

enlarged to 400 beds, while at this time the asylum population had risen to over 700. To meet this pressure the Governors had recently purchased, but had not begun to develop, an estate of 295 (now over 400) acres at Purdysburn, a few miles outside Belfast. The new Superintendent saw his opportunity, and followed it up with characteristic enthusiasm. His plans were accepted and liberally executed by a progressive asylum committee, and the product is the Purdysburn Villa Colony—nearly, but not quite, completed. For twenty strenuous years he combined the duties of superintendent with personal supervision of every detail in the construction of the new villa colony. This is not the place or moment for any description of his achievement. The colony has been visited by many members of the Association and is recognised as perhaps the best that has been done for the insane poor in the United Kingdom. In recreation the doctor was as energetic as in work. He took his rest on horseback, in the hunting-field, or on the polo-ground.

No fitter memorial can be raised to William Graham than the continuation of the colony as he designed it. Ireland, in these matters, has fallen somewhat back in the race; and one hopes that, for example and encouragement, the original design of the model villa colony will be worthily completed.

The successful superintendent, the creator of the model villa colony, was sufficiently well known, though he shunned publicity and made no bid for professional or popular fame. There was another William Graham whose acquaintance was made with difficulty; not so much from conscious reserve on his part, but because this other personality, was accessible only in moments of comparative repose, and such moments were rare. In his speculative moods he was the best of companions and conversationalists; ready either to talk or to listen, and never dogmatising. He was profoundly interested in every branch of psychology; his study was of the mind in apparent health, as well as of the mind disordered. The particular mental twists which determine humanity to its divergent opinions and beliefs, aspirations and negations, were of unceasing interest. A man of few prejudices and no intolrances, he postulated no categories of the impossible or the incredible. His attitude was consistently that of student and observer. An evening of talk over the fire at Purdysburn House was a realisation of Stevenson's aphorism: "The tendency of all living talk draws it back and back into the common focus of humanity."

He was inevitably attracted by the theories of Freud, and put them on trial in asylum practice, but the analysis practised by Graham did not conspicuously recall the distinctive hypothesis of Freudism round which controversy has gathered. In the early summer of 1914 he started on an expedition to the South Sea Islands, "to see," as he put it, "mankind in the rough." The outbreak of war closed the route to the South Sea, but he was enabled to view humanity in various development over a great portion of the globe.

During the last few months of his life he undertook additional responsibilities as Lieutenant-Colonel in command of the new war hospital now occupying the buildings of the old Belfast Asylum. The inevitable routine and clerical duties were in many details uncongenial, but success, as usual, attended his true professional work, to the very great benefit of his soldier patients.

He died on November 5th, 1917. A slight accident had caused fracture of the femur, and the sudden and unexpected end resulted from an embolism occurring while he lay disabled. He was fortunate in his death. Pain he could have borne, but not easily the gradual failures of old age.

"To believe in immortality is one thing, but it is first needful to believe in life."

William Graham "believed in life."

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Dr. HENRY MAUDSLEY.

We regret to have to record the recent death of Dr. Henry Maudsley. Owing to limitations of space an obituary notice of our late colleague must be deferred till the April number of the Journal.

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