

for the more speedy and extended adoption of the means for the special treatment of incipient disorder by hospitals and reception houses, which afford the best hope of making any marked progress in the prevention of insanity.

New (Ninth) Asylum for London.

“The cry is still they come,” and speculation tries in vain to foresee the end of the procession.

In the new annual report of the London Asylums Committee just published it is stated that “as a result of the report ⁽¹⁾ of the asylums’ engineer (Mr. Clifford Smith) we shall in due course recommend that the ninth asylum be a modified form of the villa type. The preliminary plans, etc., in connection therewith will be prepared by the asylums’ engineer, the Council having voted a sum of £1000 for this purpose, but until they are completed we are unable to give particulars as to accommodation or an estimate of the cost.”

The issue of the plans will be awaited by the specialty with considerable interest, although the general arrangement of the new asylum may be imagined from the description of its being of the modified villa type, in the light of the engineer’s very lucid report.

The estimate of cost will also be awaited with interest; it will be disappointing if an institution on such lines cannot be provided at a cost very greatly below that which has been attained in previous asylums.

⁽¹⁾ Elsewhere alluded to in this issue of the JOURNAL.

Insanity in Jerusalem.

The letter published in “Notes and News,” from the Superintendent of the English Hospital in Jerusalem, draws attention to the want of provision for the enlightened treatment of the insane, as well as to an interesting instance of maltreatment.

The Christian (?) belief that insanity is due to possession by evil spirits, etc., led to much if not all of the barbarous maltreatment of the mentally afflicted throughout Christendom