

DR. KANDYNSKI.

Dr. W. Ch. Kandynski died at St. Petersburg on the 15th of July, 1889, in the fortieth year of his age.* Kandynski came of a family of Siberian merchants who had been reduced from affluence to poverty by unfortunate undertakings. It was through great struggles and privations that he completed his studies at Moscow. He became Doctor of Medicine in 1872. After some years in a hospital at Moscow, he became surgeon in the Russian Navy, and served in the Black Sea during the Turkish War. After this he became insane, and remained in an asylum for two years. His recovery seemed largely due to his earnest and pertinacious struggles with his own hallucinations and delusions. The record of his example shows how much a man may do to cure himself of insanity. After his recovery he devoted himself to the study of psychiatry. In a paper on "Hallucinations," published in the "Archiv für Psychiatrie" (B. xi., Heft 2),† he portrays with a wonderful blending of graphic power and analytical skill the hallucinations and delusions that beset him. This was followed by a pamphlet entitled, "Kritische und Klinische Betrachtungen im Gebiete der Sinnestäuschungen" (Critical and Clinical Views Concerning the Delusions of the Senses), Berlin, 1885. Nothing more vivid and original than Dr. Kandynski's descriptions have passed my hands since I undertook the task of writing the German Retrospects for this Journal, now sixteen years ago. These works, which attracted much attention in Germany, are very worthy of translation into English. Besides this, Dr. Kandynski wrote in Russian a "Historical Survey of the Conceptions about the Soul in Man and Animals," "On Nervous and Psychic Contagion," and several other papers. He also translated into Russian Wundt's "Principles of Physiology" and Meynert's work on the "Mechanism of Mental Action." In 1881 Kandynski became a supernumerary assistant in the Asylum of St. Nicholas, and in 1885 he gained by competition the place of Senior Superintendent. He worked with unflinching diligence till the end. His last manuscript closes with the words, "I can write no more, for I see no more clearly. Light, light!" He had laid out for himself a place where he wished to be buried, to which he was borne on the shoulders of his colleagues and the staff of the asylum. We are told by the writer of the notice, Dr. A. Rothe, that not only was Kandynski a man of great scientific attainments and originality of mind, but that he had a warm and feeling heart, and sought through his own sufferings to relieve the miseries of others.—W. W. IRELAND.

Appointments.

CAMPBELL, A. W., Junior Assistant Medical Officer to Salop and Montgomery Asylum.

COURTNEY, E. MAZIERE, M.B., M.Ch., Inspector of Irish Lunatic Asylums.

FARMER, F. R., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Assistant Medical Officer to Fisherton House Asylum, Salisbury.

GOODALL, E., M.D., B.S.Lond., M.R.C.P., Pathologist to West Riding Asylum, Wakefield.

GOODWIN, W., M.B., C.M.Aberd., Senior Resident Medical Officer to Joint Counties Asylum, Carmarthen.

GRIFFIN, L. T., L.R.C.P.Lond., L.R.C.S.I., Resident Physician to Killarney District Lunatic Asylum.

NASH, VINCENT, M.D., Resident Assistant Medical Superintendent to Richmond Asylum.

O'FARRELL, G. P., M.D., T.C.D., M.R.C.S.Eng., Commissioner of Control in Lunacy, *vice* Dr. Hatch.

PEARSON, WM., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.Ed., Assistant Medical Officer to Norwich City Asylum.

WOOD, OSCAR, B.A., M.D.Dub., Medical Superintendent to Cork District Asylum.

* See the "Allgemeine Zeitschrift für Psychiatrie" (xlv. Band, 2 Heft).

† See German Retrospect in this Journal for October, 1881.