

THE STATISTICAL TABLES.

In view of the preparation of the Statistical Tables of the British asylums, we would call the attention of superintendents to the remarks made at the annual meeting at Glasgow by several speakers at the time they were adopted. We refer more especially to the hope then expressed that in using these tables the superintendents would carefully note any objections and difficulties which the attempt to carry them into practice may involve, and forward them to the Statistical Committee, of which Dr. Rayner is the secretary. By this means a future annual meeting will be able to decide on the recommendation of the Committee whether the new tables are workable, and should be continued in their present form or somewhat modified.

It may be well to point out that any superintendent who has been accustomed to make more numerous tables than those of the Association, is in nowise debarred continuing to do so by the adoption of the new forms. Such *supplementary* tables will possess great value, and not interfere with the uniformity of the other tables. All that is asked is that superintendents shall not give *less* than is called for by the new tables, and shall adopt their *numeration*.

NOTES OF AUTOPSY HELD UPON THE BODY OF CHARLES J. GUTEAU.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE MEDICAL RECORD," N.Y.

SIR,—As requested by you, we enclose preliminary notes of the autopsy held upon the body of Guiteau. The examination was made under the direction of Dr. Lamb, U.S.A., to whose courtesy we are indebted. Each physician present was left at liberty to make his own notes and observations. Those enclosed are compiled equally from notes independently taken by us. We were greatly assisted also by Dr. Chas. K. Mills, of Philadelphia.

Dr. Lamb will publish, later, a full report, which this does not forestall, but to which it is, as stated, simply preliminary.

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CHAS. L. DANA, M.D.

New York City, July 5, 1882.

The post-mortem was held about three-quarters of an hour after death.

SKULL AND BRAIN.

The Skull.—The most noticeable asymmetry was a slight flattening of the upper and anterior part of the right parietal bone. The flattening ended sharply at the coronal suture. It included a space about half the size of the palm of the hand. Other points of asymmetry were not sufficiently noticeable to be studied with the means at our command.

The cranial sutures were distinct. There was no visible trace of a frontal suture, the two halves of the frontal bone being thoroughly welded. On the inner surface of the skull the bony prominences were well-marked; also the pacchionian depressions. No abnormalities were discovered. There was a slight prominence corresponding to the flattening of the parietal bone before mentioned.

The thickness of the skull was not measured, owing to lack of facilities. An attempt was made to measure its cubic contents, but it failed for the same reason. As regards thickness there was no striking abnormality at least.

The relative size of the fossæ could not be accurately determined at the time of autopsy.

Brain membranes.—The dura mater was quite strongly adherent in places to the inner surface of the skull. Near the trunks of the middle meningeal arteries upon each side the membrane was thickened and strongly adherent to the bone, though it could be stripped clean. It was also adherent near the