

MEDICO-PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

PASS EXAMINATION.*

The following gentlemen having satisfied the Examiners, obtained the Certificate of Efficiency in Psychological Medicine, the examination being held at Bethlem Hospital on the 22nd and 23rd of December, 1887 :—

Barker, Alfred James Glanville, M.R.C.S.Eng., Bethlem Royal Hospital, S.E.
 Staveley, William Henry Charles, L.R.C.P.Lond., M.R.C.S.Eng., Bethlem Royal Hospital, S.E.

Will, John Kennedy, M.A., M.D.Aberd., Bethnal House, E.

Examiners : Dr. D. HACK TUKE. Dr. G. H. SAVAGE.

SCOTCH EXAMINATION.—DEC., 1887.

PASS EXAMINATION.

The following candidates passed the examination for Certificate of Efficiency in Psychological Medicine held at the Royal Edinburgh Asylum on December 23rd and 24th :—

Collie, Frank Lang, M.B., C.M.Aberd.

Gemmell, William, M.A., M.B., C.M.Edin.

Rowand, Andrew, M.A., M.B., C.M.Edin.

Thorpe, Arnold E., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.Edin.

Examiners : JAMES RUTHERFORD, M.D. T. S. CLOUSTON, M.D.

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION.

A Special General Meeting of the Medico-Psychological Association was held at Bethlem Hospital at the close of the quarterly meeting, February 24th, to consider the recent appointment at Haywards Heath Asylum. The President, Dr. Needham, occupied the chair.—Letters expressing great indignation were read from Drs. Clouston, Yellowlees, Brushfield, and others, and a petition, numerously signed by assistant medical officers, was read by Dr. Rayner protesting against the appointment. It was as follows :—

TO THE PRESIDENT, COUNCIL, AND MEMBERS OF THE MEDICO-PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

GENTLEMEN,—We, the undersigned Assistant Physicians of English County and Borough Asylums, beg respectfully to direct the attention of the President, Council, and members of the Medico-Psychological Association to the recent appointment of Medical Superintendent to the Sussex County Asylum at Haywards Heath, and to the effects such an appointment is likely to have (1) on the future prospects of assistant physicians in asylums, and (2) on the administration of asylums apart from the general medical treatment of the insane.

We understand that the gentleman who has received the appointment of Medical Superintendent to Haywards Heath Asylum does not possess any practical knowledge of insanity such as should be obtained by a residence in an asylum, nor can he have had any experience in the duties of the administrative head of a large institution. Further, we understand that use was made, by testimonials and otherwise, of the influence possessed by the Lord Chancellor's Medical Visitors, who happened to be acquainted with the successful candidate, to assist his candidature among the several members of the Committee of Visitors to the asylum.

We, who devote the best portion of our lives to the study of insanity and to the management of asylums, many of us with most unremunerative incomes, in the hope of future promotion, naturally feel that the above appointment has been a miscarriage of justice, and we respectfully call your attention to the unfairness of the appointment, trusting that the Medico-Psychological Association, through its Parliamentary Committee, will direct the attention of the House of Commons (1) to the appointment itself, and (2) to the unwarranted interference of the Lord Chancellor's Medical Visitors in such appointments, in order that such a thing may not occur again.

After a number of resolutions had been put to the meeting and discussed, it was ultimately decided that the Association should adopt the following :—

I.—That this Association is of opinion that it is highly desirable that medical superintendents of asylums should have spent, before their appointment, some time as resident medical officers in asylums, or in the study of mental diseases in these institutions.

* The next examinations will be held in July. For particulars apply to Dr. Rayner, Hanwell; Dr. Urquhart, Perth; and Dr. Conolly Norman, Richmond Asylum, Dublin.