

3. *Excerpta from Asylums Reports, 1863.*

(Continued from the April Number.)

1. *Dr. Bucknill's Retirement from the Devon Asylum.*

"DURING the last year several changes have taken place in the officers of the establishment. Dr. Bucknill having been appointed one of the Medical Visitors of Chancery Lunatics, resigned his office of superintendent on the 24th September. We have recorded in our minutes 'our high sense of his long services, for eighteen years, and of his constant efforts to promote the welfare of the asylum; of the uniform assistance which, from the first opening of the asylum, we have derived from his judgment and advice; and of the benefits which the patients have always received from his professional skill and constant attention to their welfare.' This we have much pleasure in thus publicly reporting to the court. We have elected Dr. George Symes Saunders to supply his place, and from the experience we have had of his abilities and character during the time he held the situation of medical assistant, we have every reason to think that he will prove a valuable officer."—*Seventeenth Annual Report of the Visitors of the Devon Lunatic Asylum, 1863.*

2. *The Roman Bath (Hot-air) in the Treatment of Insanity.*

"A hot-air (Turkish) bath has been recently constructed by converting a drying closet, with an adjoining room little used, into suitable chambers for the purpose. This was effected at a comparatively small outlay, and the whole of the labour was done by our own artisans, with the assistance of the patients. The plan is similar to that adopted by Dr. Robertson at the Sussex Asylum, where a bath has been erected, and its employment has been found a valuable remedial agent in the treatment of insanity. Since the completion of our bath it has been in constant use, and a number of patients of both sexes have employed it regularly. A few cases of melancholia, accompanied with the harsh, dry skin so often observed in this form of mental disease, have derived very decided benefit from its use, but the experience obtained from its employment is too limited to give any very decided opinion at present as to the results which may be expected from its general use in the various phases of mental