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RENÉ SEMELAIGNE (1855-1934).

BOTH in France and England the death of René Semelaigne on November 16, 1934, will be sincerely mourned.

He was born in December, 1855, at Neuilly-sur-Seine. After an exceptionally liberal medical education he succeeded his father as Medical Director of the private mental hospital of Saint-James, at Neuilly, where he worked until his retirement in 1921. Semelaigne's great contribution to French psychiatry was his extensive and learned series of articles and books on the history of psychiatry in France. As recently as 1930 and 1932 he published, in two volumes, a work entitled *Les Pionniers de la Psychiatrie française*.

Semelaigne was well known at one time in England, and an admirer of English psychiatry. He was a corresponding member of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association from 1893 to 1911, when he became an Honorary Member. He was an honorary member of a great many foreign societies. He has been president of most of the French psychiatric societies, and some members of our Association will remember with pleasure his occupancy of the chair in 1926 of the Congress of Alienists and Neurologists of France and of French-speaking Countries.

A charming personality, a loved physician and a man of great learning, Dr. René Semelaigne will be mourned by a very wide circle of friends.

G. W. B. JAMES.