

He was born in Aberdeen in 1818, graduated in Medicine there in 1839, and was shortly afterwards appointed Resident Medical Officer to the institution where he so long laboured. On his marriage in 1846 he resigned and engaged in private practice, but returned to his position in the asylum by the unanimous wish of the Directors in 1853, a position which he held till 1881, when Dr Reid was promoted to be his coadjutor. In 1884 Dr. Jamieson was released from active responsibility and remained in residence as Consulting Physician, since which time he has been but little known to the younger members of the specialty.

In 1840 the daily number resident in the Aberdeen Royal Asylum was 144, at present it is 730; and Dr. Jamieson's wisdom and foresight in dealing with successive additions to the responsibilities of his office have always been adequately recognised by those who had the good fortune to be associated with him.

In a contemporary notice, we find Dr. Jamieson credited, along with Dr. Hutchings, of Glasgow, with introducing the "non-restraint" system of treatment into Scotland; but that he was no mere theorist his own words, from the annual report of 1841, will show—"In regard to the subject of coercion . . . we find ourselves called upon, in justice to the managers and to the friends of the patients under our charge, to make a short statement of our practice in this important particular, and it, shortly, is this, that we act on the principle of *non-restraint*, as far as the construction and economy of the establishment will allow; but we have no desire to obtain the notoriety of being non-restrainers at the expense of what we conscientiously deem to be for the safety and advantage of our patients. That there are cases in which mild restraint is both judicious and humane every physician who is unprejudiced must surely admit who has ever witnessed the unbridled violence of an outrageous maniac, exhausting the excited vigour of an enfeebled constitution, and extinguishing the hope of recovery for ever. We have no more hesitation in such cases, when other means have been useless, in applying the waist-belt or the muff than we would have in applying leeches or a blister against the will of the individual . . . It is scarcely requisite now that the public mind entertains less prejudiced notions on the treatment of the insane to notice that threatening and abusive language and harsh measures of every description are not only found to be unnecessary, but strictly prohibited among the attendants, and made the occasion of reprimand or dismissal when discovered."

While in private practice, Dr. Jamieson occupied the chair of Lecturer on Practice of Medicine and Medical Jurisprudence in King's College, Aberdeen, and took that opportunity of delivering systematic lectures on insanity, thus leading the movement which has now become so general. The lectures were published in the "London Medical Gazette" for 1850, and will, even yet, repay the attention of the specialist. A discourse on Mind and Body (*Phrenical Action of the Cerebrum*, "Journ. Psych. Med.," 1858), read before the Philosophical Institution of Aberdeen, deals with the subject from a more popular point of view.

Dr. Jamieson was pre-deceased by all his family, and bore his sorrows with that manly fortitude for which he was distinguished. In private life he was known as a man of cultivated tastes, and, indeed, at one time he was ambitious of becoming an artist. He had a notable artistic and musical talent, and has left a valuable collection of works of art. His portrait has been painted by three men of note, Sam Bough, John Pettie, and Sir George Reid; and his handsome, kindly face lives on canvas.

Dr. Jamieson became a member of the Medico-Psychological Association in 1859, and his contemporaries recognised him as a gentleman whose counsel and encouragement were to be highly appreciated.

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*Professor Andrea Verga.*

The death of this distinguished physician on the 21st November, at the advanced age of 84, deprives medico-psychological science of a most distin-

guished and original worker. His long connection with the asylums of Milan afforded him opportunities which he used skilfully and wisely. As Professor of Psychiatry and as President of the Lombard Institute of Science and Literature, his worth has been acknowledged in Italy; while his fame as an original and independent thinker secured his recognition by learned societies all over the civilised world. His work on "Hallucinations" received the prize of the Académie de Médecine de Paris, and his writings on "Criminality" anticipated many of Lombroso's ideas. Professor Verga long ago advocated the special care of insane criminals, and he strongly emphasised the propriety of dealing with habitual offenders as moral imbeciles. His lectures were attended by all sorts and conditions of medical men, and the loss of his interesting personality is a heavy blow to science.

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NOTICES.

THE PRIZE DISSERTATION.

The President has suggested the following subjects for the Bronze Medal and Prize of ten guineas, which is open to all Assistant Medical Officers of Asylums, but Candidates are at liberty to present an Essay on any other subject if they so desire:—

1. Testamentary Incapacity from a Medico-Psychological Standpoint.
2. What is the Influence—if any—of Alcoholic Intemperance as a Primary Cause of Insanity?
3. The Pathological Changes in the Blood Vessels of the Brain Cortex in Insanity.

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DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

The next General Meeting will be held on Thursday, 20th February, 1896, probably at Cambridge, as Carlisle is to be the place of meeting of the British Medical Association in July, 1896.

The Spring Meeting of the South-Western Division will be held on the afternoon of Tuesday, 14th April, 1896, at Barnwood House, Gloucester.

The Spring Meeting of the Scottish Division will be held on Thursday, 12th March, 1896, at Glasgow.

The Spring Meeting of the Irish Division will be held in Dublin, in April, 1896.

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INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF PSYCHOLOGY.

The third Congress will be held at Munich from 4th to 7th August, 1896, under the presidency of Dr. Strumpf, of Berlin. The Committee includes the names of Professors Bain, Ferrier, Schäfer, Sedgwick, and Sully.

All psychologists and educated persons are invited to attend. The forms of application for membership can be obtained from the General Secretary, Dr. Shrenk-Notzig, München, Max-Josephstrasse 2, or from Professor Sully, East Heath Road, Hampstead. The subscription is 15 shillings.

The programme of work includes:—

- I. Psycho-physiology—A. Anatomy and Physiology; B. Psychophysics.
- II. Psychology of the Normal Individual.
- III. Psychopathology.
- IV. Comparative Psychology.

Psychologists intending to offer papers or addresses are requested to state the subject of their communications, and to send written abstracts of them to the General Secretary, at Munich, before 15th May, 1896.

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APPOINTMENTS.

MR. HARDINGE FRANK GIFFARD has been appointed Secretary to the Commissioners in Lunacy in the place of Mr. G. H. Urmsen, who has been appointed a Commissioner.

DR. D. NICOLSON has been appointed Lord Chancellor's Visitor in Lunacy, vice Dr. Lockhart Robertson, retired.