

- Officers, together with their status and powers should be clearly defined by Statute.
- "7. That in order to secure a better class of Nurses and Attendants, and thus promote the better care and supervision of the patients under their charge the Superannuation of the Officers and Staff of every Public Asylum in Ireland should be made compulsory, and—
- "8. That with their extended duties and responsibilities an increase in the numbers and powers of the Inspectors of Lunatics in Ireland is necessary."

---

 OBITUARY.

## F. K. DICKSON, M.D.

By the death of Dr. Francis Kennedy Dickson, of Wye House, Buxton, the Association loses one of its senior and widely respected members, who, by his character and social position, reflected honour upon it. Dr. Dickson was not alone the successful superintendent of a private asylum, but a man who took a strenuous part in all the social work of his district. He was an active Justice of the Peace for the county of Derbyshire, second in seniority on the Buxton Bench, and Chairman of the Licensing Committee. He was Senior Consulting Physician to the Devonshire Hospital, an active supporter of the Buxton and District Nursing Association, and took an active part in many other local movements and interests.

Dr. Dickson was Honorary Acting Medical Officer to the Devonshire Hospital and Buxton Bath Charity from 1865 to 1878, and succeeded his father as proprietor of Wye House, which post he held for upwards of thirty years.

His death occurred suddenly on the evening of February 2nd, after a brief indisposition of two days only, in his sixty-fourth year, and the great esteem in which he was held was manifested by the attendance at his funeral of representatives of the many public bodies with which he had been associated, as well as by a very large number of friends.

## JAMES EDMUND HUXLEY, M.D.St.And.

It falls to my lot to record the death in February last at Maidstone of this gentleman who, in point of age, was the doyen of public asylum superintendents in England. He was the elder brother of the late Prof. T. H. Huxley, President of the Royal Society. He was in his eighty-seventh year, and had been in receipt of a pension of £300 a year from the Kent County Authorities since the year 1863, and during that long period of retirement had resided at 39, Upper Fant Road, Maidstone, near the scene of his former labours. I believe he commenced his professional career as Medical Superintendent of the old Marylebone Infirmary, then became for a short time Medical Superintendent of the Gloucester County Asylum, from which he was elected Medical Superintendent of the then comparatively new Kent County Asylum at Barming Heath, near Maidstone, where he was often visited by his two brothers—the late Professor Huxley, and the youngest, a rising barrister, who died at a comparatively early age. All were highly talented men, but of the three the youngest was the most gifted, and I have heard that to spend an evening in their company was a great intellectual treat. Dr. James Huxley was an original member of our Association, and his name appears frequently in the first number of the *Journal of Mental Science*, then designated the *Asylum Journal*, to which, among other contributions, he communicated a paper on the Kent Asylum at Barming. Being of a retiring disposition he did not take an active part in the official work of the Association, and later on, when his health failed somewhat, his interest also declined. Amongst his Assistant Medical Officers were the late Dr. Wm. Charles Hills, afterwards, for many years, Medical Superintendent of the Norfolk County Asylum, and the late Dr. Robert Spencer, the first Medical Superintendent of the Kent County Asylum at Chartham. Dr. James Huxley retired at an early age (43) in consequence of ill-health, and lived the quietest and most secluded of lives. He was twice married and leaves issue.—ERNEST W. WHITE.