

OBITUARY.

JOHN DAVIES CLEATON.

Mr. John Davies Cleaton, who died on the 21st of August after a long illness, was a familiar figure to asylum superintendents. Born in 1825 at Llanidloes, in Montgomeryshire, educated at Shrewsbury, commencing his medical curriculum at the infirmary of that town, and completing it at Guy's Hospital, he became a M.R.C.S.Eng. in 1850, and was appointed assistant medical officer to the County Asylum at Lancaster. Presently promoted to be medical superintendent of the Rainhill Asylum, and subsequently of that for the West Riding at Wakefield, he devoted himself, with the great energy and administrative capacity which were his, to the development of those institutions, and to the general amelioration of the condition and treatment of the insane. In 1866 he was selected by the Lord Chancellor for the appointment to a Commissionership in Lunacy in succession to Mr. Gaskell, and for upwards of twenty-seven years he devoted all his energy and capacity to the discharge of the duties of that office. In this position he at once made his mark, securing both the esteem and affectionate regard of his colleagues and the confidence and respect of asylum officials of all classes. For he was justly regarded as a man of fair mind, sound judgment, kindly disposition, sterling common sense, and intimate acquaintance with all the details of his work. In 1894 failure of health compelled his resignation of the active duties of a paid commissionership, but up to the time of his death he retained his seat at the Board as an honorary Commissioner in Lunacy.

ARTHUR LAW WADE.

The members of our Association will learn with regret of the death in the prime of life of Dr. Law Wade, Medical Superintendent of the Somerset and Bath Asylum, Wells, on July 5th, in the fifty-fourth year of his age. Dr. Wade was the only son of the Rev. Benjamin Wade, Chancellor of Armagh Cathedral. He was a graduate in Arts and Medicine of Dublin, where he received the degree of M.D. in 1873. He was for a short time Medical Officer at the Royal Isle of Wight Infirmary, and afterwards held successively the posts of Senior Assistant Medical Officer to the Warwick and Barming Heath Asylums, and also for some time at the Private Asylum, Laverstock House, Salisbury. In 1881 Dr. Wade was appointed Medical Superintendent of the Somerset and Bath Asylum, Wells, and those who knew this asylum previous to his tenure of office and have seen it recently will readily bear testimony to the many and great improvements effected mainly through his energy and perseverance. Few are the asylums in this country where greater efforts have been made to bring an old building up to the standard of modern requirements, and in all this good work Dr. Wade was the main and moving spirit. He was passionately fond of his work, and though he did not do much by way of contributing papers to the journals, Dr. Wade was the happy possessor of a well-stored mind of much special, general, and useful information, and of late years he had become a most regular attendant at the meetings of the South-western Division. He had a great personality, which nowhere showed itself so much as at the home of his twenty years' labours. Dr. Wade at one time took a prominent part in Freemasonry circles, and in 1886-7 was the W.M. of Benevolent Lodge No. 446 (Wells), and was Provincial Grand S.D. in 1888. He was also first Principal of the Royal Arch Masons in 1890. Probably on account of his family connection with the Church he was much attached to the city of Wells, and in no line of thought was he more fluent than on the history and development of Church matters. His geniality and urbanity will be much missed by the citizens of Wells, and it is not too much to say that his loss will be sincerely regretted throughout the county. His keen interest in all Church matters and his prominent position in Freemasonry brought him into contact with a wide circle of friends, to whom his sudden death will come as a shock, but the keenest note of real regret comes from the institution where he had spent the best years of his all too short life. For many years of his life Dr. Wade was urging his committee to provide a suitable detached residence for the Medical Superintendent, and it seems but another of the cruel accidents of fate that in this very residence Dr. Wade had resided but for the short space of four weeks prior to his