

Dr. Butler, in his 70th year, left the Retreat and had the care of a private patient during several years. He afterwards was Chairman of the State Board of Health, and wrote its first report.

He retained his interest in his profession, and to some degree in that department of it in which he was so long an active member, to the last. He was especially happy in his methods of conversation and association with the insane, and had the faculty of securing the confidence of his patients.

It is to be regretted, in view of his long professional career and large experience with the insane, that his contributions to medical literature were not more numerous. They consisted mainly in his yearly reports, and a small volume on "The Curability of Insanity."

Dr. Butler was one of the founders of the Association of Superintendents, and during many years a regular attendant at its meetings. The Association met at Hartford in 1870, and elected Dr. Butler as President.

He was very social, and delighted in story-telling. He was especially fond of the society of the younger members of the profession, and retained his habit of associating much with them until near the last.

His health was remarkably good until about two months before his death, when he had a slight attack of paralysis. He, however, soon rallied from the more immediate effects of this, but thenceforth gradually failed, and died May 21st, 1890. H. P. S.

NOVEL BY A MEDICAL PSYCHOLOGIST.

During the last few years instances have not been wanting of members of our Profession indulging in romance. The names of Sir Henry Thompson, Dr. B. W. Richardson, Dr. Weir Mitchell, will at once occur to the reader. We understand that another proof that medical science is consistent with the composition of fiction is shortly to come from the ranks of our own special branch of Medicine. A member of the Medico-Psychological Association has in the press an historical novel entitled "In the Days of Akber and Elizabeth." It relates the fortunes of the crew of the *Unicorn*, the first ship which left England to open up the trade with India. The scene is laid principally in Surat, Ahmadnagar and Agra. The literary ability of the author, combined with psychological insight and original thought, promises a work which will have a special interest for the readers of the "Journal of Mental Science."

Appointments.

ANDERSON, T., M.D. Lond., appointed Consulting Physician to the York Lunatic Asylum.

AVELINE, H. T. S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. Lond., appointed Assistant Medical Officer to the Bristol City Lunatic Asylum.

GREATBATCH, HERBERT W., M.B., C.M. Edin., appointed Junior Assistant Medical Officer to the Montrose Royal Asylum.

HAVELOCK, JOHN G., M.B., C.M. Edin., appointed Assistant Medical Officer of the Royal Lunatic Asylum, Montrose.

HICKS, J. ABERNETHY, jun., L.R.C.P. Lond., M.R.C.S., L.S.A., has been appointed Third Assistant Medical Officer to the Whittingham County Asylum, Preston, Lancashire.

HOWDEN, JAS. C., M.D. Edin., re-appointed Medical Superintendent of the Royal Asylum, Montrose.

JOHNSTON, DAVID, M.D. Aberd., re-appointed Consulting Physician to the Royal Lunatic Asylum and Infirmary, Montrose.

SUFFERN, A. C., M.D., M.Ch., has been appointed Medical Superintendent of the Rubery Hill Asylum, *vice* Thomas Lyle, resigned.

SYRÉE, ANTON HUGH, M.R.C.S., L.S.A. Lond., Assistant Medical Officer to the Wilts Asylum, appointed Assistant Medical Officer to the City of London Asylum.