

was distinct evidence of such derangement furnished by the fact that he had been the inmate of a lunatic asylum, by his brother's testimony as to his delusions when he resided with him, and by the sort of communications which he made to the police. The kind of derangement was hardly perhaps that which a sunstroke alone might have been thought likely to produce, but if there was any hereditary predisposition to insanity, the latent mischief might well have been excited into activity by the cerebral shock.

If we were to draw any medical lesson from the case, it would be a lesson of caution with regard to patients who have delusions of persecution. They are often dangerous to others, and it is most necessary to impress upon their friends how great a risk is run if they are not put under some kind of supervision. "The monomaniac, who has delusions that he is watched continually, or otherwise persecuted, must always be deemed dangerous to others; for at any time he may become so impatient of his sufferings as to make a fatal attack upon his fancied persecutor." The mischief of the matter is that these patients are often so remarkably acute and sensible on all matters outside the sphere of the delusion, that it seems a pity to meddle with them, and cruel to deprive them of their liberty. Moreover, they are cunning, and if they perceive that their delusions have brought them into trouble, they will sometimes conceal and deny them, in order to get rid of supervision. After they have succeeded in getting free, they are not unlikely to bring an action against, or otherwise annoy, those who have had any part in subjecting them to restraint.

OCCASIONAL NOTES OF THE QUARTER.

Town and Country as Rival Producers of Intellect.

The last number of the "Journal of the Statistical Society" had an interesting article, by Mr. Hyde Clarke, on the "Geographical Distribution of Intellectual Qualities in England."

The writer proves, by the use of a numerical test, that the towns contribute most of the intellectual labourers of note,

