Re-examined by Mr. Merriman, the witness agreed with Dr. Godstow that Mr. Clode ought to be placed under restraint. He did not agree with him that there was softening of the brain. He thought that the derangement arose from the spinal marrow and not from the brain at all.

In answer to Mr. Vaughan, the witness attributed the loss of memory to premature old age, the result of excess. He did not consider loss of memory a symptom of unsoundness of mind, though it might accompany an unsound mind. In a person of unsound mind he should expect the drawing of unsound conclusions and incoherency; in a person of defective mind loss of memory.

The case was again adjourned, and when it was again brought before the attention of the magistrate the defendant was committed to take his trial at the Hertford Assizes.

Another Charge against Dr. Shaw.

At the Bow Street Police Court on the 13th December Mr. Vaughan heard another charge against the same defendant for an infringement of the Lunacy Laws, by keeping a Mrs. Frances Danvers Weston, an alleged lunatic, without having a licence according to the Act of Parliament.

Mr. Poland, barrister, appeared for the Commissioners of Lunacy, and Mr. Merriman, solicitor, for the defendant.

Mr. Poland, in informing the magistrate of the facts of the case, said that the Commissioners of Lunacy felt it to be their bounden duty to investigate this case, in order that it might be seen whether it was one which should be sent to the assizes. In the present case the patient, respecting whom the inquiry would be made, was Mrs. Frances Danvers Weston. She was a person of some property, having about £6100 in the consols. It appeared that she married Mr. Weston in January, 1851, and in April, 1858, being then insane, she was removed to Great Foster House, Egham, Surrey, and there confined under a regular medical certificate. She was there until the 11th of February, 1865. On that day she was discharged from that asylum, and was taken away by her husband. He should prove by Mr. Edward Thomas Furnivall, one of the medical witnesses, that at that time Mrs. Weston was in no way relieved. She suffered delusions of a peculiar character, and there could be no question that she was a right and proper person to be under care in a licensed establishment. It would be shown that after she left Great Foster House she went to the establishment which was kept by the defendant. There was no doubt that the sum paid to Mr. Shaw for her board and attention was £65 a year. There was reason to believe that she remained at Dr. Shaw's from 1865 until the 6th or 7th of November in the present year. On the 31st of October Dr. Blandford went to Dr. Shaw's house at the Firs, and endeavoured to see this lady, but was unable to do so. He went again on the 6th of November, but was still unable to see her. Whether these two visits alarmed Dr. Shaw or not, he (the learned counsel) could not say, but the prosecution would show that some time about the 6th or 7th of November, Fanny Wheeler, Dr. Shaw's servant, took Mrs. Weston to Bicester, in Oxfordshire. Having thus taken Mrs. Weston away on the 6th or 7th of November, Fanny Wheeler returned home without her on the 8th. These matters were notorious, and it was thought by the Commissioners that Dr. Blandford should go to Bicester. But when there he was unable to find her. After considerable difficulty Mrs. Weston was found living with her husband's aunt, a Mrs. Osborne, at No. 4, Church Street, Murray Street, Hoxton. When Dr. Blandford saw her he found that there was no question of her insanity. She had delusions of

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many kinds. Subsequently Dr. Bennett visited her, and he would confirm Dr. Blandford, and say that undoubtedly she was insane, and a person who ought to be taken under proper treatment. To show that she was confined in the establishment of Dr. Shaw, he should call a charwoman who had been in the constant habit of working at the Firs, and who would say that she was the same person as she had seen there. A police sergeant, who had seen Mrs. Weston on one occasion at the police-station near The Firs, would also identify her. On the occasion of her being at the police-station she was brought there by a constable. She was then very miserably clad; she had no stockings, her dress was unfastened, and her hair was matted. Mr. and Mr. Shaw came and fetched her away. After some further remarks respecting the evidence which would be brought before the Court, the learned counsel drew Mr. Vaughan's attention to the fact that Mrs. Weston was a lady of property, confined without a certificate; and when they found that medical gentlemen were going down and inquiring about her, she was suddenly removed, and no trace could be discovered of her. Under these circumstances the Commissioners considered that it was their bounden duty to investigate the matter, and call upon the defendant to answer the charge in another court. The Act under which these proceedings were taken was for the protection of lunatics and their friends. It was most important for the public good that the Commissioners should know where these unfortunate persons were confined.

Mr. Edward Thos. Furnivall, who was the first witness called, said,—I am a surgeon, living at Egham, Surrey. In 1858, I was part proprietor of the Great Foster House, at Egham. That was a house licensed for the reception of lunatics, male and female. On the 26th of April, 1858, Mrs. Frances Danvers Weston was admitted to my house as a patient. She was confined there as one till Feb. 11, 1865, under certain certificates (produced) duly signed by two medical men. One hundred guineas a year was paid for her keep at first; £52 10s. half-yearly. Subsequently, at the request of Mr. Weston, her husband, this charge was reduced to the sum of £100 a year, and again to £84 a year. She was discharged from our house at the request of her husband.

Mr. Poland.—Was she relieved in any way when she left your house?

Witness.—No; I told him at the time that she was not altered, and I gave him the necessary instructions to have her removed to a private asylum, and he said he was going to do so.

Mr. Poland.—During the time she was at your house was she a lunatic?

Witness.—She certainly was an insane person, and one labouring under delusions.

Mr. Poland.—State one or two of those delusions.

Witness.—She carried the cat about with her constantly, and said that she held conversations with it; that the cat was perfectly able to understand what she said to it; and that she could understand what the cat said to her. She was also under a delusion with respect to certain bed-curtains. She said that before she was sent to our asylum she had laid in bed two years before she could get them. She also fancied sometimes that she was the Queen, at others that she was a great lady; again, that she set the fashion. She would strut about the room saying that she was the Queen, and that she set the fashions.

Mr. Poland.—Was she violent?

Witness.—She was. On one occasion she struck her hand through a pane of glass, and on three occasions, in 1864, she had to be secluded for excessive violence in striking her attendants and another patient. She was very lady-like, but very indolent, requiring to be aroused before she would do anything. On Monday, the 9th of the present month, I went to No. 4, Church Street,

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Murray Street, Hoxton. I found Mrs. Weston there in bed. I had a conversation with her lasting a quarter of an hour or twenty minutes.

Mr. Poland.—In your judgment is she still a lunatic?

Witness.—In my judgment she still labours under the same delusions, is a lunatic and an insane person.

Mr. Merriman did not cross-examine this witness.

Dr. George Fielding Blandford.—I live at No. 3, Clarges Street. Am a member of the College of Physicians and a doctor of medicine. I have had a large experience on the subject of lunacy. On the 31st of October last I went to the house of the defendant at The Firs, Boreham Wood. I had an order from the Lord Chancellor authorising me to visit that establishment.

Mr. Merriman.—That order must be put in.

Witness.—I went into the house, and asked to see all the inmates. I was told I did see all the inmates; but I did not see Mrs. Weston there. I saw three ladies and Mr. Clode. At that visit I went into all the rooms, as I then thought, but I afterwards discovered that there was one bed room which I did not see. I saw Mr. Shaw on that occasion. On the afternoon of the 6th of November I visited The Firs again. The defendant was not then at home. I did not see Mrs. Weston there then. This time I asked for her by name.

Mr. Merriman.—This is not evidence, as the doctor was not in.

Witness.—I did not see Mrs. Weston there, but I went over the house, and into the room which I did not visit before. On the 8th of November I went again to the defendant's. I did not see him then, as he was out. I inquired for Mrs. Weston, but did not see her.

Mr. Poland.—In consequence of some communication, did you go to Bicester, in Oxfordshire?

Witness.—I went there on the 9th, with the object of seeing Mrs. Weston. Amongst other places, I went to the house of the mother of Fanny Wheeler, the servant. I was not able to find her (Mrs. Weston) there. On the 23rd of November, I went to No. 4, Church Street, Murray Street, Hoxton. I there found Mrs. Weston. She was living with Mrs. Osborn, her husband's aunt. She told me on that occasion her name was Frances Danvers Weston. I was talking with her for about an hour.

Mr. Poland.—In your judgment is she a lunatic and insane person?

Witness.—Decidedly she is. She was suffering from delusions. She told a long story about bed-curtains, which has been mentioned. She said that they were conjuring curtains, and that they would come to her by magic. She told me that she had stayed in bed two years, waiting for these curtains to come to her, and that when they did not come at the end of two years she was taken to Great Foster House. She told me further, on that occasion, that nobody was dead. She said her father was alive, and also that the Duke of Wellington was alive.

Mr. Poland.—Did she say which Duke of Wellington?

Witness.—No, I did not ask her. She also said that her aunt was alive. This conversation arose out of one as to whether her friends were alive or not. On the 30th of November I again visited her, and on that occasion I was accompanied by Police-sergeant Sawyer. I had further conversation with her.

Mr. Poland.—From these two interviews are you clearly of opinion that she is insane?

Witness.—Yes. She told me that she had had a visit from two gentlemen the previous week, one of whom was the Prince of Malta. I asked her other questions, and she said that cats were not cats, but animals of a different species, called "Jefferies," and so called by Dr. Roberts, of Great Foster House. She told me that she saw a man fly past her window, without any wings, and with a thick skin over him.

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Cross-examined by Mr. Merriman.—I have seen Mr. Weston. I saw him a few days after my first visit to Mrs. Weston. He came to my house. That is the only time I have seen him. I do not see him here to-day.

Mr. Poland.—We have tried to find him, but cannot. If he were in court I should call him at once. If you (Mr. Merriman) can give us any information about him we shall be very glad.

Mr. Merriman.—I should be very glad if I could do so.

Mr. Poland.—Did Mr. Weston refuse to give you his address?

Witness.—Yes.

Mr. Merriman.—Did he call upon you uninvited?

Witness.—Yes. I presume he did so in consequence of my visit to Mrs. Weston. He gave me to understand that. I asked him for his address, but he refused to give it.

Mr. Merriman intimated to the magistrate that he should reserve his cross-examination of the witnesses.

Dr. James Risdon Bennett.—I live at 15, Finsbury Square. I am one of the physicians of St. Thomas's Hospital, a doctor of medicine, and a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians. On Saturday, the 7th of December, I went to No. 4, Church Street, Murray Street, Hoxton, but I did not see Mrs. Weston on that day. I was told that she was having a bath. I went on the following Monday, the 9th, when I saw her. I addressed her as Mrs. Weston. Mrs. Osborn, the aunt, went into the room with me. I remained with Mrs. Weston about three quarters of an hour. I had a conversation with her, and formed an opinion respecting her state of mind.

Mr. Poland.—In your judgment is she a lunatic?

Witness.—In my judgment she is insane, and a person who ought to be kept under proper care and treatment.

Mr. Poland.—In the course of the interview did you ascertain that she was suffering from various delusions?

Witness.—I did. I had a conversation with her for some time before they came out. I was anxious that they should appear spontaneously, rather than be elicited by me.

This witness was not cross-examined.

The two previous medical witnesses had also agreed that Mrs. Weston was a person who, in consequence of her insanity, ought to be kept under proper care and treatment.

Sergeant Wm. Sawyer, A R. 768.—I know The Firs, the defendant's premises. There is a police-station at Shenley Hill, near Barnet. It is distant about two miles and a half from The Firs. I was there last February, when a lady came there about half-past seven o'clock in the morning. She was brought there by a police-constable. I thought she was an insane person, and detained her on that ground. She had no bonnet on, no stockings, an old pair of boots, an old brown lindsey dress, open all up in front. Her hair was matted, and looked as if it had not been combed out for months. It hung over her shoulders. A conversation took place, and she said that she had a friend, a General Brooks, living at the Black Forest, Windsor. She said she had lived there, and also at Cheltenham, but that she did not like the latter place, as it was so damp. She said it was 9000 miles below the level of the sea. Between eight and nine o'clock the same day the defendant and his wife came to the station. They were in a dogcart. Mr. Shaw stopped outside with the horse and trap. Mrs. Shaw came into the station. She brought a bonnet and cape with her. They took this lady away with them in the dogcart. On the 30th of last month I went to No. 4, Church Street, Murray Street, Hoxton, with Dr. Blandford, and I found the same lady there.

Emma Coughtree.—I am an inmate of the Hendon Union. My husband

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is dead. In the month of May last I went to Mr. Shaw's, at The Firs, Boreham Wood, for the purpose of washing, once a fortnight, and once a week to cleanse Mr. Clode's rooms. When there, from time to time I have seen Mrs. Weston. I saw her there last on the 6th of November. The servant, Fanny Wheeler, was in the house then. On the following day Mrs. Shaw came to my cottage and made a statement to me. The next morning I went to the defendant's house. I remained there till the afternoon, and did not see anything of Fanny Wheeler or Mrs. Weston. I saw Fanny Wheeler again on the 8th. When I saw her I was standing at my gate. She was then alone. I saw Mrs. Weston at No. 4, Church Street, Murray Street, Hoxton, on the 24th of November. I had seen Mrs. Weston at The Firs cleaning knives and forks, boots and shoes, washing plates, dishes, and saucepans, sifting cinders, and turning an oat-crushing machine. She took her meals in the back kitchen by herself. Fanny Wheeler was the only domestic servant.

Cross-examined.—On the 7th, when at The Firs, I saw Mrs. Shaw and Dr. Shaw there the whole time. On the 8th, when I saw Fanny come home, she might have come from Barnet. A messenger from the office of the Commissioners of Lunacy, who is now present, went with me to No. 4, Church Street.

By the Magistrate.—When at The Firs I have never seen Mrs. Weston walking about.

Re-examined.—My cottage adjoins the back of the stables at The Firs.

Mr. Durant, of St. Albans.—I am a solicitor and deputy clerk of the peace of the county of Hertford, of the liberty of St. Albans, and of Elstree, within the limits. I should be acquainted with any licence which was granted by the justices. No licence has been granted to Dr. Shaw authorising him to keep the premises known as The Firs for the reception of lunatics.

Mr. Thomas Martin, chief clerk in the office of the Commissioners of Lunacy, was called to prove the practice as regards the certificates which authorise qualified persons to keep lunatic and insane persons in their asylums. The defendant's house, The Firs, had not been registered as an hospital or asylum for the reception of lunatics. The defendant had not made any returns respecting a lunatic named Frances Danvers Weston, according to the requirements of the Act of Parliament. He had not sent in any documents respecting that patient at all.

Cross-examined.—I have not seen Mr. Weston, nor do I know where he is.

Mrs. Charlotte Townhend, of 63, Clarendon Road, Notting Hill, proved that she knew the defendant, having corresponded with him. She had received a large number of receipts from him respecting the payment for the maintenance of Mr. Clode.

Mr. Poland handed the witness certain receipts for the maintenance of Mrs. Weston.

The witness said that to the best of her belief the handwriting was that of Dr. Shaw. The receipts were dated from the 1st of April, 1865, till the 1st of October, 1867.

This was the case for the prosecution.

Mr. Merriman briefly addressed the magistrate on behalf of the defendant. According to his instructions, he said there was the clearest possible answer to the charge. The prosecution had brought forward no evidence as to the circumstances under which this lady was placed with his client. He thought it was most material that such evidence should have been given. If that evidence were forthcoming, it would show that Dr. Shaw took charge of Mrs. Weston as he did of other persons who came to his establishment for the

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benefit of their health, as invalids, who came there voluntarily. It was within the knowledge of the Commissioners that persons did go to his house as invalids. He asked whether, in the default of such evidence, the case should go to the sessions. The reason that he had not cross-examined the witnesses was that if the magistrate thought there was a *bonâ fide* case it would be a waste of time. There was another case against the defendant which would come on at the same assizes. With all respect, he submitted that a *bonâ fide* case had not been made out without the production of Mr. Weston, or something beyond what they had heard.

The magistrate did not think it was necessary for the prosecution to go into the circumstances under which the alleged lunatics came into Dr. Shaw's house. They had sought for Mr. Weston and could not find him. It was more a matter for the defence. It was quite sufficient for the prosecution that the lunatic was there, that no licence had been granted to the house, and that no return had been made to the Commissioners. It was perfectly certain that she was received there for the purpose of profit. He had no alternative but to commit the defendant to take his trial at the spring assizes.

The magistrate consented to take bail, defendant in a sum of £200, and one surety of £100.

Care and Treatment of the Insane Poor.

The address of Dr. C. Lockhart Robertson (president of the Medico-Psychological Association) at the recent annual meeting has been published separately, and will well repay perusal by all those who are interested in the public arrangements and institutions for the treatment of the insane poor. Dr. Robertson thinks we are not far from a sufficient provision for this purpose. During the twenty years the Lunacy Act has been in force, the number of beds in the county asylums in England and Wales has increased from 5500 to 26,000. In 1847 the public asylums provided accommodation for 36 per cent. of the pauper lunacy of the country; in 1867 there is provision for 60 per cent., which Dr. Robertson thinks a fair provision, and which leaves 25 per cent. to be treated in workhouses, and 15 in private dwellings. The addition of 7000 more beds to the existing number (26,000) in the county asylums would meet every want that is likely soon to arise. Dr. Robertson believes that this addition may be best procured by increasing the number of beds in existing asylums to an average of 600. In 1847, 1 in every 880 of the whole population was a pauper lunatic; in 1867, 1 in 494. It requires all the authority of Dr. Robertson's opinion to satisfy us that these figures do not show an increase in the amount of pauper lunacy. He thinks they do not show this, but only more accurate returns, and a desire in the lower middle class to procure treatment for their relatives in the county asylums. While allowing the generally satisfactory condition of lunatics in workhouses, he urges the placing of them, even there, in the charge of the justices of the peace, under the supervision of the Commissioners in Lunacy, and the annual visitation of the workhouses of the county by the medical superintendent or other officer of the county asylum, with a view to a report on the general condition of the lunatics and the interchange of cases between the workhouse and the Asylum. In Scotland, 13 per cent. more of the cases are treated in private dwellings. Sixpence a day is allowed to labourers for such cases. Dr. Robertson—we think justly—condemns the Scotch practice of granting licenses (without fee) for the care of three or

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