

observations relative to the influence of Typhoid Fever on insane patients; and was one of those who produced the *Handbook for Attendants* in 1885. A noteworthy feature of his rule at Murthly was the institution of a school for the patients, managed by the neighbouring schoolmaster in such a way as to really interest those for whom the benefit was intended. His able administration of the Perth District Asylum was duly recognised by the District Lunacy Board entering on their minutes their appreciation of his services and the regret with which they had received the intimation of his death, which occurred at Edinburgh on the 20th June, 1896.

---

DR. FRANÇOIS SEMAL.

Dr. François Semal, the celebrated Medical Superintendent of the State Hospital for Insane Women at Mons, who died the 16th of May, 1896, was born at Brussels the 20th December, 1835. He took his diploma in 1860 and entered the Belgian Army. Soon afterwards he gave proof of his great mental activity, and was presented at the Exhibition of Hygiene of London with a diploma of honour for his study of epidemic diseases. In consequence of his careful treatment of patients suffering from cholera at Antwerp, he received Stars of the Orders of Belgium, Prussia and Holland.

In 1869, Dr. Semal left the army and was at once appointed Medical Superintendent at the Asylum of Mons, where he remained for twenty-seven years. In the same year was created the "Société de Médecine Mentale," of which he was an original member, and he took a great part in the discussions of that learned body. Its Bulletins contain many important original papers by Dr. Semal, while others were rewarded by the Royal Academy of Medicine of Belgium and the "Association Medico-psychologique de Paris." In 1873, Dr. Semal took an active part in the reform of the Belgian Lunacy Law.

The rebuilding and reorganisation of the asylum at Mons, was presided over by Dr. Semal, and the admirable character of this institution deserves the recognition of foreign alienists.

We understand that a full account of his life and work is shortly to appear, and express the regret of this Association at the loss of so distinguished an honorary member.

---

NOTICES OF MEETINGS.

*South-Western Division.*—The Autumn Meeting of this Division will be held at Fisherton House, Salisbury on the afternoon of Tuesday, October 20th. A discussion will be opened on "Constipation in the Insane."

*Scottish Division.*—The next Meeting will be held in Edinburgh on Thursday, 12th November, 1896.

The next *General Meeting* will be held on Thursday, November 19th, at the Rooms of the Association, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square. W.

---

APPOINTMENTS.

*Aberdeen University Court.*—MR. GEORGE FREDERICK STOUT, Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, and Editor of *Mind*, has been appointed the Anderson Lecturer on Comparative Psychology in the University of Aberdeen on the terms recently mentioned in the columns of the *Lancet*.

*Grahamstown Asylum, S. Africa.*—DR. CHARLES G. CASSIDY has been appointed Assistant Medical Officer, *vice* Dr. Walter Adam, resigned.