

Dr. R. S. Stewart and Dr. MacDonald were elected members of the Committee of Management.

Friday, October 27th, was fixed as the date of the Autumn Meeting, and Friday, April 27th, was named as the date of the Spring Meeting for 1906.

On the motion of Dr. AVELINE it was agreed to hold the Autumn Meeting at University College, Bristol.

Dr. WEATHERLY read a paper entitled "The Natural Characteristics and Temperament of our patients, and how far they Help and Handicap us in our Treatment" (see page 539).

In the subsequent discussion, which was taken part in by the President, Dr. Miller, Dr. Aveline, Dr. Goodall, and the Hon. Sec., several of the speakers urged the importance of obtaining full and correct histories of our patients, and showed how information thus obtained helped us in our treatment of difficult cases. At a later stage of the discussion, Dr. MacDonald drew attention to a class of case whose temperament was that of vicious vindictiveness, and he frankly stated that he believed the swing of the pendulum against restraint had gone too far and advocated the use of carefully supervised restraint in such cases in preference to the medicinal methods now in vogue. The President and others expressed their hearty agreement.

Dr. Weatherly was heartily thanked for his able contribution on an interesting subject.

Dr. RORIE read a paper on "The Insanities of Decadence" (see page 576).

The PRESIDENT thanked Dr. Rorie for his paper, but thought the age limit was somewhat low, though he was well aware how strongly opinions differed as to the dividing line. Dr. Goodall strongly urged Dr. Rorie to take up what was an important and interesting subject from a pathological standpoint. The Hon. Sec. offered a few remarks, and pointed out how difficult it was to fix the age limit from experience gained at Dorchester where there was such a large number of early and confirmed mental decays.

The members dined afterwards at the King's Arms Hotel, Dorchester.

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#### NORTHERN AND MIDLAND DIVISION.

The Spring Meeting of the Northern and Midland Division was held at the Retreat, York, on May 4th, at the invitation of Dr. Bedford Pierce.

Dr. T. W. McDowall presided.

There were present Drs. Archdale, Adair, R. Baker, Eurich, Ewan, Geddes, Gramshaw, Grove, Hutchinson, Hearder, Johnstone, Norah Kemp, T. W. McDowall, Mackenzie, Middlemass, Menzies, May, Nixon, Pierce, Pietersen, Rigden, Stewart, Sutcliffe, Tighe, Trevelyan; also three visitors.

1. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

2. The following were elected members of the Association:—William Edward Stevenson, M.B., B.S., Assistant Medical Officer, West Riding Asylum, Menston; Henry G. Drake-Brockman, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Assistant Medical Officer, County Borough Asylum, Middlesborough.

3. Dr. Bedford Pierce was re-elected Secretary of the Division.

4. Dr. Hitchcock, Dr. Legge, and Dr. Edgerley were elected representative members of Council.

5. The next meeting was fixed for October 12th, 1905, at Kesteven County Asylum, Sleaford, and the Spring Meeting, at the Derby Borough Asylum, for April 19th, 1906.

6. It was resolved to take no further action in respect to the resolution passed at the last meeting with reference to the classification of insanity.

7. Dr. H. J. Mackenzie read interesting notes of a case in which it appeared that a definite attack of melancholia followed neurasthenia. After a long course of forcible feeding the patient gained weight, and eventually recovered.

8. Dr. Norah Kemp read an account of a female patient who had bi-monthly attacks of acute mania. The attacks were associated with the menstrual periods, and were accompanied by a decided increase of leucocytes in the blood.

In the intervals between the attacks the patient was quite clear in mind.

9. Dr. Bedford Pierce discussed the treatment of atonic dilatation of the stomach,

and quoted two cases in which marked benefit followed the continuous application of hot-water bottles to the abdomen.

10. Dr. Thos. Johnstone read a paper on "Dementia Præcox."

In the discussion which followed Drs. Pierce, Middlemass, and Eurich took part, and Dr. Johnstone replied.

11. Dr. Menzies read a paper entitled "Some Points connected with Tuberculosis in Asylums" (see page 548).

Drs. Trevelyan, Pierce, Stewart, Eurich took part in the discussion which followed, and Dr. Menzies replied.

After the meeting members dined at the Royal Station Hotel, and a party next day went on an excursion to Ripon and Fountains Abbey.

#### IRISH DIVISION.

The Spring Meeting of the Division was held at the Stewart Institution, Palmerstown, Dublin, by the kind invitation of Dr. Rainsford, on Tuesday, May 9th.

Before the meeting the visitors were taken round the institution, and saw the patients at work in the school, some of the cases being demonstrated. Dr. Rainsford then entertained the members at luncheon.

The chair at the meeting was taken by Dr. Rainsford, and there were also present Drs. C. Norman, M. J. Nolan, C. E. Hetherington, R. R. Leeper, T. Drapes, H. M. Eustace, R. A. L. Graham, J. Mills, and W. R. Dawson (Hon. Sec.). Letters regretting inability to attend were received from the President of the Association and Dr. Molony.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read, confirmed, and signed, the Hon. Secretary reported shortly with reference to the instructions which he had received at that meeting.

J. Cotter, L.R.C.P.E., L.R.C.S.E., L.F.P.S.Glas., Senior Assistant Medical Officer, Down District Asylum, Downpatrick (proposed by Drs. M. J. Nolan, C. Norman, and W. R. Dawson), was unanimously elected an ordinary member.

Dr. W. R. Dawson was re-elected Divisional Secretary for the ensuing year, and Messrs. M. J. Nolan and T. Drapes were elected Representative Members of Council. Dr. R. A. L. Graham was recommended to the Education Committee as Examiner.

It was decided to request the President to sanction the alteration of the date of the summer meeting of the Division from July 5th to July 6th, and to ask Dr. Harvey to allow the meeting to be held at Clonmel Asylum. Failing this, the arrangement of the place of meeting was left to the divisional Hon. Secretary.

No further recommendations with reference to the Statistical Tables were made, but the Hon. Secretary was directed to call the attention of the Statistical Committee to such of the previous recommendations of the division as had not apparently been dealt with.

A resolution with reference to the election of a President-elect, in consequence of the late Sir J. Sibbald's resignation, having been passed, Dr. Nolan proposed, and Dr. Eustace seconded the following, which was unanimously adopted:—  
"The members of the Irish Division are of opinion that it would be to the advantage of the Association that the Annual Meeting should be changed from July to an earlier month, say May."

The following resolution was passed unanimously on the proposal of Dr. Nolan, seconded by Dr. Mills:—"That the members of this division desire to express their sympathy with Dr. O'Neill in his recent sad bereavement."

#### COMMUNICATIONS.

1. Dr. F. E. RAINSFORD then read the following "Note on the Stewart Institution."

Gentlemen,—The Stewart Institution, which for the first time is honoured by your visit, has but a short and comparatively uneventful history. Its existence is due to the want long felt in Ireland for some institution into which imbeciles