

COMMUNICATIONS.

Dr. CONOLLY NORMAN contributed a communication entitled "Notes on Hallucinations" (see page 272).

Dr. DAWSON read a paper entitled "A Case of Hebephrenia" (see page 303).

DINNER.

Some of the members dined together at the Jammet Hotel, Dublin, in the evening.

PARLIAMENTARY NOTES.

The King's Speech in opening Parliament this year contained no mention of lunacy legislation.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH.

Lunacy in Ireland.

Mr. CLANCY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland whether, in view of the increase in lunatic asylum charges in Ireland in recent years, he would consider the expediency of appointing a select committee to inquire into the cause or causes of the growth of local expenditure on lunatic asylums in that country, and to consider whether any means could be found of limiting or reducing the burden on Irish ratepayers which was involved.

Mr. WYNDHAM replied: The statistics of insanity do most unfortunately show an increase in the numbers of the registered insane. This increase is not confined to Ireland. There has necessarily been a corresponding expansion in the contributions from local rates and from Parliamentary grants for the provision of accommodation for the insane and for their maintenance. The proposal in the question has already been dealt with in the Reports of the Royal Commission on Local Taxation, and I see no reason for further investigation.

TUESDAY, MARCH 3RD.

Mental Derangement.

Dr. FARQUHARSON asked the Attorney-General whether the Government would consider proposals to legalise in England a system similar to that which was in operation in Scotland for the private care of persons showing symptoms of incipient mental derangement who could not be certified as insane.

Sir ROBERT FINLAY replied: The Government has already assented to the principle of such legislation, and a clause dealing with the subject was contained in the Lunacy Bill of 1900. That Bill was introduced by the Lord Chancellor into the House of Lords at the beginning of the session and was passed; it came down to the House of Commons on March 8th, 1900, but had to be withdrawn on July 16th.

THURSDAY, MARCH 5TH.

Treatment of Harmless Lunatics.

Mr. HAMMOND asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, having regard to the restrictions placed upon boards of guardians in Ireland in the treatment of harmless lunatics, if he would favour the proposal for the assimilation of the law in Ireland to that in Scotland, under which it is practicable to have these persons boarded and cared for in the homes of the peasantry.

Mr. WYNDHAM replied: The question of making better provision for the treatment of harmless lunatics in Ireland is receiving consideration.

ABERDEEN ROYAL ASYLUM. DR. ALEXANDER ASSAULTED.

At a Sheriff and Jury Court lately, a patient in the Royal Asylum appeared on a charge of having assaulted J. T—, at the farm of Knaven, New Deer, on August