

manded the sacrifice, that they consented to a post mortem, witnessed by, and its developments confirmed by, all the local physicians.

That Mayor Beatty's death was the result, directly or indirectly, of the brutal treatment he received is the conviction of those familiar with all the circumstances. The certificate of death gives the cause as acute insanity, chronic bronchitis and chronic nephritis and exhaustion. The autopsy reveals that five of the man's ribs were badly fractured, the third and fourth ribs on the left side and the fifth, sixth and seventh ribs on the right side, and the broken ribs had penetrated the pleura. The cause of death, as revealed by the autopsy, was traumatic pneumonia; in other words, pneumonia from injury. The ribs were removed and remain as silent and indisputable evidence of the brutality to which the man was subjected.

A rigid investigation must follow, and to secure this investigation, which humanity demands, it ought not to be necessary to bring criminal proceedings. The statement of the president of the Board of Managers that the matter was closed with the report of the Asylum Committee of the Warren County Board of Freeholders was undoubtedly made before the weakness of that report was demonstrated. Dr. Evans' last statement is neither courteous or creditable. The facts will not down; the evidence in the hands of the local authorities is over-whelming and must be disproved.

So much for the honored citizen who in sorrow was laid away in God's acre last Tuesday; but his fellow-citizens owe his memory more than honor. They owe it to him and to humanity to get before the public, the State authorities and the courts, if may be, the brutality that may in a very large measure be responsible for his death, and secure, if possible, the punishment of the man or men directly and officially responsible.

It was on the 21 day of January that Mr. Beatty was turned over to the authorities of the Morris Plains Hospital, and within a short time after his acceptance as a patient it is alleged that this mentally irresponsible man was most cruelly and shamefully beaten. The next day his daughter, who had come out from New York, found her father in adhesive bands and suffering great agony. The doctor, to whom she appealed, admitted that his ribs had been fractured, but thereafter all sources of information were closed, beyond the vehement declaration of the medical authorities that the man had not been abused in the institution or that his injuries were of a serious character. The vehemence of the denials actually became offensive as the charges became more specific. A Morris-town physician was called in to examine the patient weeks later, and he certified there was no evidence of the man having been injured or roughly handled. "I could not discover that Mr. Beatty had been injured, and certainly none of his ribs had been broken," certified Dr. Douglas. The matter was forced on the attention of the Board of Freeholders, and in response to public demand they sent a special committee to the hospital to make an investigation and their report makes an interesting exhibit in this story:

PHILLIPSBURG, N. J., Jan. 16, 1906.

DR. D. B. EVANS,

Medical Director, State Hospital:

Dear Sir—At a meeting of the Warren County Asylum Committee that visited the State Hospital yesterday to make inquiry as to the reported assault upon Jacob H. Beatty, an inmate from Hackettstown, N. J., with the County Physician, Dr. L. B. Douglass, who made a careful examination, find that the reported injuries to Jacob H. Beatty are only imaginary and without cause, and we further find that the patient received careful and humane treatment.

Signed:

JOSEPH R. THATCHER,

WILLIAM C. DERRITT,

GUSTAVE A. BOLIM,

P. S. HARTUNG,

HIRAM FRANK,

MICHAEL KINNEY,

Chairman.

This report, together with the statement of Dr. Douglass, was given wide-