

the writer of this "note" would feel satisfied of a reasonable, just, and liberal consideration of his own claims for a pension, should years or illness make the same desirable.

German Psychiatrie.

Like every other department of medicine, *Psychiatrie* is studied and followed out in Germany with a zeal and spirit of self-denial of which in England we have no examples.

The year 1867 has seen the appearance of two new quarterly journals of psychiatry, published at the two rival seats of German power.

We have to acknowledge the courtesy of their respective editors in forwarding to us copies of the parts published, and we gladly add them to our list of exchanges.

I. The first new quarterly journal is edited by Professor Dr. Max Leidesdorf and Dr. Theodor Meynert, of Vienna,* and includes on its staff of writers the following teachers and others connected with the great Vienna school, viz:—

Dr. Benedikt, Docent der Elektrotherapie in Wien; Dr. Beer, Professor der gerichtl. Medicin und Kriminalpsychologie in Wien; Dr. Chrastina, Primar-ärztl. des Versorgungshauses in Wien; Dr. Droste, Sanitätsarzt in Osnabrück; Dr. Duchek, Professor der medicinischen Klinik in Wien; Hofrath Dr. Franqué, Docent in München; Dr. Glatter, Docent der Medicinal-Statistik in Wien. Dr. Hubrich, zweiter Arzt an der Kreis-Irren-Anstalt bei München; Dr. Joffe, Primar-Arzt an der Landes-Irren-Anstalt in Wien; Professor Dr. Köstel, Director der Drager-Irren-Anstalt; Dr. Lion, sen., königl. Kreiswund-Arzt in Berlin; Dr. Mach, Professor der Physik in Prag; Dr. Marasch und Dr. Mildner, Primar-Aerzte an der Landes-Irren-Anstalt in Wien; Dr. Maschka, Professor der gerichtl. Medicin in Prag; Dr. Meschede, zweiter Arzt an der Irren-Anstalt Schwetz; Hofrath Dr. Oppolzer, Professor der medicin. Klinik in Wien; Dr. Reich, Docent in Gotha; Dr. Rosenthal, Docent für Nervenkrankheiten in Wien; Dr. Schumacher, k. k. o. ö. Professor in Salzburg; Dr. Stern, Docent für klinische Propädeutik in Wien; Dr. Smoler, Docent in Prag; Dr. Tigges, zweiter Arzt der Irren-Anstalt Marsberg; Dr. Witzl, Bezirksarzt in Wien; Dr. Wundt, Professor der Physiologie in Heidelberg.

II. The second new journal is published at Berlin, and is called the *Archiv für Psychiatrie und Nervenkrankheiten*, under the editorship of Professor Griesinger, of Berlin, in

* Under the title of—*Die Vierteljahrsschrift für Psychiatrie, in ihren Beziehungen zur Morphologie und Pathologie des Centralnervensystems.*

conjunction with Dr. L. Meyer, professor der psychiatrie an der Universität Göttingen, and Dr. C. Westphal, privat-docent an der Universität Berlin.

Professor Griesinger promises to continue in this quarterly journal the effort he has already so successfully made elsewhere—to unite in one domain the study of mental disease and other disorders of the nervous system; he justly lays stress in his preface on the high promise of scientific work which the names of his two sub-editors—names both familiar to us in England—afford.

To Dr. L. Meyer, the successful introducer of the English non-restraint system in Germany, we look for further efforts in removing the ignorant objections against this practice, still so confidently paraded in the older German journals of insanity.

Again, Dr. Westphal's reputation as a sound pathologist and original observer of the morbid phenomena and pathological conditions of spinal paralysis and its relations to the so-called general paralysis of the insane, is already well known to the readers of the *Journal of Mental Science*. The first number of Professor Griesinger's journal fulfils these favourable prognostications. Without trenching on Dr. Sibbald's next report on the progress of German psychological medicine, we may refer to one singularly able paper by Dr. Westphal in the first number of this journal, containing a summary of our present knowledge of the general paralysis of the insane in its pathological relations.

We hope to publish a separate translation of this paper in our next number.

In former numbers of this journal have been published translations of Professor Griesinger's introductory lectures at Berlin in 1865 and 1866. His lecture for 1867 is published in the first number of his new journal, and reprinted by us in this number.

In a sketch by Dr. Westphal of the *Psychiatric Congresses* of the year—at all of which he assisted—the first place is assigned to the meeting of the *Medico-Psychological Association in London*. After giving a very fair summary of our proceedings, Dr. Westphal concludes his notice by remarking that “the work of the day finished, then followed a dinner in the famous Willis' Rooms, which, indeed, gave even more brilliant an impression of the Association than the meeting of the morning. At the toasts, the representative of German science then present (the writer), was not for-

gotten, and Dr. Robertson, the chairman, in a long speech, paid, in the most friendly terms, the highest homage to the work of the German School of Psychology. "I cannot," adds Dr. Westphal, "conclude this notice of the quarterly meeting of the British Medico-Psychological Association without a word as to the friendly hospitality which I received in England, and especially would I thank Drs. Robertson and Maudsley, the editors of the *Journal of Mental Science*, for their successful endeavours to further the objects of my scientific journey."

Two Medico-Psychological Societies are also in existence in Berlin. One, the *Medico-Psychological Association of Berlin*, under the permanent presidency of Professor Griesinger, and with Dr. Westphal as honorary secretary, meets monthly, and includes among its members alienists, medico-legal experts, and other professors of philosophy and medicine in the University. (The proceedings at their first six monthly meetings are reported in this first part of Griesinger's *Archiv für Psychiatrie*.) The other society, termed the *Psychological Society of Berlin*, has Dr. Lähr for its president, and Dr. Ideler for its secretary, and consists of the asylum superintendents of the provinces of North Prussia. A similar association exists for the Rhine provinces of Prussia.

In addition to the progress in psychiatry at Vienna, as indicated by the publication of Professor Liedesdorf's quarterly journal, we learn that our indefatigable honorary member, the Baron Mundy, M.D., began in the University of Vienna, in November, his second course of lectures on psychology. The subjects announced are—

- I. On certain points in the medical treatment of mental disease.
- II. On forensic psychiatry.
- III. On Lunatic Colonies, with the plans and drawings exhibited in the model cottage at the Paris Exhibition.

These interesting and able lectures have been published during the winter in the *Zeitschrift für gerichtliche Medicin, öffentliche Gesundheitspflege und Medicinalgesetzgebung* (*Wochenschrift für Aerzte, Wundärzte, Apotheker und Beamte*), and which, through the courtesy of Baron Mundy, have been regularly forwarded to this journal. They are full of original views and illustrations, drawn from his varied experience of lunatic life in many lands.

We would not forget to mention that the old German

quarterly journal, the *Allgemeine Zeitschrift für Psychiatrie und psychisch-gerichtliche Medicin*, continues to be carefully edited by Drs. Flemming, Roller, and Heinrich Laehr.

The *Irrenfreund*, under the editorship of Dr. Fr. Koster and Dr. Brosius (the latter the translator of Dr. Conolly's writings into German), is a small monthly sheet, which circulates in Germany a good deal of useful information culled from foreign sources.

A similar publication is the *Correspondenz-Blatt der deutschen Gesellschaft für Psychiatrie und Gerichtliche Psychologie*, edited by Med.-Rath Dr. Kelp, Reg.-Med.-Rath Dr. Eulenberg, Sans.-Rath Dr. Erlenmeyer, Director Dr. Otto.

The Sensorium Commune.

In a review of Dr. Maudsley's work on the "Physiology and Pathology of Mind," which appeared in the "British Medical Journal," the reviewer, while taking the author gently to task in regard to the sensorium commune, has complacently tumbled into a most strange blunder. So serenely unconscious, however, is he of his plight, that it would be a pity to take any notice of it, were it not that in doing so the opportunity offers itself of quoting some admirable observations by Prochaska. They were published in 1784, and those who read them now will judge whether the eminent physiologist has received all the acknowledgment due to him from subsequent writers.

The reviewer of Dr. Maudsley's book says:—"In the chapter on the sensory centres and sensation the author should have been more explicit as to what he regards as the 'sensorium commune proper,' or centre for the reception of the impressions made upon the nerves of common sensation. Though this is one of the disputed points of cerebral physiology at the present day, and one to which, by his plan, he was peculiarly bound, he evades the discussion of the question, and neither tells us whether he places it in the optic thalamus or in the pons Varolii." The sensorium commune the centre for the nerves of sensation! This is more than strange in a critic, and might have entailed a whipping on a schoolboy. Surely a thought of the meaning of the Latin words might have warned him of his danger. The sensorium commune is the common centre of sensory impressions—the aggregate of the sensory ganglia—not the