comforts and negligent treatment."—*Dr. Campbell, Report of the Medical Superintendent of the Essex Lunatic Asylum, January Sessions,* 1863.

4. *The New Asylum for the County of Dorset at Herrison.*

"The Commissioners expressed themselves pleased to think there was reasonable ground for believing the new asylum would be ready to receive our patients this summer, and there seems very little doubt of it. It has been extraordinary to witness the great change which has taken place there since the present contractor, Mr. Roberts, entered on his duties. Materials, which were supposed to be perfectly impossible to obtain, rapidly appeared on the ground, and as quickly were artisans and labourers found to carry on the work. I cannot help mentioning that, ever since the present contractor has worked at Herrison, at my almost numberless visits I have invariably experienced the greatest respect from every one, and not a single oath or harsh word have I ever heard uttered by any workman employed at the building; the greatest harmony seems to pervade all classes. The great difficulty of obtaining the full supply of water necessary for so large a building and so many inmates has at last been surmounted; the boring has been carried to the depth of nearly 300 feet in addition to the previous digging of 200, making a total depth of nearly 500 feet, and a sufficient spring now appears to have been tapped.

"After the contractor and engineer have finished their work, there will still remain an immensity of labour in the furnishing and fitting up the interior, before the great majority of our patients can be removed. Many articles of furniture, such as bedsteads, tables, &c., have been already made and are ready for use, and a sufficient stock of clothes for both males and females is provided.

"The laying out the grounds, airing courts, &c., can be principally done after the asylum is inhabited, and this will provide our inmates with work for some considerable period, and be a means of saving a large sum of money."—*Mr. Symes, Report of the Medical Superintendent of the Dorset Lunatic Asylum, Forston, for the year* 1862.

5. *Utilization of Asylum Sewage.*

"The subject of the proper disposal of the sewage has engaged the close attention of successive meetings of the committee of visitors and of the house committee. The discharge of the sewage

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into the neighbouring brook had led to complaints, the occasion for which, it was felt, should, if possible, be removed. A plan, which has been adopted elsewhere, for discharging the contents of the sewers on a part of the farm, to be laid down in grass, has been favorably entertained by the visitors. It has been proposed to pump up the liquid by a water-wheel, turned by a spring, conveniently situated within the limits of the farm. The execution of this plan has been suspended, but only for the present, in consequence of some doubt being entertained as to the sufficiency of the water power. In the mean time there is no resource but to carry out as sedulously as possible the filtration and deodorization of the sewage in the tanks already erected for this purpose."—*Dr. Thurnam, Twelfth Annual Report of the Medical Superintendent of the Wilts Lunatic Asylum, Devizes, for the year* 1862.

"The old absorbing-tank in the adjoining field having failed to carry off the sewage from the asylum—the liquid having overflowed, and formed, in effect, a large open cesspool on the surface of the ground—has become a great nuisance to the neighbourhood, and endangers the health of the asylum. The superintendent, acting under the instructions of the visitors, who had the subject under their consideration, took great pains to ascertain what is being done with sewage in the county asylums and other large institutions in different parts of the country, and also to make himself acquainted with the views of practical men on the subject. He also visited the Wellington College, and inspected the sewage-works successfully carried out there, on the plan of the late Prince Consort, by Mr. Menzies, Deputy Surveyor of Woods and Forests. The results of these inquiries were embodied in a special report to the visitors. Mr. Menzies subsequently visited the asylum, and submitted an interesting and almost exhaustive report, pointing out the measures required to meet the difficulty; and supplied detailed plans and specifications of the filtering-tank, which forms the basis of his method. These having been approved at the last quarterly meeting, the sluice-cocks and valves have been obtained, and the work can now be proceeded with at any time. The only objectionable circumstance now left in connection with the sewage is that the limited extent of the estate in the direction of the main drain prevents the placing of the filtering tank so far off from the building as is desirable."—*Dr. Palmer, Tenth Annual Report of the Lincolnshire Lunatic Asylum, Bracebridge,* 1863.

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