one of the most important means of restoring the health of insane persons, and for this purpose there is generally connected with an asylum a large garden in which the patients who have been accustomed to agricultural labour employ themselves for a short time every day. Mechanics &c. should be made to work at their former trade. Females should be employed in washing, knitting and working with the needle. The higher classes who have not been accustomed to manual labour should be made to
to walk or ride in the open air as much as possible. The should be in all asylums covered galleries where patients can walk in wet weather and enjoy the benefits of fresh air. It should also be furnished with every thing calculated to amuse the patients without exciting them. When patients are feverous they should always be approached by two or more persons so as to prevent any loss of necessary struggle. The keeper should be kind but at the same time firm. Every precaution should be used to prevent him hurting himself or others, but as mechanical restraint however should be used unless absolutely necessary. It always does harm to oppose the unreasonable prejudices of the patient by argument but directs his attention to the subject of his disease.