

he was confident the fracture occurred after death. He thought a fact of this nature should not be overlooked. With regard to putting cases up in plaster-of-Paris, he might say that as soon as convenient he thought it was desirable to do so, but at the very first in fractures of the insane he would not advocate it.

Dr. MACDONALD said that, in the face of a most able contribution to a meeting in London, not two years ago, from the Pathological Laboratory at Rainhill Asylum, he should have thought Mr. Briscoe would have hesitated to quote Dr. Christian's older paper, especially after what was shown on the blackboard, under the microscope, and by the aid of the limelight by Dr. Campbell, all going to show and prove the degeneration of the bones of general paralytics.

OCCASIONAL NOTES OF THE QUARTER.

Sir John C. Bucknill.

The portrait of the late Sir John Bucknill, which forms the frontispiece of the present number, will forcibly recall to a large proportion of the members of this Association the personality of one who for many years held so prominent a place in their ranks.

The obituary notice of Sir John Bucknill in our last issue has fully recorded the eminent services which he performed in his various official and social relations, but we seize this opportunity of specially reminding the Association of the great work that he did for it when it was still a struggling organisation of doubtful vitality.

Such a record as this frontispiece is the very smallest expression of esteem and gratitude which we can yield his memory, and we must hope that the time may yet arrive when the Association's local habitation may admit of its gathering together, in the more artistic form of oil paintings or busts, the memories of those who, like Sir John Bucknill, have not only served it, but have added honour and dignity to its history.

Pathology in the London County Asylums.

The London Asylums Report of this year gives evidence that the Pathological Laboratory established at Claybury has borne good fruit, and gives promise of an even larger yield in the future.

The Medico-Psychological Association has already benefited from this new departure by the able demonstrations which its director, Dr. Mott, has given at two meetings in the past year; and we are glad to learn that full reports of

the work of the laboratory, in the form of *Archives*, will be edited by him.

Dr. Mott during the past year has especially devoted himself to the study of general paralysis, with the relation of syphilis to this disease, and he could not have attacked a subject of more interest and importance. Some of the results of his observations and his views of their pathological significance have already appeared in this Journal, and we shall await with interest their further development in the *Archives*.

Dr. Mott has already succeeded in one great object of such a laboratory, viz., the attracting to it of young and energetic workers; this we hope will be even more successful in the future, and lead ultimately to the establishment of a school of neuro-pathology worthy of the most wealthy and populous city in the world.

The London County Council and its Asylums Committee are to be congratulated on having made so important an advance, and on having placed their laboratory under such able management.

The Laboratory of the Scottish Asylums.

The conjoint Laboratory of the Scottish Asylums is now open and fully equipped for work. Already the pathologist, Dr. Ford Robertson, has made reports upon cases of special interest submitted to him for expert opinion, and on the 11th November the Scottish Division held their Autumn Meeting in the large room of the laboratory. Much care and thought have been bestowed upon the arrangements and fittings, with a view to thoroughly practical work, and all the necessary apparatus for histological research has been procured. The Scottish Division is to be congratulated upon having secured central and convenient premises in immediate contact with the Laboratory of the Royal College of Physicians at 12, Brisco Place, Edinburgh. This is beneficial to the College as well as to the asylums, since the close association of workers in science is both stimulating and helpful.

The duties of the pathologist are stated briefly, as follows:—To carry on original researches upon the pathology of insanity; to examine pathological material sent from the asylums and to furnish reports; to teach and give assistance to members of the medical staff of the