

Park. M., 'Mania of Vanity', *British Journal of Psychiatry*, 207' 1, July 2015,
cover and p.1.

Psychiatry in Pictures feature in the *British Journal of Psychiatry*



Front cover image for July 2015

Artist: William Bartholomew (1819-1881)

Image: *Mania of Vanity*

Date and size: 1854-5, 76 x 56 cm

Medium and support: pen and ink, with pencil underdrawing, on paper

Credit line: Courtesy of The University of Edinburgh Art Collection

Inside text:

Mania of Vanity

This striking portrait represents Mary Lawrie, a patient at the Southern Counties' Asylum, the pauper section of Crichton Royal Hospital in Dumfries. The wife of a shepherd, she was admitted in February 1840; the cause of her 'mania of vanity' was given as the birth of a child. Often violent, but by nature good-humoured and 'correct', she died in February 1873. It is one of eleven surviving patient drawings commissioned by Crichton's Medical Superintendent, Dr W. A. F. Browne (1805-1885), to illustrate his 1854-5 series of lectures on 'the physiognomy of different forms of insanity'. The artist was his patient William Bartholomew (1819-1881), an Edinburgh hatter and engraver who came to Crichton in September 1853 suffering from 'acute mania'. This drawing is included in the new exhibition '*A Hidden Gem: Dr W. A. F. Browne's Collection of Patient Art at Crichton Royal Hospital, Dumfries*' at Gracefield Arts Centre, Dumfries, 18 July-22 August 2015.

(153 words)

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