

by Professor BOLTON, Dr. STODDART, Dr. HELEN BOYLE and the PRESIDENT, and Dr. McDOWALL replied.

Dr. EDWARD MAPOTHER (Long-Grove) submitted a paper on "Mental Symptoms in Association with Choreiform Disorders" (see p. 646). The PRESIDENT, Dr. BOND, Dr. FLETCHER BEACH, Dr. DIXON, and Dr. STODDART joined in the discussion, to which the author replied.

#### RESOLUTION OF THANKS.

Dr. HAYES NEWINGTON said it would not be right, after such a very happy and hospitable meeting, to separate, as an Association, without acknowledging their great indebtedness to all those who had worked together to make it a successful gathering. First, they would thank the Royal College of Physicians, the possessors of the beautiful house in which the meetings were being held. They not only lent that hall, but also another room, in which the meetings were held on Wednesday. The sittings had been long, and members had done their best, by a proper use of the building, to repay its kindly loan. With regard to the College of Surgeons, it had done for the body what the College of Physicians had done for the mind. And he asked the President to convey the Association's thanks to the musicians, with the definite opinion that they were very excellent musicians. As an Association, they had had plentiful opportunity of hearing the best London male quartettes—there was a very perfect quartette in Leeds, the home of such singing in Yorkshire—and last year good music in Edinburgh, but he thought it could be said that Dublin came up to the very best they had heard, if it did not excel it. Thanks were also due to the Council of the Zoological Society for the kind grant of its grounds for the garden party, and to the Primate for his kindly invitation to the members to visit him at Armagh Palace. The Association also wished to thank Dr. Kirkpatrick for kindly arranging the Museum, which many visited; also those who lent motor cars. But one item was omitted from his list, namely, the ladies who had done so much to make the meeting a pleasant one. Several members were accompanied by their female relatives, whom they would not have known what to do with during the meetings had it not been for the ladies. In this connection, Mrs. Dawson, Mrs. Donelan, Mrs. Eustace, and Mrs. Leeper had specially to be thanked. And he would not like to close without saying a word about the Lord Lieutenant. Dr. Dawson thanked him officially at the dinner, and he (the speaker) thought they might personally express their great appreciation of what his Excellency did for the Association on the previous night. It was rare for such an Association to have the great distinction of receiving such a guest. But his Lordship went beyond that. His personal kindness and his *bonhomie*, and the manner in which he entered into the jollity of the evening, enhanced their pleasure. If there should be an opportunity, he would like Dr. Dawson unofficially to thank the Lord Lieutenant for his kindness. Still another name required to be mentioned, that of the President, Dr. Dawson, to whom the Association could not express too highly its thankfulness for all the trouble he had taken to render the meeting a happy one. It was one of the best meetings which the Association had ever held. He moved formally that a vote of thanks be conveyed to the various people named.

Dr. JOHN MACPHERSON seconded the vote with much pleasure, because the meeting had been a particularly successful one, and he was convinced that its success depended largely on the good offices of those whom Dr. Newington had included in the vote.

The PRESIDENT thanked the members on his own behalf, and assured them that it was a great pleasure to have the meeting held in Dublin.

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#### THE ANNUAL DINNER.

The Annual Dinner was held on Thursday, July 13th, at the Royal College of Surgeons. The chair was occupied by the President, Dr. Dawson, and on his right was His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, The Right Hon. the Earl of Aberdeen, K.P. The guests included also The Right Hon. the Under

Secretary, The Hon. the Recorder of Dublin, The President of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland, The President of the Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland, The Vice-Chancellor of the National University of Ireland, The Provost of Trinity College, The Most Rev. the Bishop of Meath, The Right Rev. the Bishop of Clogher, The Most Rev. the Bishop of Canea, The Registrar in Lunacy, The Registrar-General for Ireland, The Chairman of the Prisons Board, Dr. T. J. Considine, Surgeon-General G. Bourke, C.B., The Chief Inspector of Reformatory and Industrial Schools, The Aide-de-Camp in Waiting Viceregal Lodge, The Private Secretary Viceregal Lodge, Drs. J. Magee Finny, Walter G. Smith, A. C. O'Sullivan, J. Craig, Sir John Lentaigne, Sir John W. Moore, Drs. T. P. C. Kirkpatrick and A. R. Parsons, Rev. R. A. Oulton, Dr. W. S. Haughton, Messrs. R. G. Matthews, D. L. Rogers, F. G. Hicks, F.R.I.B.A., Wesley Guard, Captain Grimbley.

#### THE TOASTS.

##### THE KING.

This was proposed by the PRESIDENT. He said the toast of the King required no speech to recommend it—less than ever now, when His Majesty had further endeared himself to their hearts by his recent visit to Ireland.

The toast was enthusiastically pledged, the National Anthem being finely sung by Mr. D. L. Rogers.

##### THE QUEEN AND THE REST OF THE ROYAL FAMILY.

The PRESIDENT, in proposing this toast, said it was unnecessary to surround such a popular toast with many words. He would merely say that her Majesty's interest in all that pertained to the health of the people was so well known that it made the toast particularly appropriate at that gathering. During her visit to Ireland she had again shown that interest, for on the first day of her arrival she received the Jubilee nurses from all parts of Ireland at the Viceregal Lodge. He had it on the best authority that they looked uncommonly well. (Hear, hear.) Her Majesty also visited the Coombe Hospital in Dublin, and, with his Majesty, was present at the opening of the Tuberculosis Dispensary. Those were only additional instances which showed the interest which her Majesty, in common with the members of her Royal House, always took in medical matters, and in everything for the welfare of the people. He submitted to the company the toast of the Queen and the other Members of the Royal Family.

This toast was also very heartily pledged.

##### THE LORD LIEUTENANT OF IRELAND.

Dr. JOHN MACPHERSON said he could imagine no reason why he should have been assigned the honour of proposing that very important toast, unless it were that he was a Scotsman. To a Scotsman it would be a much easier and more familiar task to propose the health of the Earl of Aberdeen than to propose the health of the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. Not that because Scotsmen were ignorant of the high position which his Excellency occupied, and not that Scotsmen were indifferent to the course of Irish politics. With all the will in the world to do so, they were not allowed, for long, to forget them. (Laughter.) At the same time, as a Scotsman he was not forgetful of the great debt of obligation under which Scotland lay to Ireland. In the first place, Ireland gave to them their name, for it was a hardy band of Irish colonists, the Scots of Antrim, who, towards the end of the fifth century, landed upon Scottish shores and wrested Argyll from the Pictish power. Three centuries later the Scots gave them the first King of Scotland, from which time the country had been known by its present name. In the next place, the inhabitants of Ireland gave to the Scots a language which was euphonious and expressive, but which, he was sorry to say, was fast disappearing. Finally, they sent them St. Columba, the greatest of all missionaries. Those Scotsmen who paused to think about those things could be neither

forgetful nor ungrateful. But it must not be supposed that the Scottish nation was over-weighted by a sense of obligation to the country which gave them these benefits. It must be remembered that Scotland was a very small nation, a comparatively insignificant one, and that they were constantly misrepresented to the extent that they were judged rather by the defects of their qualities than by the qualities themselves. Hence it came about that they had to such a large extent developed the saving graces of humility and humour (Laughter), hence it was that they had come to place a higher value upon personal worth than upon worldly possessions. He assured the company that there was nothing which Scotsmen set a higher store by than their worthy citizens, and among their worthy citizens the Earl of Aberdeen was one of the worthiest. (Applause.) His Lordship represented a very ancient Scottish house, which, in the public eye, had come to be identified with those qualities of character and of goodness which commanded universal respect. Whenever there was a movement in the direction of the promotion of social good or the extension of liberty and justice, the Scottish people had come to expect, as a matter of course, that an Aberdeen would be associated with that movement. (Applause.) A very great and celebrated Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Lord Chesterfield, said that he would rather be an Irish Lord Lieutenant than go down to posterity as the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, a distinction which was pregnant with significance. He thought he might claim on behalf of Scotland that in lending his Lordship to the Irish people for the brief term of his high office, Scotsmen had been lending them, not a Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, but an Irish Lord Lieutenant. He might also say that in lending him to the Irish people they were in some measure paying an instalment of the great debt which Scotland owed to the Irish nation. Members of the Association greatly appreciated the honour which His Excellency had done them in gracing their annual dinner with his viceregal presence; and in proof of their cordial welcome to him he asked the company to drink Lord Aberdeen's health with enthusiasm. (Cheers.)

The toast was very heartily pledged.

The LORD LIEUTENANT, in responding to the toast, said he supposed his hearers regarded it as a very discreet as well as a very kindly action on the part of the President that he entrusted the toast to a brother Scot, so that he might be sure that the speaker would make the best possible case, at any rate as regarded the personal side of the proposition, which had been placed before the gathering, and which they had so genially and so kindly accepted. In reference to the official aspect, the representative of the Sovereign, whoever he might be, was very sure of a cordial and genial greeting from such an audience as that, and he was sure their visiting friends would not find fault with them in Dublin if they were unable, as yet, to divest themselves of feelings of what was more than loyalty, feelings of delight and pleasurable excitement which had been evoked by that memorable visit of King George and Queen Mary, which had been the occasion of a magnificent burst of spontaneous enthusiasm on the part of all. (Cheers.) Their friends would also remember that those feelings had been revived and confirmed by the missive published that morning in the form of a letter from the King, in which, with unreserved cordiality combined with dignified expression, he had given utterance to his own feeling and that of the Queen regarding that delightful manifestation. And if anything were needed further to emphasise his Majesty's appreciation of the unrestrained cordiality of his Irish people, it had been found in a further telegram which, he understood, was being published in the evening papers, in which the King alluded to the cheers that remained ringing in his ears, even when he had got as far as Holyhead. (Cheers.) He was sure none of them would ever forget that visit, and they would perhaps have good reason to be reminded of it by another visit before long. This day would be a memorable one also, not only in the history of the country, but also in that of the Royal Family, because the Prince of Wales was to be invested in that Principality with which he was so historically connected. And his Excellency could not help thinking, during the lusty singing of "God Save the King," that they were also mentally singing the sentiment—

"Among our ancient mountains and from our lovely vales,

Oh let the prayer be echoed, God bless the Prince of Wales." (Applause.)

He was sure that all present had been looking forward to that occasion; for his own part, ever since entering the room he had experienced nothing but pleasurable

sensations. (Applause.) In such a company it was quite unnecessary for him to dwell upon the far-reaching importance of the work of the Medico-Psychological Association, from both the scientific and the humanitarian points of view. The mere thought of those persons who, in the mysterious ordering of Providence, suffered the terrible affliction of mental disease, was enough to appeal with pathetic force to one's sympathies, and to stimulate a strong desire that those sufferers, unable to speak or act intelligently for themselves, should be treated with all possible skill and attention. (Applause.) One had to face the fact that lunacy had been on the increase in the British Isles. As regarded Ireland he found from statistics that in five decades, *i.e.*, since 1861, the number of lunatics had increased from 14,000 to over 25,000; or in relation to population, from 1 in 441 to 1 in 178. Of course there were concurrent considerations to be taken into account. All were aware of what a serious influence emigration had; the departure of so many of the youngest and strongest in the country had an artificial effect upon such returns as those of lunacy. But in whatever way the figures were regarded they were sufficiently serious and portentous. Still, it was to be hoped that the gravity of the facts would only tend to stimulate the zeal and resources of those who had been qualifying themselves to deal with that great problem, and certainly there had been a great advance in their methods of treatment. Perhaps, especially after the speech of his fellow-countryman, he might be allowed to allude to the prominent part which Scotland—in other words Scottish experts—had taken in the matter (Cheers) by such methods as open-air treatment, increased freedom, and so forth. In those questions he thought it could justly be claimed that Scotland had taken the lead. But it was necessary for him to be careful. He noticed how his brother Scot alluded to the qualities which Scotsmen ventured to claim as national characteristics—humility and humour. It was most extraordinary that people of other countries never seemed to have detected those qualities. (Laughter.) He had heard of a Scotsman who was speaking somewhat complacently about his nationality—it was to be hoped the occasion was St. Andrew's Day, for on that day Scotsmen did relax from their usual modesty—and an Englishman said, "To hear you talk one would think there was no limit to your claims; you will next assume that Shakespeare was a Scotsman." "Well," answered the Scotsman, "the ability of the man would justify the supposition." (Cheers and laughter.) At any rate, it was to be hoped that in scientific departments Scotland would not be found to be lacking, especially in matters medical. By a happy coincidence it was found that the Chairman of the evening, the present President of the Association, had recently been appointed as an Inspector of Lunacy in Ireland. (Cheers.) Well assured were they that Dr. Dawson and his colleague Dr. Considine would worthily follow the men of light and leading whose successors they were. He, of course, alluded to the late Sir George O'Farrell, a man greatly esteemed, and their friend Dr. Courtenay, who had retired from active service, whose great capacity, industry and conscientiousness were known to them all. (Cheers.) Dr. Dawson's Presidential Address delivered that day indicated the spirit in which he had entered on his new duties. It would be perceived that His Excellency took it for granted that the office of Inspector of Lunatics was to be regarded as something much more important and comprehensive than might be implied by the mere term "Inspectorship"; it was much more far-reaching than the corresponding office in some other departments of affairs. Rather it was expected of such a functionary that he should be ever on the alert to encourage research, and to utilise his experience in doing all that was possible to promote the scientific and humane treatment of the insane. (Applause.) All would wish their friends the Inspectors "God speed" in their work, and he felt sure they would have the hearty support of those who were able to accord it to them. The fact that that important gathering of the Medico-Psychological Association was being held in Dublin recalled to mind that when it last met in that City it was under the presidency of the late Dr. Connolly Norman. (Applause.) Dr. Norman, indeed, made his mark. His Excellency had the privilege of assisting at the dedication of a Memorial Tablet in that notable building, St. Patrick's Cathedral, and that occasion drew together a number of friends who gladly, out, in a sense, sorrowfully, took the opportunity of expressing their feelings of respect, appreciation and affection for his memory. Well, men of mark and leading passed away, and others took their places. There was good

reason to look forward with hope and confidence. The present position in regard to insanity was one which gave occasion for serious reflection, but it must be believed that fresh methods of earnest research would, with the Divine blessing, tend steadily and surely towards effecting the desired result. Something of the same sort was seen in another direction, where strenuous efforts in the matter of health had been put forward. He was alluding to consumption. Work in that connection had already made its mark; but insanity was a more difficult and delicate matter; all the more on that account should effort be recognised and everything possible done to encourage those who were devoting themselves to the subject. It was very gratifying to him to see so many men distinguished in that all-important department of science present that evening; and he hoped their visit to Dublin would be a pleasant memory. His Excellency, after giving an instance of witty repartee on the part of a Dublin jarvey, said he felt very grateful for the speech of Dr. Macpherson, and proud at being the guest of the Association. He tendered his cordial wishes for the Society's continued success.

#### THE MEDICO-PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

The VICE-CHANCELLOR OF THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND (Sir CHRISTOPHER NIXON) said he felt it a special honour to be asked to propose this toast. He referred to the various objects and activities of the Association, and said that what concerned him specially were its efforts to develop the teaching of mental diseases. In relation to that subject, he would specially refer to what the Association had effected by its influence. It had caused the examining boards to set special questions in reference to mental diseases at the examination for the final degrees or diplomas of the universities and the various licensing bodies. He did not think they, of the universities, had got far enough in that direction. Still, he claimed for the National university of Ireland, which he represented there that evening, that at all events it had established a diploma in connection with mental diseases, a diploma which, like the Diploma in Public Health and that in Tropical Medicine, was given only to practitioners on the Register. But he did not think that such really went far enough. We were living in an age of specialism; there was specialism in connection with almost every organ in the body. It was stated by an old colleague of his, a surgeon, that the development of specialism had gone so far that the only part of the human body that soon would be open to the ordinary surgeon was the umbilicus. (Laughter.) But he was not sure that this condition of specialism had been sufficiently developed in connection with mental diseases. Every qualified practitioner assumed that he was as competent to give his opinion in connection with the responsibility or irresponsibility of those who were insane, the testamentary capacity of the individual, and the other various problems resulting from nervous and mental diseases, as the most expert physician. He thought it was quite time that the public should be aroused to its interests in connection with that particular specialism of mental disease. That was why he was very strongly of opinion that the University which he represented did not go far enough in that direction. He thought that when there was an order of men who devoted themselves exclusively to affections of the most obscure character in connection with life and the mental condition of man, there ought to be more than a mere diploma; the speciality ought to try and develop the highest class of intellect in the country in connection with mental disorders; and one could only do that in a university by giving something better than a mere diploma. What he would suggest was that there should most certainly be given a B.Sc. for knowledge of diseases of the nervous system in connection with insanity. (Applause.) He could assure those present that, as far as he had any influence in the National University of Ireland, in order to promote the interests of that body—and those interests were commensurate with the interest of the public at large—he would do it. (Cheers.) There was the greatest promise in the future of what the profession could do. In the report which had been furnished in connection with the Commission on the Feeble-Minded there were extremely grave and important proposals, which would largely influence the conditions of the insane, the feeble-minded, and the epileptic in this country. He would ask any members of the profession, or any others who were present who happened to be in London,

to pay a visit to the Darenth Asylum, where they would see the most gratifying results of the treatment adopted there. It would come to be a question of the future as to whether it would be possible to answer Macbeth where he said: "Canst thou not minister to a mind diseas'd; pluck from the memory a rooted sorrow; raze out the written troubles of the brain?" That was really the question that the Association had to consider, whether it would discover that sweet oblivious antidote which would help to cure the terrible infliction of mental disorder which was so prevalent in this country. (Applause.)

The PRESIDENT, in replying to the toast, said that he had pleasure on behalf of the Medico-Psychological Association and on his own behalf in thanking the gathering most heartily for the way in which the health of their old Association had been drunk. It was just three score years and ten, a ripe old age, since the Association started, and it was now a great deal more lively than seventy years ago. As had already been said by the proposer of the toast, it had urged the establishment of special diplomas in the universities in the subject of psychological medicine. (Applause.) It was a great satisfaction to hear the Vice-Chancellor of the National University say that he might be confidently reckoned upon to support that in the University with which he was connected. (Applause.) Four universities across the Channel had promised to establish diplomas in psychological medicine, and he hoped that at no distant date there would be no such thing as a university or qualifying body in which such a diploma would not be granted for a proper course of training in that important subject. He had noticed that when people were talking with specialists in psychological medicine, and when the interlocutor happened to realise with whom he was speaking, he was apt to become rather uneasy. He did not know whether it was that everyone felt there was, somewhere or other, a slight flaw in his brain which the perspicacious eye of the professional psychologist might spy out, and certify him incontinently and lock him up. But he had not noticed any such uneasiness on the present occasion, and members were very glad to recognise the freedom and the kindly good fellowship which had prevailed throughout the dinner. (Applause.) This was the last opportunity which he would have of welcoming the visitors from across the Channel to Dublin, and telling them how extremely happy it made the Irish members to see them there. They had done their best to make things pleasant for the visitors, and he hoped the effort had not been without success. (Applause.) His Excellency having told an anecdote about the Dublin jarvies, he might be allowed himself to say he hoped the experience of the visitors would not be that of a gentlemen of whom he knew. He and a friend of his happened to be staying in Dublin, but for only a short time, and they wanted to see as much as possible in that time. They found a jarvey and asked him if he could drive them round the Park and to a number of other places in the course of half an hour. The driver looked at them in a disgusted way and replied, "Drive ye round the Park? begorrah I'll drive ye out of your mind in half an hour." It would be a shocking thing if the gentlemen who were engaged in trying to cure other people's minds were to be driven out of their own by the Dublin jarvies. But it was all very well to talk in a light and jocular way of mental trouble and the work in which members of the Association were engaged. That work, however, was no joke, but very solemn, very real, and very important. It was not on such occasions as the present, when they allowed themselves to relax, when that one of the objects of the Association which was pursued was the promotion of good fellowship among the members, that people must judge of them. Asylum physicians had onerous and monotonous duties to perform from day to day, and the routine often became very dreary, while at the same time they must always be in a state of tension; always on the watch, because if their attention were allowed to relax, even for a short time, some terrible result might follow. He used often to feel, when he was in charge of such an institution, that he was living on a volcano all the time, and that one never knew what would happen from one moment to the next. The work required all the support and all the sympathy which the physician could draw from his friends, in the circumstances in which he was placed, to enable him to carry it on as it should be carried on. They would all go back to their varied duties—superintendents, assistant medical officers, Commissioners in Lunacy—heartened and strengthened by the knowledge that they had had evidence that evening not only of the support of their other medical brethren, but of the support of laymen of various degrees who were interested in and knew the work; and particularly

in Ireland they valued the support and sympathy which His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant had expressed. (Applause.) He concluded by once more thanking the company most heartily both on his own behalf and that of the Association.

#### THE VISITORS.

Dr. DRAPES, in proposing the toast, said that to the guests of the evening members of the Association extended their hearty welcome. With His Excellency was the Under-Secretary, on whose shoulders, which were very broad ones, there devolved a vast volume of work and responsibility. There was also present the Recorder of Dublin, the Registrar-General, and other prominent officials, including the Chairman of the Prisons Board. In the presence of such a company it was necessary to be very careful about one's demeanour and decorum. Dr. Considine was also present, and the Association had a great interest in him, for he was one of the new inspectors. The Church had sent three of its dignitaries—the Bishop of Canea, the Bishop of Meath, and the Bishop of Clogher. The Army was represented by a Surgeon-General and the Aide-de-Camp to the Viceroy. Medicine was represented by the President of the Royal College of Physicians and the President of the Royal College of Surgeons. The former was one of his old friends and teachers, and with his name he had to associate that of Dr. Finny and Dr. Walter Smith. The Church, the Army, Physic, Law were all represented at those tables. Time was when the relations between the medical profession and the other professions were not of the happiest, and long ago medical men were not sufficiently appreciative of the ideas of churchmen, but there was now a more cordial feeling between the members of the professions. The churchman respected and valued the medical man as a co-worker; medical men esteemed churchmen because often when their skill failed the clergyman came in and brought relief and solace. Medicine and law were for a long time in a more or less antagonistic position to each other. There was a time when a professor described the contest between a K.C. and a medical witness as something like what took place when a terrier caught a rat. At the end of the interview there was not much left of the rat, and at the corresponding interview there was not much left of the medical practitioner. Since then he believed that law and medicine had been approximating nearer to each other, and they were likely in the future to blend more in feeling, which would be to the advantage of both. The presence of such men was an indication not only of their good-will towards the Association, but of their sympathy with its objects. Two things more than anything else bound medical men together, namely, science and philanthropy; love of knowledge and the relief of suffering. Those aims were the aims of the Medico-Psychological Association. From its inception up till now it had laboured to procure knowledge concerning that wonderful organ the human brain, in order to have a better understanding of the insane. They had the sympathy of their guests, and to them they extended a hearty Irish welcome.

The BISHOP OF CANEA, the PRESIDENT OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, and the PRESIDENT OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS briefly responded.

#### THE PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION.

The LORD LIEUTENANT, in proposing the health of Dr. Dawson, said he ventured to do so because he felt they would not be willing to separate without expressing strongly their sentiment of appreciation, and not only appreciation, but congratulation, to the President of the Association. (Applause.) He expressed congratulation more especially in reference to the success and the most pleasant character of that gathering, which was not brought about without careful forethought and arrangement. There had also been the great assistance of the delightful music which had been rendered that evening by the quartette, ably supported by his friend the Rev. Mr. Oulton at the piano. He asked the company to indicate in no uncertain way their appreciation of Dr. Dawson, and he wished him prosperity and all good things.

The company enthusiastically honoured the toast, His Excellency leading the singing of "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow."

Dr. DAWSON, who was received with cheers, said that, in thanking them all, he desired to take the occasion, in connection with what had been mentioned earlier in the evening, to record his personal gratitude to His Excellency's native country for the obligation which he would always feel under to it. It was under a son of that country, his old chief Dr. Clouston, whom he was extremely sorry not to have amongst them that day, that he received his first lessons in the science and treatment of mental diseases, and the even more valuable lessons derived from the study of his character. He had endeavoured—and he hoped would always do so—to be influenced by a consideration of that transparent honesty, that devotion to duty, and that single-minded regard for the welfare of his patients and the progress of science which distinguished Dr. Clouston. (Cheers.) For this, even if for nothing else, he felt under a lasting debt to Scotland. He would like, in conclusion, to associate himself with what His Excellency said concerning the music of the evening. He had himself the honour of being a brother "Stroller," though a humble non-performing member, but he had no doubt that even were it not so, the singers would have been good enough to come and add to their enjoyment as they had done that evening. He was sure the company would allow him to convey to them their hearty appreciation and thanks for the pleasure they had given. (Cheers.) He would also like to thank others who had so ably supported him throughout the visit of the Association, especially Dr. Bond, Dr. Leeper, Dr. Newington and the rest who had laboured indefatigably to make the meeting a success. In conclusion he expressed his warmest thanks to His Excellency for the terms in which his health had been proposed, and to all those present for the hearty manner in which they had honoured the toast. (Cheers.)

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#### OBITUARY

##### DR. GEORGE FIELDING BLANDFORD.

Dr. BLANDFORD, whose death occurred at Tunbridge Wells in August last, had been so long an active member of the Medico-Psychological Association that he has been connected with many of the most important phases of its development.

Elected a member in 1857, there remains only one living member (Dr. Huertley Sankey) who is his senior. He took an active part in the work of the Association from the earliest days of his membership.

Some of his earliest literary work appeared in the *Journal of Mental Science*, of which he later on became editor.

Becoming President in 1877, his presidential address was on the subject of "Lunacy Legislation," in which he described the evolution of the lunacy laws from 1845. His choice of subject was probably affected by the fact that a special committee of the Houses of Parliament was at that time considering the Lunacy Laws as related to the liberty of the subject, but it was an evidence of the strong interest that he then and always had in the general welfare of the insane.

In the following year he compiled an index of the first twenty-four volumes of this journal. Until quite recently he has taken an active interest in the affairs of the Association, especially in the legislative aspect, his name remaining on the Parliamentary Committee at the date of his death.

The obvious services thus recorded are but a small proportion of the work that he has actually done, and form but a small part of the debt the Association owes to his advice, judgment and assistance by personal influence.

Dr. Blandford's memory must always be connected with the history of the Medico-Psychological Association as one who largely helped during the fifty-four years of his membership to its successful establishment. He was a worthy contemporary of such men as Maudsley, Bucknill, Hack Tuke, Skae, and many other distinguished members.

Dr. Blandford was the only son of his father, George Blandford, who at the time of his birth (March 7th, 1829) was in medical practice at Hindon, in Wiltshire, removing later to Hadlow, in Kent, and later still to Rugby. He was educated at Tunbridge School (1840-41) and at Rugby (1841-48). W. H. Waddington,