

general paralysis at the Asylum at Colaba; neither can I call to mind any cases occurring among the European soldiers. These facts, in my opinion, scarcely bear out the remarks as to the causation of the disease.

Dr. CHRISTIE—I can quite confirm the last speaker as to the rarity of the disease in the army of India. I do not recollect more than one case being sent home, and in that one there was an hereditary taint.

Dr. GREENWAY was inclined to agree as to the cause of the disease being sexual indulgence, and stated he had met with two cases in which the patients were men of 60 years and upwards.

After a vote of thanks to the Chairman the meeting adjourned.

THE MEDICO-PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION—(IRISH BRANCH).

A meeting of the Irish members of the above Association was held in the King and Queen's College of Physicians, Kildare Street, Dublin, on the 9th of October, "with the view of organising an Irish Branch of the Association, to hold stated meetings during the year, as in England and Scotland, and for the transaction of general business connected with the interests, more especially, of the Irish associates."

Dr. DUNCAN, of Finglas, presided.

Other members present—Dr. Lalor, Medical Superintendent, Richmond Hospital for Insane; Dr. Loney, Assistant Medical Officer, ditto; Dr. MacCabe, Resident Physician, Dundrum Government Asylum for Criminal Insane; Dr. John Eustace, Dr. H. H. Stewart, Dublin; Dr. Robert Stewart, Belfast, Hospital for the Insane, Hon. Secretary for Ireland; Dr. Patton, Farnham House, Finglas.

Letters of apology were read from the following gentlemen who were unable to attend:—Dr. Merrick, Cork; Dr. R. P. Gilston, Clonmel; Mr. J. A. Blake, Dr. West, Omagh; Dr. Daxon, Ennis; Dr. M'Kinstry, Armagh; and Dr. Eames, Letterkenny.

Dr. R. STEWART, Hon. Secretary, read the circular convening the meeting, and observed that at the annual meeting of the Association, held in Edinburgh, the question was mooted as to the advisability of having quarterly meetings in Ireland, as they had in England and Scotland. According to the rules, quarterly meetings were held for the discussion of scientific subjects, having relation to the speciality of their profession. In conference with Dr. Lalor, so long a respected member of their profession, they had agreed that they should at all events have a beginning, and for that purpose the present meeting had assembled. If for no other reason, they should have stated meetings in order that they should have an opportunity of becoming acquainted with each other, for although he had been for a period of 30 years, and upwards, engaged in the treatment of the insane, he knew very few of his brethren personally. If there were meetings of this sort from time to time, the members of the profession would be brought together in friendly intercourse, and by talking together and comparing notes, a very beneficial result would be produced, not merely on themselves individually, but for the good of the afflicted class committed to their charge. He had expected that the present meeting would be larger, but there was a sufficient number present to form the nucleus of an efficient society for the purpose he had indicated.

The CHAIRMAN also regretted that the meeting was not better attended, but it was called for an hour when most of their brethren in the city were busily engaged. No doubt they were late in Ireland in commencing quarterly meetings, but it was only recently that they were instituted in England, and still more recently in Scotland. So that, although they in Ireland were behind in the matter, they were not very long behind. He was quite satisfied that the proposed meetings would be a source of pleasure and profit, while he was also sure that the papers that would be read, and the subsequent discussions that would take place, would be highly creditable to the Association. They would find that, the meetings once established, a large number of the profession would join them.

Dr. LALOR suggested that a committee should be appointed to arrange the details. They should appoint one of their younger members to assist Dr. Stewart, as the duties would be considerably increased.

After some discussion, in the course of which all the gentlemen present warmly concurred in the desirability of having the proposed meetings,

It was moved by Dr. LALOR, seconded by Dr. EUSTACE, and resolved,—“That we, the members of the Irish Branch of the Medico-Psychological Association, agree to organise ourselves for the purpose of holding stated meetings for the discussion of

scientific and other questions connected with our speciality, in the same way as our brethren in England and Scotland have been in the habit of doing."

Dr. MACCABE moved that Dr. Leney be requested to act as Assistant Secretary.

Dr. PATTON seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Drs. Eustace, Lalor, Duncan, and MacCabe were appointed a committee to fix the first day of meeting, and to arrange for papers.

A vote of thanks, on the motion of Dr. R. STEWART, was passed to the King and Queen's College of Physicians for their kindness and courtesy in granting the use of the room for the meeting.

Dr. Eustace having been called to the second chair,

A vote of thanks was conveyed to Dr. Duncan for presiding and discharging the duties of Chairman so efficiently.

THE LIMERICK DISTRICT HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE.

An inquiry before Dr. Nugent, the Senior Government Inspector in Lunacy, in reference to the conduct of the above establishment, has been lately instituted, and reported upon by him to the Lord Lieutenant; but inasmuch as his Excellency's decision has not reached us yet, we deem it only right to decline entering into any particulars in connection therewith at present, further than to observe that according to the reported proceedings of the inquiry given in the newspapers, *de die in diem*, the manner in which Dr. Nugent fulfilled the delicate and important duty devolved upon him was able and judicial; and also to express our great astonishment and regret that whilst this inquiry is *sub judice* an Anglo-Irish professional periodical should have so far forgotten fair play as to do all it could "to hound on the dogs of war" against the accused, so unhappily giving force to the saying that set an Irishman on the spit and another will be found to turn it.

Obituary.

JOHN HENRY SIMPSON, L.R.C.P.L., M.R.C.S. Eng., L.S.A., died at Clarendon, Jamaica, on January 30th, 1873, aged 31 years, of hydrophobia. He received his medical education at Charing Cross Hospital, of which school he was a distinguished student, carrying off several of the prizes and medals. For more than five years he acted as one of the Medical Officers to the Kent and Gloucester County Asylums; he was advised to travel for the benefit of his health, and on becoming completely restored, settled in Jamaica, having obtained a Colonial appointment in that Island. From a local paper we learn that some months before his death he was bitten on the thumb by a dog, and shortly after he cut or scratched the same thumb whilst making a *post-mortem* examination. The symptoms of hydrophobia set in on Monday, January 27th, and he died, after four days of great suffering, on Thursday, January 30th. It appears that the dog which inflicted the injury is still alive, and has never shown any symptoms of rabies. His untimely end, in the midst of a career of great promise, will be deeply regretted both in Jamaica and in England by the large number of friends to whom he had endeared himself by his sterling qualities and kindness of heart.

We regret having to announce the decease of EDWARD SMITH, M.B., B.A., T.C.D., the Resident Medical Superintendent of the Londonderry District Hospital for the Insane, to which he had been appointed in 1868, in succession to the late William F. Rogan, M.B., by the Duke of Abercorn, the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. The deceased had been in office but four years at the time of his removal, which occurred on the 23rd of December last, and was only thirty-five years of age; the immediate cause of his death having arisen from an attack of acute rheumatism. Dr. Smith had given proof of great efficiency and kindness in the discharge of his duties.