hospitals out of a total average population during the last biennial period, of fourteen hundred and twenty-nine, a little less than one and four-tenths per cent. The percentage of insanity in the state is $\frac{1}{100}$ per cent.

Transitory Insanity. By Dr. C. H. HUGHES (*Alienist and Neurologists*, October, 1885,) reports the case of a thirty-three-year-old physician, resident of a Kansas city, who was much overworked professionally, this overwork resulting in insomnia, for which chloroform was taken. He started to Washington with some friends. When twelve hours from home he imagined that he emitted a fœtid odor, and stopped off at Kansas City in consequence. He was brought to St. Louis the following day, by two friends. On the way he manifested persecutory delusions, made an attack on his friends, and was in consequence lodged in jail, where he had a profound night's sleep, followed by recovery the next day. In many features the case resembles those described by Kiernan, (*JOURNAL OF NERVOUS AND MENTAL DISEASE*, 1880,) Brush (*American Journal of Insanity*, 1882-3,) and Schwartz (Die Transitor. Tobsucht). From a forensic standpoint it is of decided value and interest.

Puerperal Insanity. By Dr. WIGGLESWORTH (*Journal of Mental Science*, April, 1886,) discussed seventy-three cases of puerperal insanity, which came under his observation. Puerperal insanity was looked upon as a genus of which the insanities of pregnancy, parturition, and lactation were the species. Dr. Wigglesworth described ten cases of the first class, thirty-one of the second, and thirty-two of the third. Insanity of pregnancy was the least frequent and least curable of the three varieties, the psychosis developed late rather than early in gestation. The influence of parturition was not immediately beneficial, in some cases having opposite effect; mania was as frequent as melancholia. The second variety—insanity of parturition—occurred most frequently in primiparæ, and in the great majority of cases commenced in the first weeks after parturition; mania was more frequent than melancholia. The percentage of recoveries was high. There was nothing peculiar in the mental symptoms taken by themselves. The third variety—the insanity of lactation—had the highest recovery rate; first lactations were not specially liable to insanity, the psychosis commenced early rather than late in lactation; melancholia was more frequent than mania. Prognosis was least favorable in insanity of pregnancy, and most in that of lactation, as shown in the following percentages:

	PREGNANCY.	PARTURITION.	LACTATION.
Recovery rate	60	74	85.7
Death rate	20	14.8	7.1
Incurable rate	20	11.1	7.1
Average duration of recovered cases	1 year.	8 4-5 mos.	7 1-4 mos.

It will be obvious that the same elements of error exist here as in the researches of Schmidt.

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