

## CENSUS OF THE IMBECILE.

At the Scotch Quarterly Meeting of the Association, held at Glasgow, reference was made to an application forwarded to the Office of the Secretary for Scotland, suggesting the advisability of distinguishing between the classes "lunatic" and "imbecile" in the next census.

The following satisfactory reply, addressed to the President, Dr. Yellowlees, was received :—

Office of the Secretary for Scotland,  
Whitehall, S.W.,  
12th November, 1890.

SIR,—With reference to your letter of the 1st September last, I am directed by the Marquess of Lothian to acquaint you that the suggestion of the Medico-Psychological Society as to the advisability of distinguishing between the classes "lunatic" and "imbecile" in the census of 1891 has received careful consideration, with the result that the column in the Householders' Schedule has been amended to read as follows :—

II.
<p>If (1). Deaf and Dumb. (2). Blind. (3). Imbecile or Idiot. (4). Lunatic.</p>
<p>Write the precise infirmity, if any, opposite the name of the person, and if the infirmity dates from childhood, add "from childhood." Do not use such a general term as "afflicted" or "infirm."</p>

I am to add that the Secretary for Scotland trusts that the object aimed at by the Society will be attained by this alteration.

I am, Sir,  
Your obedient Servant,  
E. W. COCHRAN PATRICK.

D. Yellowlees, Esq., M.D., LL.D.,  
Superintendent Royal Asylum,  
Gartnavel, Glasgow.

At the Council Meeting, held in London November 20th, 1890, the subject was brought forward by the President, and it was agreed that he should make a similar request to the Registrar-General in regard to the census for England and Wales. This letter elicited a courteous reply, in which the information was conveyed by the Secretary, Mr. Noel Humphreys, that "in the Householder's Schedule to be used at the approaching census in England and Wales, in April next, the heading adopted for the column relating to the deaf and dumb, the blind, and the lunatic, imbecile and idiot, is in precise accord with that which has been adopted in the Scotch Schedule, which the Registrar-General is glad to learn meets the views of your Association."

We understand that the distinction has already been adopted in the census for Ireland.

[Since above was in type, the subject has been reconsidered by the English and Scotch offices, and "Lunatic, Imbecile or Idiot" will be printed together, but the foot note will remain.]

## AN ASYLUM PHYSICIAN SHOT DEAD BY A LUNATIC.

It is with great regret that we have to record the homicide of Dr. George F. Lloyd, the Assistant Superintendent of the King's County Asylum, Flatbush, Long Island (U.S.A.).

It appears that\* James M. Dougherty was admitted to the Flatbush Asylum in November, 1888. In August, 1889, he escaped, and threatened to strike the

\* We are indebted to the courtesy of the Editor of the "American Journal of Insanity" for the account of this melancholy event, as sent to him by Dr. Fleming, of the Flatbush Asylum, N.Y.

attendants with a shovel when they pursued him. Dr. Fleming, the Superintendent of the Institution, states that, when he took charge on October 1st, 1889, he found him a quiet patient, although he complained of the diet. He laboured under visual and auditory hallucinations, and had delusions of persecutions. He again escaped September 16th, 1890. On the 26th, that is ten days after his escape, he walked into the asylum, revolver in hand, and demanded his property. Dr. Fleming was in the office alone. Dr. Lloyd, at this juncture, entered the room, and Dr. Fleming requested him to get Dougherty his property, which he did. He was then asked to sign a receipt for it, upon which he laid his cane on the desk, transferred his revolver to the left hand, and signed. It was thought by the medical officers that he brought the revolver to prevent his being retaken, but he was informed that his name had been removed from the books. Dr. Fleming heard nothing more of him until October 9th, when he was told he had been seen in New York two days before, and that he behaved in a surly manner. On the same day, Dr. Fleming was informed that the patient had returned to the asylum, and almost immediately afterwards two shots were heard, followed by the sound of hurrying steps. On entering the office from which the sound proceeded, Dr. Lloyd was found on his side by the desk, and the blood pouring from his body. The patient was seen walking rapidly to the gate. He was subsequently given in charge at the police-station and locked up. On examining Dr. Lloyd, it was found that one ball had gone through the heart and the other into the throat.

Dr. Lloyd was only 29, and had been appointed to the post which he held July 1st, 1890. Dr. Fleming writes: "He was a loyal friend, a competent and painstaking official, and had a peculiar faculty of gaining the love and respect of all who came in contact with him—even those who had met him but once or twice had mentioned that quality. His taking away is deeply deplored, especially by his associates and personal friends."

We join in the sympathy expressed by the "American Journal of Insanity" for the mother who survives, and whose grief has been intensified by the death of a daughter from diphtheria twelve days afterwards.

#### Correspondence.

##### MOSCOW ASYLUM.

We have received a communication from Dr. Korsakoff, Private Docent of Psychiatry in the University of Moscow, drawing attention to what he regards as inexact statements made by Dr. Robert Jones in his report on the Lunatic Asylum of Moscow, published in this Journal, April, 1890. Dr. Jones stated that mechanical restraint was rare. Although Dr. Korsakoff does not belong to the administration of the institution, he delivers a course of clinical lectures, as "private docent," and consequently considers that he knows perfectly well that this and other statements are incorrect. In proof of this he encloses a letter, describing the clinique in the asylum, written by the Superintendent, Professor Kojewnikoff. It is as follows:—

*Refutation of Dr. Robert Jones's article, "Russian Retrospect," referring to the Moscow Clinic for Mental Diseases.*

GENTLEMEN,—I consider it my duty to state that the account of the Moscow Clinic for Mental Diseases, given by Dr. Robert Jones, and published in this Journal in April, 1890, page 295, is incorrect in many respects. In the month of August, 1889, Dr. R. Jones stopped at our Clinic for less than half an hour, so he could not become acquainted with its organization. Without entering into the details and the tone of his description, I will merely point out the chief errors in his article.