

That the words "to the said Commissioners or authority" should read "to the said County Council or corresponding authority."

Sect. 13.—That this is the correct place to insert a definition of "Managers or Authorities of any Asylum."

That at the end of the section, the words "employé of the asylum" should read "employé of the asylum authority."

Sect. 14.—That immediately following the word "granted," the words "nor the validity of any scale of superannuation more favourable than the schemes laid down in this Act actually in force" be inserted.

That the following clause should appear at the end of this section. "Provided that it should be competent for any officer or servant who has served for more than fifteen years in one asylum previously to the commencement of this Act by giving notice within three months thereof to the Managing Authority to be excluded from the requirements and provisions of this Act as regards superannuation allowance but not to forfeit the benefit of the arrangements in that respect existing under Sects. 280—282 of the Lunacy Act, 1890.

OBITUARY.

DAVID BRODIE, M.D.

On the 21st December last there passed away at his house, Slingsby Villa, Finchley, a former member of our Association, and a man who did faithful and good work in his day. David Brodie, the son of William Brodie, Schoolmaster at Alloa, was born on the 18th April, 1821. He took the degree of M.D. in 1845. While he was studying medicine at Edinburgh, Séguin and Saegert had begun to prosecute the teaching of idiots, and Brodie was of a character likely to be attracted by philanthropic ideals. Some sympathetic friends joined together to take a house at Gayfield Square, in Edinburgh, in 1855, which was conducted by Dr. and Mrs. Brodie. His reputation soon spread, and in 1860 he was called to America to be consulted about a case, although there were already three institutions for the training of idiots in the United States. In the same year a Committee was formed in Edinburgh for the education of Imbecile Youth. This led to the foundation of the Scottish National Institution at Larbert. Dr. Brodie was invited to become Medical Superintendent, and in 1864 the house was opened with twenty-two pupils.

Although the list of directors comprised a number of men known for their position, ability, and philanthropic character, the institution laboured under difficulties from the outset, of which the want of funds was not the least. The system of electing the beneficiaries by the votes of the contributors led to a desire of making economies for them from the paying boarders, and the actual management of the institution fell into the hands of a few directors, who were unwilling to believe that a large subscription does not bring with it the knowledge of intelligently exercising the power of regulating a training school. After much friction and vexation, deepened by the loss of his first wife, Dr. Brodie, in 1866, resigned his position, and taking with him all the best paying boarders, began a private establishment at Columbia Lodge, Liberton, which he successfully conducted for eighteen years, at the end of which period he retired upon what he had saved.

During the latter years of his life he resided in the suburbs of London, where he died in his eighty-eighth year.

Dr. Brodie was the author of a book entitled *The Healing Art the Right Hand of the Church by Therapeutes*, Edinburgh, 1859, besides various articles in the medical journals. He was a man of tender and kindly nature, hopeful and enthusiastic, grudging no labour, and willing to give up his whole time, and descend to the most minute details for the care and comfort of those under his charge. He was deeply religious, and, when in Scotland, he belonged to the Plymouth Brethren. He was a radical in politics, but mild and tolerant in his views.

He leaves behind him a widow, but has survived all his other relations.

WILLIAM W. IRELAND.

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