

M. VOISIN related a case where an operation similar to that described by Professor Horsley had been followed by good results. In cases where the brain is small and the membrane healthy the operation might succeed, but not in those where the membranes had become opaque.

Dr. CLAYE SHAW read a paper on "The Surgical Treatment of General Paralysis." The operation had been successful in relieving pressure and in prolonging life. In one case the epileptic fits from which the patient suffered ceased, and the mental symptoms improved. In another case the patient so far recovered after the operation as to resume his occupation. In another delusions and headache were both cured by the operation.

Professor VICTOR HORSLEY had no experience of operating in general paralysis, but he knew a case where epilepsy and headache were completely cured by operation.

Dr. MERCIER considered this a serious operation, which should not be undertaken without strong reasons. He thought you might as well try to improve the ritual of the Church by removing a few slates off the roof of the building.

Professor BENEDIKT thought we wanted practical results, and not mere surgical theories.

Dr. HACK TUKE said that in considering the subject they should ask themselves two questions—1st. Is the operation justifiable? and 2nd. Is it likely to be beneficial? He did not see any intrinsic objection to the operation in the hands of capable men. At the same time he confessed that the evidence hitherto advanced in favour of the operation drawn from actual cases was not encouraging.

The PRESIDENT thought they should suspend their judgment while waiting for further information upon this interesting subject. One point struck him as being of great importance, and it was the continuance of the improvement in the symptoms long after the cicatrization of the wound.

Dr. MACPHERSON gave notes of a case where the symptoms disappeared on the deposit of tubercle in one lung.

Dr. SNOW remarked that improvement often followed operations on other parts of the body.

Mr. JOHN EWENS (Clifton) gave particulars of a case where relief to mental symptoms followed a suicidal attempt with wounds of the head.

Dr. NICOLSON doubted if a patient could improve sufficiently after the operation as to make a will.

Dr. NEEDHAM pointed out the difficulty in dealing with the earlier stages of the disease, which was simulated by many other diseases in their initial stages.

Dr. CLAYE SHAW, in reply, did not consider the operation was a serious one if due care were taken.

Dr. HERBERT SNOW's paper on "Cancer in its Relation to Insanity" (see "Original Articles") and Dr. BENEDIKT's paper on "Spinal Adynamia" concluded the business of the Section.

Dr. LANGDON DOWN proposed, and Dr. HACK TUKE seconded, a vote of thanks to the President.

THE LUNACY ACT, 1891.

(54 and 55 Vict., c. 65.)

An Act to amend the Lunacy Act, 1890.

[5th August, 1891.]

Be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1.—This Act may be cited as the Lunacy Act, 1891, and this Act shall be construed as one with the Lunacy Act, 1890 (in this Act called the principal Act), and this Act and the principal Act may be cited together as the Lunacy Acts, 1890 and 1891.

2.—(1.) A constable, relieving officer, or overseer whose duty it is, under the principal Act, to convey a lunatic to or from an institution for lunatics, may make proper arrangements for the performance of the duty by some other person or persons.

(2.) Where in a union there are two or more relieving officers, and the guardians, with the sanction of the Local Government Board, direct one relieving officer to discharge throughout the union the duties of a relieving officer in respect of lunatics, every other relieving officer in the union shall inform the officer so directed of any case of a lunatic, with which it would otherwise devolve upon such other relieving officer to deal, and it shall be the duty of the relieving officer receiving such information to deal with the case, and the other relieving officer shall be discharged from any further duty in the matter.

3.—A lunatic sent to an institution for lunatics under section thirteen or sixteen of the principal Act shall be classified as a pauper, until it is ascertained that he is entitled to be classified as a private patient.

4.—(1.) Every pauper suffering from mental disease in a workhouse at the commencement of the principal Act, as to whom a report had before the commencement of the principal Act been made under section twenty-two of the Poor Law Amendment Act, 1867, may be detained in the workhouse against his will without an order under section twenty-four of the principal Act.

(2.) The medical superintendent of an asylum provided under the Metropolitan Poor Act, 1867, shall not be required in any certificate under subsection one of section twenty-four of the principal Act, or under this Act, to certify to the effect in sub-clause (c) of that sub-section mentioned, and upon the transfer from a workhouse to an asylum provided under the Metropolitan Poor Act, 1867, of a lunatic, with regard to whom a certificate or order under the said section twenty-four made while he was in the workhouse is in force, no further certificate or order shall be required for the detention of the lunatic in the asylum.

5.—There shall be attached to every order made by a justice under section twenty-four of the principal Act the medical certificates on which such order is founded.

6.—Where a workhouse is situate in a county which does not include the union to which the workhouse belongs, a summary reception order made by a justice of the county in which the workhouse is situate may order a lunatic in the workhouse to be received in any asylum, in which pauper lunatics chargeable to the union, to which the workhouse belongs, may legally be received.

7.—Subsection four of section thirty-eight of the principal Act is hereby repealed, and the following subsection is substituted therefor :—

(4.) A reception order shall remain in force for a year after the date by this Act or by an order of the Commissioners appointed for it to expire, and thereafter for two years, and thereafter for three years, and after the end of such periods of one, two, and three years for successive periods of five years, if not more than one month or less than seven days before the expiration of the period at the end of which, as fixed by this Act or by an order of the Commissioners under subsection two, the order would expire, and of each subsequent period of one, two, three, and five years respectively, a special report of the medical officer of the institution or of the medical attendant of the single patient as to the mental and bodily condition of the patient with a certificate under his hand certifying that the patient is still of unsound mind and a proper person to be detained under care and treatment is sent to the Commissioners.

8.—Section thirty-nine of the principal Act shall not apply to lunatics received under a removal order or to lunatics so found by inquisition.

9.—(1.) In subsection three (a) of section fifty-five of the principal Act the words "or to travel in England" shall be inserted after the word "place."

(2.) In sub-section six of section fifty-five of the principal Act, for the words "licensed by visitors" shall be substituted the words "licensed by justices," and for the words "the Commissioners or visitors" shall be substituted the words "such Commissioner or such two visitors."

10.—In subsection three of section fifty-six of the principal Act the words “or permit the patient to be absent upon trial for such period as may be thought fit” shall be added after the word “health” at the end of the subsection.

11.—In subsection one of section sixty-one of the principal Act the words “to the workhouse of the union to which the lunatic is chargeable, or if the lunatic is chargeable to a county or borough, to the workhouse of the union from which he was sent to the hospital or licensed house” shall be inserted after the words “of the lunatic.”

12.—The managing committee of every hospital may, with the approval of a Secretary of State, alter the regulations of the hospital.

13.—(1.) Where under section two hundred and forty-six of the principal Act, a borough ceases to be a local authority under that Act, the borough shall for all purposes of that Act be annexed to and treated as part of the county in which the borough is situate, and if or so far as the borough has not contributed towards the expense of providing the asylum of the county, a sum to be paid by the borough towards the expenses already incurred in providing the asylum shall be fixed by agreement between the councils of the county and borough, or in default of agreement by an arbitrator appointed by the parties, or, if the parties cannot agree upon an arbitrator, by an arbitrator appointed by the Local Government Board. In fixing the sum to be paid by the borough, the borough shall be credited with any sums already contributed by the borough for lunacy purposes in excess of its legal liability; and the arbitrator shall take into consideration the amounts that may have been paid by the borough for the reception or maintenance, in the asylum of the county, of the lunatics of the borough.

(2.) Where a borough had before the passing of this Act, by virtue of section eighty-six of the Local Government Act, 1888, and the determination of any contract, become liable to contribute to the county rate of the county in respect of a lunatic asylum, this section shall apply to such borough as if it had immediately after the passing of this Act ceased under section two hundred and forty-six of the principal Act, to be a local authority.

14.—Any question relating to lunatic asylums or the maintenance of lunatics arising between any local authorities under the principal Act and any boroughs not being local authorities under that Act, and any visiting committees or any two or more of such parties respectively, may be referred to an arbitrator appointed by the parties, or, if the parties cannot agree upon an arbitrator, by the Local Government Board.

15.—The provisions of sub-sections five, six, and seven of section sixty-two of the Local Government Act, 1888, shall apply to every sum by virtue of this Act agreed to be paid or awarded by an arbitrator as if such sum had been agreed to be paid or awarded under section sixty-two of the Local Government Act, 1888.

16.—In sub-section two of section two hundred and fifty-four of the principal Act, there shall be added after the word “contracts” the words “for the purchase of lands and buildings and for the erection, restoration, and enlargement of buildings.”

17.—Where a contract between the council of a borough and the subscribers to a hospital for the reception of pauper lunatics into the hospital was subsisting on the twenty-sixth day of August one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine, such contract, unless determined by the parties or one of them, shall be deemed to have continued in force since that date, and may be renewed subject to the same conditions and with the same consequences as if the contract had been entered into by a visiting committee on behalf of the borough.

18.—The provisions of the Local Government Act, 1888, relating to the accounts of county councils and their officers, and to the audit of such accounts, shall apply to the accounts of every asylum belonging wholly or in part to a county council and of the visiting committee and officers thereof.

19.—(1.) Where a lunatic in a hospital or licensed house becomes a pauper, the manager of the hospital or house may, after having given notice to the authority liable for the maintenance of the lunatic of his intention so to do, apply to a justice of the peace having jurisdiction in the place where the hospital or house is situate for an order for the removal of the lunatic, and such justice may, if he thinks fit, make an order for the removal of the lunatic to an institution for lunatics to which pauper lunatics for whose maintenance the authority is liable may legally be sent and for the reception of the lunatic therein, and such institution shall be named in the order, and the manager of the hospital or house shall forthwith cause the lunatic to be removed to the institution named in the order. In the case of such removal the original reception order shall remain in force, and shall authorise the classification of the lunatic as a pauper lunatic in the institution to which he is removed.

(2.) The costs of obtaining an order under this section and of the removal of the lunatic shall be repaid to the manager who obtains the order by the authority liable for the maintenance of the lunatic, and any justice having jurisdiction in the place where the hospital or house from which the lunatic was removed is situate shall have power to fix the amount of such costs and to order such authority to repay the same. The provisions of section three hundred and fourteen of the principal Act shall apply to every such order for the repayment of costs.

20.—Where a boarder is received into a licensed house not within the immediate jurisdiction of the Commissioners in Lunacy, or into a registered hospital, notice of his reception shall be given to the Commissioners in Lunacy within twenty-four hours of his reception by the manager of the licensed house or hospital into which such boarder has been received.

If any manager fails to comply with the provisions of this section he shall, for each day or part of a day during which the default continues, be liable to a penalty not exceeding five pounds.

If the Commissioners after inquiry are of opinion that the mental state of any boarder received into a licensed house or hospital is such as to render him unfit to remain as a boarder, they may order the manager of the licensed house or hospital either to remove such boarder or to take steps to obtain an order for his reception as a patient into the licensed house or hospital.

Any manager failing to comply with an order of the Commissioners in Lunacy made pursuant to this section shall, for each day during which the default continues, be liable to a penalty not exceeding five pounds.

21.—If complaints are made by persons resident in the neighbourhood of any hospital that the patients are allowed to go outside the hospital without a sufficient number of officers to control them, or that the patients are allowed to wander at large without any control, the Commissioners may, if they are satisfied that there are *prima facie* grounds for such complaints, inquire into the same, and may make such order in relation thereto as the Commissioners think just, and the superintendent of any hospital disobeying any such order shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

22.—The provisions of the principal Act for the payment of expenses in relation to pauper lunatics shall be applicable with respect to lunatics in institutions for lunatics who become paupers.

23.—In Form 1 in the Second Schedule to the principal Act there shall be substituted for the word "Dated" the words "Date of presentation of the petition."

24.—(1.) A justice of the peace specially appointed under section ten of the principal Act may exercise the powers of the judicial authority under that Act, notwithstanding that he may not have jurisdiction in the place where the lunatic or alleged lunatic is.

(2.) A judicial authority may, if he considers it expedient, transfer a petition for a reception order presented to him to any other judicial authority who is willing to receive the same, whether such other judicial authority has or has

not jurisdiction in the place where the lunatic is, and such other judicial authority shall have the same powers as the judicial authority to whom the petition was presented would have had.

(3.) A reception order made after the passing of this Act shall not be invalid on the ground only that the justice of the peace who signed the order shall appear to have not been duly appointed under section ten of the principal Act, if the order is within fourteen days after its date approved and signed by a judicial authority.

(4.) The appointment at any time before or after the passing of this Act by the justices of a county or quarter sessions borough of justices to exercise the powers of the judicial authority under the principal Act shall not be invalid on the ground only that the appointment includes all the justices of the county or borough.

(5.) Every justice appointed under section ten of the Lunacy Acts Amendment Act, 1889, shall be deemed to have had power to exercise the jurisdiction conferred upon the judicial authority under the principal Act, and the jurisdiction of such justices and of any justices appointed or hereafter to be appointed under the principal Act shall be deemed to have continued and shall continue until a fresh appointment is made.

25.—If for the due administration of the Lunacy Acts, 1890 and 1891, in any union it appears to the Lord Chancellor desirable, he may by writing under his hand empower the chairman of the board of guardians to sign orders for the reception of persons as pauper lunatics in institutions for lunatics, and every order so signed shall have effect as if made by a justice of the peace under the principal Act.

26.—(1.) The provisions of section ninety-four sub-section two of the principal Act as to the trial of issues in the High Court shall extend to all inquisitions, and the masters may, for the purpose of inquisitions held before them, exercise the powers by that sub-section conferred upon the judge who tries the issue.

(2.) The masters may make orders for the attendance of an alleged lunatic at such time and place as the order directs, for examination by the masters or a medical practitioner, and such order may be enforced in the same way as an order of a Judge of the High Court.

27.—(1.) Subject to rules in lunacy the jurisdiction of the Judge in Lunacy as regards administration and management may be exercised by the masters, and every order of a master in that behalf shall take effect unless annulled or varied by the Judge in Lunacy.

(2.) The power to make rules under section three hundred and thirty-eight, sub-section (2), of the principal Act shall extend to all applications under the principal Act and this Act, and also to applications in the Chancery Division of the High Court in cases where such applications are also made under the principal Act.

(3.) The power conferred by section one hundred and forty-eight of the principal Act to make rules fixing percentage and fees shall be deemed to extend to all proceedings under the principal Act or this Act, whether relating to lunatics so found by inquisition or to any other person in relation to whom or to whose property an order under the said Acts has been or may be made. Provided that in the case of lunatics under the protection of the Judge in Lunacy by virtue of the transmission of the record of an inquisition from Ireland and its entry of record in the High Court, and in the case of persons residing out of England and declared lunatic according to the laws of their place of residence, no percentage shall be levied except upon income arising from property within the jurisdiction of the Judge in Lunacy and administered under his direction.

(4.) The provisions of section one hundred and sixteen, sub-section two, of the principal Act shall apply to the persons named in sub-section one (d) of the same section though not lunatics.

28.—In the principal Act, the word "seised" shall include any vested

estate for life or of a greater description, and shall extend to estates at law and in equity in possession or in futurity in any lands; and the word "possessed" shall include any vested estate less than a life estate at law or in equity in possession or in expectancy in any lands.

29.—The enactments in the schedule are hereby repealed.

SCHEDULE.—ENACTMENTS REPEALED in The Lunacy Act, 1890, 53 and 54 Vic., c. 5.

Section 9, sub-section 1, from "having" to the end of the sub-section. Sec. 10, in sub-section 1, the words "within the county and borough respectively" and in sub-section 4 the words "within the same" occurring twice. Sec. 13, sub-section 2, from "within" to "jurisdiction." Sec. 24, sub-section 6, from "that a pauper" to "asylum" where that word next occurs. Sec. 62. Sec. 99 the words "with a jury." Sec. 149. Sec. 246, from "subject" to "an asylum." Sec. 279. Sec. 338, sub-section 2, the words "in lunacy."

The Second Schedule, Form 13.

The Fourth Schedule, the references to "Dover" and "Maidstone" repealed as from the commencement of the Lunacy Act, 1890.

NOTICE OF NEXT QUARTERLY MEETING.

The next Quarterly Meeting of the Medico-Psychological Association will be held in London on the third Thursday in November (19th), at the house of Dr. B. W. Richardson, F.R.S., 25, Manchester Square.

FLETCHER BEACH, Gen. Secretary.

Darent Asylum, Sept. 1, 1891.

Correspondence.

PAROTITIS IN THE INSANE.

To the Editors of "THE JOURNAL OF MENTAL SCIENCE."

SIRS,—I have read with very great interest the cases reported by Dr. Hyslop of parotitis in the insane (Oct., 1890). As I am not aware that such cases in connection with asylum practice are referred to in any work on insanity, I am induced to give some account of them, based upon my 32 years' experience in two large county asylums. I have seen many patients with acute mania or melancholia attacked with acute parotitis, and these, as far as I can remember, were without exception persons whose health and strength had been impaired; they all obstinately refused food, and had to be fed by force. One attendant fixed the head by firmly grasping the face with both hands, whilst another attendant administered the nourishment by means of a spoon; in proportion as the patient struggled to release his head the attendant, of course, increased his pressure on the two cheeks, and this excessive pressure, in my opinion, set up an inflammation of the parotid gland, which the low vitality of the patient would tend to intensify and prolong; hence arose rapid, extensive, and deep-seated suppuration, sometimes with fatal œdema of the glottis. In all cases where deep-seated fluctuation could be detected the lancet should be early and freely used.

As a preventive measure, I, some years ago, instructed attendants, whenever they had to administer food by force, not to grasp the cheeks, but the temples, of the patient, in order to fix and steady the head; and after this plan was adopted, cases of parotitis became comparatively rare. Quite recently I have seen a case, in consultation, which was evidently due to the adoption of the older method of feeding, so that to it, as a cause, if not the *vera causa*, I think I am justified in attributing many of those cases of parotitis occurring in asylum practice. I hope others will be induced to give their experience in this