

had a contracture into the palm of the 3rd and 4th fingers of the right hand. His right leg was wasted and rigid and he complained of great pain on attempts being made to flex it. Patellar reflex is equal on both sides, but exaggerated.

He improved mentally rapidly and was discharged on November 18th, 1896. His arm and leg had improved greatly. He could use his hand and was able to walk without help, although both limbs were still very weak.

The case seems peculiar from the fact that the hysteria occurred in a man of 45, who had always led an active life and was to all appearances of anything but a hysterical temperament.

OCCASIONAL NOTES OF THE QUARTER.

The Diamond Jubilee.

The notable event of the year, which is now holding the attention of loyal subjects of Her Gracious Majesty, even in the uttermost ends of the earth, marks for us, too, a Diamond Jubilee. Sixty years ago, in March, 1837, Mr. Gardiner Hill recorded the use of mechanical restraint for the last time in the Lincoln Asylum; and what had been thus successfully inaugurated by Dr. Charlesworth and Mr. Hill was completed and established by Dr. Conolly, who was appointed physician at Hanwell in 1839. The Victorian epoch will ever be held memorable as a period of expansion. The forces liberated at the close of the eighteenth century, marked in psychiatric medicine by the names of Tuke and Pinel, gathered in strength of purpose in philanthropic and scientific endeavour. The Queen and the Royal Family have lent all the weight of their influence to further well-considered measures for the amelioration of the people. To this last it is the afflicted and the suffering who gain the sympathy of Her Majesty; and the tribute of the people is rendered not unto Cæsar, but to the poor who are Cæsar's care.

We need not recapitulate the history of our department on this occasion. In spite of unworthy detraction, and ill-informed criticism, the work of the past sixty years stands a monumental record of patient toil and splendid achievement. We may freely admit that much has yet to be done, and even doubt the possibility of the perfection of the species. But

when we reflect upon the vast, the fundamental change which cannot but be evident upon the most casual survey of the whole conception and treatment of insanity, beneficent in intention, and increasingly successful in results, we cannot but take credit for our predecessors and for those who yet live to labour.

We venerate the memory of Lord Shaftesbury, leader of men in the long and stubborn campaign against ignorance and prejudice, the intimate history of which is in danger of oblivion. When that true statesman last came among us, then as ever a friend and counsellor, he contrasted the state of lunacy in 1881 as compared with 1828. He called to mind the utter and complete ignorance of the earlier times, when the lunatic was looked upon as beyond cure and care, and said "When I see and know that there is an Association formed like this, and that medical men are devoting their attention so much, *and more than ever*, to the subject, I think there are very great hopes indeed for the future." These are weighty words, uttered in the evening of life, by one who was emphatically a man of the age. It is for us to verify these hopes, to fulfil these high expectations.

Certificated Attendants and the Royal British Nursing Association.

The number of attendants possessing the Certificate of our Association has now reached two thousand five hundred, there is every probability that this number will be very largely added to as time passes, and the status conferred by the certificate in relation to Asylum Committees is already assured, as evidenced by the increased pay and other advantages given to its possessors in many institutions.

The relation of these certificated attendants to the public, however, remains yet to be established, and the importance of the first steps in this practically new relationship cannot be too strongly insisted on or too carefully weighed by the members of our Association. Dr. Outterson Wood's paper on this matter, in which he has taken so active an interest, (published in this issue of the Journal), draws attention very opportunely to this question.

The mental nurse in private practice has not hitherto, as a rule, possessed such training as the certificated nurses now have, and as a result much mental nursing has been done by the hospital trained nurses. The latter have, therefore, a