workers in coal, iron, and the potteries, expose themselves, above all other people, to the physical causes which produce insanity.—*Report of Royal Edinburgh Asylum for* 1875.

An Imposing Female.

Among the patients who come here in a year, there are always many with the saddest of histories, and usually a few whose doings before admission were of a very striking character. In one case, a woman who, up to about a twelvemonth of her admission, had lived a quiet but honest and uneventful life, had then struck out a highly sensational course for herself. By a series of the most extraordinary misrepresentations and cleverly carried out impostures, she raised large sums of money on no security whatever, and spent them as recklessly; imposed on jewellers, so that they trusted her with goods worth many hundreds of pounds; furnished grand houses entirely at the expense of trusting upholsterers; introduced herself by sheer impudence to one great nobleman after another, and then introduced her dupes, who, on the faith of those distinguished social connections, at once disgorged more money. To one person she was a great literary character; to another, of royal descent; to another, she had immense expectations; to another, she was a stern religionist. At last all this lying, cheating, scheming, and imposture developed into marked insanity and brain disease, of which she soon died; and it was seen that all these people had been the dupes of a lunatic, whose very boldness, cunning, and mendacity, had been the direct result of her insanity.—*Report of Royal Edinburgh Asylum for* 1875.

Good Effects on the Poorer Classes of the Insane of Frequent Visits by Relatives.

We are in this peculiar and almost unique position in Scotland, that while our number of yearly admissions increase, our numbers left at the end of the year have diminished for the past three years. There are several causes for this. Our recoveries are very numerous, and a large number of unrecovered but quiet cases are removed, at my advice, by their friends. Our proximity to town, and the extraordinarily ready access provided by the tramways, are circumstances which most people, and among them many high authorities in lunacy matters, would consider great disadvantages. Their effect is to bring the relatives of our poorer patients out to the Asylum to visit them to an extent quite

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