

*The After-Care Association.*

The annual meeting of this Association was held at the house of Dr. Sainsbury (the son-in-law of the late Dr. Hack Tuke), under the presidency of the Bishop of St. Albans. His lordship, who had prepared himself for his duties by a visit to the Claybury Asylum, spoke most forcibly in favour of the Association, and made an eloquent appeal for the extension of its work.

The Association has continued to increase in the number of persons aided and in the efficiency of its aid. Branch Associations are being formed in various parts of the country, and will, no doubt, add in course of time to the numbers of persons assisted.

In many asylums offertories and collection-boxes have been established during the year, and these will probably add something to the income of the Association, which is still quite inadequate to the possibilities of its usefulness. The Association, however, differs from most charitable undertakings in not being in debt; it is hoped that this may be held to be, not a defect, but a merit.

The evidence of the good work done in the prevention of relapse is yearly increasing, and should, apart from other considerations, constitute a strong recommendation to asylum superintendents to support, encourage, and improve this charitable effort.

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*Table IV.*

Dr. Rayner's criticism of the table that I proposed to substitute for that of the Statistical Committee is very humiliating to me. That the table fell short of complete perfection I had some suspicion. I even attempted, in a subsequent communication, to repair some of its defects. That exception might be taken to its details, to its general arrangement, to the principles on which it was founded; that it might be discovered to be incomplete, erroneous, misleading, and generally vicious—for all this I was prepared. But I did hope I had made myself intelligible. Alas! even this shred of comfort is reft from me. I explained, at some length, that the objects I was endeavouring to classify were cases of insanity. Dr. Rayner accuses me of