

advancement in this department of science who is not impressed with the great truth that "man is wonderfully and fearfully made."

Insanity detected by a look! There is feigned insanity, so like the real as often to baffle enlightened investigation. There is concealed insanity, so crafty and subtle as to deceive the best informed keepers and physicians of lunatic asylums on a question of discharge. In other words, the insane patient knows his disease, knows the indications of its existence and knows how, by the exercise of wisdom and the force of will, to deceive his keeper and pass for sane. He knows how to suppress the indications of his insanity, and successfully feigns sanity. This is the history of insane hospitals; but you were not exactly prepared by the opening speech of the prosecution to believe it.

At the present term of the St. Louis Criminal Court, before Judge Lackland, a man was tried for murder and convicted. He was defended by counsel of highly respectable position in their profession. The jury box contained as much intelligence and discrimination as our panels there ordinarily furnish. The counsel were employed by the prisoner, not assigned by the Court. The trial lasted several days. The defense of insanity was not relied on—no preparation of the case was made with any such issue—no evidence brought to sustain it. The counsel saw no indication of mental disorder in their client—nothing to create a suspicion of insanity. The trial began and ended without allusion to that modern invention, the plea of insanity, so odious to justice, and so offensive to this prosecution. The verdict was guilty. A motion for a new trial was filed by his counsel and overruled on all the grounds set out in the motion; but the Judge, on his own motion, set aside the verdict, because the defendant was insane when he committed the homicide! The Court ordered a committee of six physicians to go to the jail, and after examination of the prisoner, to report in writing his condition as to sanity. They did so, and pronounced him sane. The Judge told them they were mistaken and ordered a re-examination. The result of repeated examinations was