

in years, his health had, for a considerable time previous to his death, been very delicate.

Dr. Maclaren was born at Ashby-de-la-Zouch in 1849, and was educated at the High School of Edinburgh, and afterwards at the University of Edinburgh. After qualifying as a medical practitioner he received the appointment of Resident Physician in the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Edinburgh. In 1873 Dr. Clouston, who had just then been elected to the post of Physician Superintendent of the Royal Edinburgh Asylum, appointed Mr. Maclaren to the position of Junior Assistant Physician in that asylum. He and Dr. Clouston entered upon their respective duties on the same day.

Psychological research at Morningside was then rising to its zenith, having received a great impetus from the untiring energy and attainments of Dr. Clouston. The enthusiasm thus instilled into the work was catching, and Dr. Maclaren was not behind in contributing papers of much value clinically. It was just at this time that a new tide of reform was beginning to manifest itself in Scotch lunacy by the reconstruction and remodelling of asylums, and by more liberal and humane methods in the treatment of patients.

In Dr. Maclaren's case the many changes carried out at Morningside were not thrown away upon him or forgotten. When, in 1876, he was appointed to the post of Superintendent of the Stirling District Asylum, he found that the buildings were too small to accommodate the increased and increasing number of patients. With a boldness which afterwards redounded to his credit he removed all corridors and partitions within the buildings, which widened the wards from outer wall to outer wall. The effect of this change was such that all communication from the wards to the dining hall and the administrative part of the asylum was through the wards themselves.

The disadvantages arising from such an arrangement were soon lost sight of in the increased space and freedom afforded to the patients.

In 1882 he was called upon to assist in erecting an adjunct to the present asylum, to contain about 150 patients. This is a modern and most useful building, and combines comfort and economy in its construction.

In his own neighbourhood Dr. Maclaren was very well known and much esteemed. His services were much in demand in the way of presiding at public meetings and in giving addresses. He was a fluent, graceful, and cultured speaker. He was elected the first President of the Stirling Branch of the British Medical Association, which was formed this year.

He contributed many papers to the Medical Journals, chiefly on Chorea, Impulsive Insanity, Epilepsy and Insanity, Infantile Paralysis, and General Paralysis.

He leaves behind him a widow and two young daughters.

COMMISSIONER IN LUNACY.

In consequence of the resignation of Dr. Rhys Williams from failing health a vacancy occurred in May in the Lunacy Commission. We cannot allow the occasion to pass without tendering to Dr. Williams our sympathy in his enforced retirement from a post which he has filled in a manner so satisfactory both to the medical officers of asylums and to those having charge of single patients. His successor is Dr. Thomas Clifford Allbutt, F.R.S., M.A., LL.D., J.P. for West Riding of Yorkshire, Consulting Physician to the Leeds General Infirmary.
