

OPENING OF THE HOLLOWAY SANATORIUM.

On June 15th the long-expected opening of this hospital for the insane took place. Mr. Martin-Holloway delivered a short address, to which the Prince of Wales replied, and declared the asylum to be open. The corridors and rooms are profusely decorated in accordance with the somewhat curiously-worded intention of "endeavouring above all things to avoid leaving a dimmed intelligence opposite a blank wall." It is unfortunate that this praiseworthy intention necessarily falls to the ground in the single rooms for refractory patients; indeed, it will be needful to make their walls a little barer still if accidents are to be avoided. We wish Dr. Sutherland Rees Philipps the success he merits in his new and responsible post as medical superintendent. The late Mr. Thomas Holloway has certainly devoted his money to a good object. The only fear we entertain is that if the institution is not, as we understand, endowed, the institution will become a private asylum for the higher classes with a very few inmates of the class for which, no doubt, the donor intended it. We shall see whether it succeeds in avoiding the charges brought against similar institutions in England.

LORD SHAFTESBURY.

It will have afforded sincere satisfaction to all interested in the insane to hear that, in consequence of the Lunacy Bill having been withdrawn, the Earl of Shaftesbury has consented to return to his post as Chairman of the Board of Commissioners in Lunacy. We do not regret having had an opportunity afforded us of expressing in the "Occasional Notes of the Quarter" the feeling universally entertained in our department in regard to the services rendered by Lord Shaftesbury, although the article is no longer applicable to the present state of affairs. The address to his Lordship which it was intended to propose at the Annual Meeting will, of course, not be proceeded with, but his Lordship will have the satisfaction of knowing how much the Medico-Psychological Association appreciates his work on behalf of the insane.

ABSTRACT OF LUNACY ACTS AMENDMENT BILL.

[Although, in consequence of recent political events, the proposed Lunacy Bill will not pass into law this session, it is thought that the following abstract of the Bill, as amended in Committee, will be of service for reference in future.]

The principal objects of this Bill are—

- I. To furnish safeguards against the improper confinement of persons as lunatics.
- II. To give facilities for the medical treatment of persons who desire to submit to treatment, and of idiot and imbecile children.
- III. To enable public asylums to be provided for the reception of lunatics not paupers.
- IV. To give increased powers to the Court for administering the property of lunatics.