

tions of the different parts of the nervous system, embodies most of the most recent additions to our knowledge of complex and difficult subjects regarding which knowledge is constantly changing.

Parliamentary Blue Book. Judicial Statistics of England and Wales, for 1871.

The first part of the last issue of the Judicial Statistics deals with the Police, Criminal Proceedings, and Prisons. We find that in the year 1871 our persons and our property in England and Wales had for their protection a force of police and constabulary numbering 27,425. Comparing the increase of the police and constabulary for the previous ten years with that of the population for the same period, the former is found to exceed the latter by 15 per cent.

It is undoubtedly satisfactory to find that the total number of the criminal classes for 1870-71, as compared with that for 1869-70, had decreased by 2843, or 5·3 per cent.; more especially as this follows a decrease of 1,262 or 2·3 per cent. in the total for 1869-70, as compared with 1868-69. The criminal classes are reckoned up under the three heads of known thieves and depredators, receivers of stolen goods, and suspected persons; the rule being to exclude from the list individuals known to have been living honestly for one year at least subsequently to their discharge after any conviction. The total number of the criminal classes for 1870-71 was 50,144, of whom 6,788 were under 16 years of age, and 11,228 were females. This total does not include criminals confined in prisons and reformatories, who numbered for the year 31,071—so that the grand total of criminals and the criminal classes reaches 81,215.

The proportion of police to those of the criminal classes at large, taken on these figures, would be as 5 to 9; and with this relation between the two, we find that the apprehensions in 1870-71 were in the proportion of 52·9 per cent. to the number of crimes committed; the highest proportion in any year having been 58·2 per cent. in 1862-63.

The total number of indictable offences shows a decrease of 6,823, or 13·1 per cent. as compared with the previous year. The following condensed table shows the numbers of the more interesting crimes for three successive years:—

CRIMES.	1870-71.	1869-70.	1868-69.
Murder.....	130	101	151
Manslaughter.....	273	219	236
Attempts to Murder, Assaults, Shooting, &c.	1180	1282	1525
Rape, Unnatural and Indecent Offences ...	695	727	683
Concealment of Birth	138	164	178
Cattle, Horse, and Sheep Stealing.....	694	923	981
Robberies and Attempts with Violence ...	518	630	716
Burglary and Attempts	3635	4464	5212
Larcenies	31413	36103	40827
Arson	310	449	
Attempting Suicide	726	779	

In summary convictions there was an increase of 4.6 per cent. upon the previous year.

Suicides.—In 1871 there were 1464 suicides (391 females), being a decrease of 53 upon the previous year. There has been a marked, though not progressive, increase in the number of suicides during the past four years, the annual average for that time being 1498, as against an annual average of 1354 for the preceding seven years.

In 1871, 13 persons, two of whom were females, were convicted of murder. The number of executions was four, the smallest on record for any year.

Criminal Lunatics.—The total number under detention during the year ending with Sept., 1871, was 862 (679 males and 183 females), an increase of 74 upon the previous year. Of these 862, 524 were confined in the State Asylum at Broadmoor, 243 in County Asylums, the rest being distributed among City and Borough Asylums and Licensed Houses.

Of the whole number during the year, 34 died, 29 were discharged on becoming sane, 16 were removed sane for trial or punishment, and 6 escaped. There was no suicide among them during the year.

The number and the proportion per cent. for various offences in the case of those under detention were as follows:—

Murder, 173 (20.1 p. c.)	} 6 (.7 p. c.)
Concealment of Birth and Infanticide.	
Attempts to Murder, Stabbing, &c., and Manslaughter.	} 148 (17.2 p. c.)

Rape, Unnatural and Indecent Offences. } 35 (4.0 p. c.)
Larceny and Petty Theft, 191 (22.1 p. c.)
Burglary and Housebreaking, 48 (5.6 p. c.)
Arson and other malicious offences, 57 (6.6 p. c.)
Vagrancy, 18 (2.1 p. c.)
Other Offences, 186 (21.6 p. c.)

The following shows the original judgments or orders for detention, and the proportion per cent. :—

Found Insane, 186 (21.6 p. c.)
Acquitted Insane, 242 (28.1 p. c.)
Insane, committed by Justices, 48 (5.5 p. c.)
Convicts becoming insane after trial } 386 (44.8 p. c.)

PART III.—PSYCHOLOGICAL RETROSPECT.

1. *French Retrospect.*

On the Nomenclature and Classification of Mental Diseases.

By Dr. ACH. FOVILLE, FILS.*

(*Abstract by* Dr. T. W. McDOWALL.)

The nomenclature and classification of mental diseases are among the most important and most difficult of medico-psychological studies, and it is upon these subjects that physicians devoted to this speciality are most exercised. As Buchez has said, "When they consider that they have completed their studies, rhetoricians write a tragedy, and alienists arrange a classification." But this multiplicity of attempts is of itself the best proof that the task has not yet been accomplished, for none of the proposed classifications have been accepted by the generality of practitioners.

In attempting to obtain a classification free from the faults of those already in existence numerous difficulties are encountered. We have to contend against the imperfections of language. Unfortunately almost all the words which are employed in the nomenclature of mental diseases have received, from very early times, acceptations variable or even contradictory. Others of these words have, in ordinary language, meanings which do not at all agree with their medical significations. As with the word insanity, so with the names of its principal forms, mania, melancholia, monomania, and dementia; they are used in an inexact manner and with varying comprehensiveness.

* This paper appeared in the "Annales Médico-psychologiques" for July, 1872.