

girls are able to work the sewing machine, and can make beds with a little assistance, and help generally in the work of the Asylum.

"Last year, in the tailor's shop, were made: 128 coats, 209 waistcoats, and 214 pairs of trousers; while 1,142 coats, 684 waistcoats, and 2,261 pairs of trousers were repaired. In the shoemaker's shop were made: 146 pairs of boy's, and 334 pairs of girl's boots, and a very large quantity were repaired. In the school-room, besides the instruction imparted, 236 different articles were turned out.

"The estimated value of the boys' labour in the workshops and dormitories was, during the year, £148. The girls' labour in the dormitories, household work, sewing-room, school-room, &c., during the same time, was valued at £100.

"It is thus seen that the temporary asylum at Clapton fairly performed the work for which it was originated, and it is confidently expected that in the new Asylum much greater results will be obtained."

From the 1879 Report, we find that the number resident in the Asylum, January 1, 1879, was: 196 males, 143 females, total 339. Of 56 discharged since December, 1877, 30 had gone to other District Asylums, being over 16 years of age, and incapable of learning anything; 6 had been discharged at request of Guardians, improved, and 6 not improved; 4 had been transferred to County Asylums; 4 had recovered; 84 went to the Homerton Fever Hospital; while 2 had escaped, and 20 had died. The number of children actually attending school, January 1, 1879, was 174. As will be seen the numbers at the time of our subsequent visit were higher.

The daily cost per head during the last half year was ls. 11½d.

The Commissioners observe in their Report:—"Dr. Fletcher Beach continues to discharge with zeal and ability the office of Medical Superintendent."

D. H. T.

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#### RETIREMENT OF DR. LAUDER LINDSAY FROM THE PHYSICIAN-SUPERINTENDENCY OF THE MURRAY ROYAL ASYLUM, PERTH.

After twenty-five years of active service, Dr. Lauder Lindsay has retired. We regret to learn that it was the state of his health which made this step necessary. He has been one of our hardest workers, not only in the department of psychological medicine, but also in the fields of botany, and comparative psychology. His work on Lichens and his recent most exhaustive book on "Mind in the Lower Animals," are monuments of industrious research. Our department of medicine can scarcely afford to lose the few men in it who have made names in general science. The younger generation of our *confrères* need to look to their laurels, if they are to achieve such well-merited fame as Dr. Lindsay has done. To us it seems that those habits of steady systematic and self-denying industry, are not so common as they might be. The routine of official work is apt to distract the mind from the claims of science and original research. Dr. Lindsay takes into his retirement the best wishes of many of our readers for his health and happiness.

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#### FIRE IN THE LENZIE ASYLUM.

A fire which might have resulted in disastrous consequences, but which, owing to the successful measures adopted, was confined to the portion of the building in which it originated, occurred on the 16th October, at Woodville Asylum, about seven miles from Glasgow. The Asylum is one of the most recently erected in Scotland, having been opened about four years ago. The