

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.

In connexion with the International Medical and Sanitary Exhibition which is to be held in London, before the meeting of the Medical Congress, it is hoped that our speciality will be well represented. Any improvements or modifications of rooms, beds, dresses or appliances, will be welcomed. It is not yet decided whether in section viii of the Congress a special exhibition at Bethlem Hospital should take place or not. It will depend, to a great extent, on the way in which members respond to the invitation to send novelties.

Obituary.

ISAAC RAY, M.D., LL.D.

With deep regret we record in this Journal the death of a distinguished alienist, an ornament to our special branch of the Profession, and the Nestor of Medical Psychology in the United States of America.

With Dr. Ray dies a vast mass of material stored up in a mind, acute in its perceptive powers, and quick to seize the relation of facts to principles. Indeed the swiftness with which he saw fallacies rendered him a little impatient of the detailed examination of questions in which truth and error were intimately blended.

"He commenced his literary education at Phillip's Academy, Andover, and afterwards entered Bowdon College, where he prosecuted his studies till 1824, when he was compelled to leave on account of ill health. Soon after leaving college, when his health had sufficiently improved, he commenced the study of medicine, passing a portion of the time in the office of Dr. Shattuck, a distinguished physician of Boston, and graduated at the medical department of Harvard University in 1827, in which year he began practice in the City of Portland, Maine, and he here married in 1831 Miss Frothingham, who survives him.

"Two years after commencing practice inducements were offered to him to remove to Eastport, in the same State, in which place he soon after fixed his residence. It was in Eastport that Dr. Ray's attention was first directed to the subject of insanity.

"In 1841 he was appointed Medical Superintendent of the Maine Hospital for the Insane, at Augusta, which position he held till he was invited by the authorities of the Butler Hospital, at Providence, R.I., to become superintendent of that institution—which was just then being organised—and to supervise its erection. No one has done more to secure the proper organisation of American hospitals for the insane.

"Dr Ray was led to accept this position especially from the fact that that hospital was to be the offspring of private munificence, and was to be controlled by men above all suspicion of political or selfish interest in reference to it. Beyond this, he was here offered an opportunity to introduce into the construction of the buildings and into the subsequent management of the institution his well matured views on all these subjects."—*Philadelphia Medical Times*.

Before commencing his duties Dr. Ray visited Europe, and if he often recurred to his visit to England with pleasure, those who formed his acquaintance in this country were not less delighted with his sterling worth, intelligence, sincerity, and the peculiar charm of his conversation when at ease. We recall what may seem too trivial to mention; but it illustrates the lasting impression he produced that a remark of his at the table of the house he made his home at York, is still remembered, as well as the particular tone in which he said it *à propos* of the subject at the moment discussed, "The nervous system," said he, "is an instrument on which we know not yet half the airs that may be played." His friend, Dr. Kirkbride, writes to us "It was necessary to know Dr. Ray intimately to appreciate him properly, and many who met him only in public