

CORK ASYLUM CHURCH.

Early in March the new Church for the Protestant inmates of the Cork District (Eglinton) Asylum was opened by the Bishop. It is an exceedingly fine Gothic building, consisting of chancel, nave, vestry-room, porch, tower, and spire, with an excellent bell. The windows are filled with tinted glass and ruby borders, and the inside walls are lined with red brick and coloured bands, giving a warm and pleasing appearance to the interior of the building. The grounds around the Church are tastefully laid with trees, plants, and grass plots, all the work of the patients. Dr. Eames is to be congratulated on the success of this undertaking. The Bishop, in his sermon, said that while they could not tell all the causes that led to mental aberration, he felt satisfied that the medical gentlemen present, and especially Dr. Eames, would agree with him that in drink they would, at any rate, find one cause and trace one germ leading to insanity.

"A very splendid luncheon"—from which we doubt not the above-mentioned germ was carefully excluded—"was subsequently given by some of the governors to the Bishop and Clergy, and many other guests, in the great Hall of the Asylum, one of the largest in Ireland." The kindly Bishop, in responding to the toast of his health, said "he appreciated the good feeling of those persons who, although not able to attend the service in the Church, yet joined with them at the luncheon." As we cannot suppose the speaker to have been ironical, the observation bespeaks a truly liberal mind.

Obituary.

PROFESSOR BERNHARD VON GUDDEN.

The melancholy catastrophe by which the life of this distinguished alienist came to a sudden and violent end, on the evening of Sunday, June 13, at the Starnberg Lake, Bavaria, is known throughout the civilized world. But commiseration for the fate of the mad monarch who occasioned it almost throws into the shade, in the public mind, that of the unfortunate physician, who, if he may seem to have displayed undue disregard of precautions, acted chivalrously in the belief that he should, by the course he pursued, cause the least irritation and pain to his royal patient, and concluded, not without some reason, that he would be sufficiently strong physically, and by his moral influence, to prevent any accident happening. Now that all is over, and Dr. von Gudden has fallen a victim to his well-intentioned proceeding, it is easy to criticise his action, and to accuse him of culpable rashness. But uppermost in the minds of mental physicians everywhere ought to be, and no doubt is, the loss sustained by Psychiatry, and pity for him and his family in the sad fate which has overtaken him. His name must be added to the not inconsiderable list of physicians who have been either injured in person and health, or killed outright by patients of whom they have had charge. The life of the mental physician is in truth constantly in danger. He carries it in his hand, and may at any moment have to resign a career of intelligent usefulness and devotion at the hands of some one deprived by disease of both intelligence and useful purpose.

Dr. von Gudden was, in the first instance, assistant physician at the Irrenan-