

tion-list always contains a number of inmates whose friends apply for their election for an additional term of five years, so that the cases in the asylum not increased in the same ratio as the number of successful candidates. Mission by election into this asylum is now rendered easy of accomplishment.

DR. IRELAND'S BOOK, "The Blot upon the Brain," is to be translated into French. The French translation of this work, which is being prepared by Dr. Edgar Bérillon, of Paris, is nearly finished, and will be published in November. "Blot" has been prohibited by the ever-vigilant Russian censorship. This prohibition is owing to the chapter on the hereditary insanity of the Romanoffs, and the historical illustrations about the miseries which insane monarchs have inflicted upon their subjects. We hope Dr. Ireland's article in the present Number of the *Journal* will not share a like fate in that country.

#### Obituary.

##### JAMES ALEXANDER EAMES, M.D.

We believe that the decease of Dr. Eames, at the age of 53, is the first instance of a President of the Medico-Psychological Association dying during his term of office. Those who attended the forty-fourth annual meeting held at Cork last year under his presidency had no reason to foresee that at the next anniversary the seat would be empty. Last autumn he visited Belgium, and was present at the Antwerp Congress of Mental Medicine; he joined the excursion to Ghent, in which he took a lively interest, and returned home in usual health and full of spirits. Nothing, so far as we are aware, occurred to injure his health until the last, when he was attacked with a carbuncle on the neck, which did not for some time excite alarm, but was followed in the course of a few weeks by great prostration, and finally by death on Saturday, the 17th of July. His medical attendants, Drs. Hobart, Townsend, and Deputy-Inspector-General Eames, appear to have taken an encouraging view of the case till nearly the last. In his death a genial warm-hearted physician and a sincere friend passed away. His *bonhomie* and ready speech, his laugh and good-natured expression, will be sorely missed in the family circle and the institution over which he presided, loved by his colleagues and trusted by his committee. It was after holding the post of assistant-surgeon in the Crimean War, in which position he obtained several marks of distinction, that he studied mental disorders, and was appointed Medical Superintendent of the Lettarkenny Lunatic Asylum. Thirteen years ago the then superintendent of the Cork Asylum (Dr. Power) died, and Dr. Eames, after having been eight years at the above-mentioned institution, was appointed his successor. It is said that this appointment was due in good measure to the influence of the Duke of Cambridge, who, when wounded in the Crimea, received surgical attention from Dr. Eames. That his management of the Cork Asylum was successful, and indicated the fertile resources of the superintendent, will be allowed by those members of our Association who were present at the meeting and had an opportunity of going over the institution. Dr. Eames contributed several papers to the medical journals of general interest. He was always ready to introduce new remedies and appliances into the asylum, and never despised them, however homely and simple they might be.

We regret to find that Dr. Eames has not accumulated wealth, and that his life and family are left unprovided for. Under these circumstances an

"Eames Fund" has been started, and we would enlist the sympathies of our readers on behalf of the subjoined appeal:—

THE LATE DR. EAMES.

SIR,—It having come to the knowledge of some of the friends of the late Dr. Eames, Resident Medical Superintendent of the Cork District Lunatic Asylum, that his family, owing to his premature and unexpected death, is left in a very unprovided-for position, it was resolved, at a meeting held at the Mayor's Office, Cork, on the 22nd inst., the Mayor in the chair—

"That this fact should be brought under the notice of Dr. Eames' many friends in Cork and elsewhere, in the hope that a testimonial of a substantial character may be subscribed for, in order to give such assistance as would help towards completing the education of the younger members of the family, and for other purposes."

To carry out this laudable object, a committee was appointed, to whom subscriptions may be sent, as also to the different Banks in Cork.

Earnestly soliciting your co-operation,

Signed on behalf of the Committee,

J. H. CRONIN, }  
J. G. CURTIS, M.D., } Hon. Secs.

Mayor's Office, Cork,  
27th July, 1886.

JOSEPH LALOR, M.D.

It is our painful task to record in our obituary the death of another Irish member of our Association, the late Medical Superintendent of the Richmond Asylum, Dublin, the excellent and kind-hearted Dr. Joseph Lalor. He may be said to have died in harness, having been engaged till within a few weeks of his death in the duties which occupied his time and thought for so many years. Formerly Resident Physician at the Kilkenny Asylum, he was appointed in 1857 to the Dublin Asylum, which is the public institution for poor lunatics in the counties of Dublin, Wicklow, and Louth, the town of Drogheda as well as the city of Dublin.

It is stated on good authority\* that at that period, refractory patients were confined in cells for most of the day as well as the night, receiving their food in such a way as best suited the convenience of the attendants. Open-air exercise was rarely permitted, and then only in the dark confined yards or sheds surrounded by stone walls. All this was changed by Dr. Lalor; better grounds were prepared, games were introduced, and the general comfort of the patients was attended to. Dr. Lalor, as is well known, enthusiastically carried out the school system at the Richmond Asylum, and it was an unceasing source of regret to him that so few superintendents would take the necessary trouble to secure its success.

It should be stated that for two years before he became Superintendent a school had been in operation on the female side under an excellent school-mistress. It was Dr. Lalor who introduced the same system for the male patients, and he obtained additional teachers, trained under the National Board, for the female school. Singing and music were much cultivated, while object and picture lessons were given, as well as others in natural history and geography. At the Exhibition held some years ago in Dublin, drawings, paintings, and industrial work, all executed by the patients, attracted considerable attention. Along with the schools, concerts were given every fortnight, or even weekly, which, common as they now are, were rare when Dr. Lalor organized

\* See the "Irish Times," August 5, 1886, to which we are indebted for some of the particulars which follow.