### PLAIN TALK ABOUT INSANITY: ITS CAUSES, FORMS, SYMPTOMS, AND THE TREATMENT OF MENTAL DISEASES

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Plain Talk About Insanity: Its Causes, Forms, Symptoms, and the Treatment of Mental Diseases by T. W. Fisher

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T. W. FISHER

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Trieste

#### PLAIN TALK

## ABOUT INSANITY:

ITS CAUSES, FORMS, SYMPTOMS,

AND THE

TREATMENT OF MENTAL DISEASES.

WITH REMARKS ON

HOSPITALS AND ASYLUMS,

AND THE

MEDICO-LEGAL ASPECT OF INSANITY.

BY

T. W. FISHER, M.D.,

LATE OF THE BOSTON HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE.



ALEXANDER MOORE.

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#### PREFACE.

POPULAR medical writings are, as a rule, harmful, from the dangerous self-confidence a superficial knowledge inspires. With respect to Insanity, much preventible suffering exists, from the tendency to experiment with a disease of the brain, requiring, of all others, the most patient and skilful attention of the physician. No encouragement to such experiments on the part of friends, or public officers, will be found here. The medical profession alone can furnish suitable guardianship for the insane.

It seems, however, desirable to exhibit Insanity in its true light, as a disease, not only for the sake of encouraging well-directed efforts for its cure, but for its prevention. In some of its aspects, it is also a legitimate subject of popular interest and inquiry. It is hoped the views expressed in the following pages will commend themselves to the common-sense of the reader.

T. W. FISHER.

171 WARREN AVENUE. BOSTON, February, 1872.

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