

Letter received in reply to communication addressed by Dr. Collins, by order of Council of Association, to the Chief Secretary of Ireland, was read and considered. After a lengthy discussion it was thought to be an inopportune time to draft a further resolution, and the Hon. Secretary was directed to bring the matter again before the next meeting of the Division, and the entire subject was deferred for fuller consideration to the Spring meeting.

It was decided to hold the Spring meeting of the Division at St. Patrick's Hospital, Dublin.

Dr. RAINSFORD next read his paper, "On a Case of Pellagra in an Insane Patient" (see p. 98).

The CHAIRMAN said the paper was of great interest owing to the rarity of the disease, and invited the discussion of the members.

Dr. EUSTACE complimented Dr. Rainsford upon the recognition of so rare a disease, and remarked upon the extent to which ideas in connection with the disease had undergone recent changes. He referred to the fact that, whilst the disease was generally supposed to be confined to South Europe, it now was very prevalent in Carolina and other parts of the United States, and did not appear to be due to eating maize, but to be caused by a fly infection; 10,000 to 50,000 cases were reported from the United States, where the disease seemed to be more frequently found in the spring months of the year, and to attack both old and young subjects.

Dr. GREENE remarked that many cases of skin eruption occurred in the aged and chronic inmates of asylums, and possibly the disease of pellagra had been frequently overlooked in large asylums where single cases like Dr. Rainsford's had occurred, and were possibly unrecognised. In discussing the causation he remarked that the occurrence of single cases would not strengthen his opinion as to the probable causation by flies, as, were the disease thus produced, it would be more epidemic in character.

Dr. REDINGTON discussed the possibility of the disease being caused by the "ultra violet" rays. Most of the cases recorded had been exposed for long periods to strong sunshine.

Dr. RAINSFORD replied, and stated that the consumption of badly cultivated maize, or immature maize, was the assignable cause in the case of many observers. Pigs were affected in Italy, and also a skin eruption had appeared on those animals where the disease had been observed in England. He considered that fly infection was the more probable cause.

The consideration of other business was then undertaken, and after some discussion Dr. RAINSFORD proposed and Dr. REDINGTON seconded a notice of motion for the Spring meeting—"That the attention of the members be drawn to the dearth of original papers contributed during the past year, with a view to discussing a remedy for this defect."

This terminated the proceedings.

OBITUARY.

SIR JOHN BATTY TUKE, M.D.Edin., F.R.C.P.Edin., F.R.C.S.E., LL.D., D.Sc.

Sir John Batty Tuke was born at Staines, Surrey, on January 9th, 1835, and died in Edinburgh on October 13th, 1913. He spent his boyhood at Beverley, Yorkshire, and he had in many ways the characteristics of the Yorkshireman. He came to Edinburgh in his boyhood and received his school education at the Edinburgh Academy. He lived with his uncle, Dr. John Smith, one of the proprietors of Saughton Hall Private Asylum, during his school and university education. He studied in the University of Edinburgh, and took his degree in 1856. He went to New Zealand as medical officer to the 65th Regiment immediately after he passed, having married Lydia Jane Magee, a sister of Dr. Magee, who afterwards became Archbishop of York. When in New Zealand he acted as surgeon of the colonial troops, and served as senior medical officer in the Maori War until 1863. His experience of the Army left its stamp on him all his life.

Immediately after he returned to Edinburgh he was appointed one of the

assistant physicians of the Royal Edinburgh Asylum under Dr. Skae and served in that capacity for two years, when he was appointed medical superintendent of the newly built asylum for Fife and Kinross. There is no doubt that his Morningside experience and the traditions of that institution first stimulated him to do original work in the department of psychiatry in which he so greatly distinguished himself in future years. Being near a great medical school he came constantly in contact with the teachers and investigators who had made Edinburgh so famous as a medical centre. The late Prof. Rutherford and he did conjoint brain-work, while Prof. Goodsir and his assistant in the anatomy class and museum, John Stirling, taught him the new methods of staining and section-cutting which then revolutionised normal and morbid histology. After he went to Fife he continued to work strenuously in microscopic and pathological work, not neglecting the clinical side of his department. He published many papers in various medical journals, all of which contained original work and vigorous thinking. He returned to Edinburgh in 1873 to take up the work of his uncle and Dr. Lowe, his partner, at Saughton Hall. He very soon became a power in the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, of which he was a Fellow. That institution possessed considerable funds whose chief scientific outlet was then its magnificent medical library. But Tuke developed and pushed the idea that the College should institute a laboratory, where its fellows and the young medical scientists of Edinburgh should have an opportunity of working free of cost and under the superintendence of a skilled superintendent. After the usual fight against conservative feeling this scheme was launched, and Prof. Sims Woodhead appointed its first superintendent. The work of this great laboratory from then until now, under Prof. Noel Paton, who succeeded Woodhead, and Prof. James Ritchie, who was tempted from Oxford to take its direction, has been epochal in the medical science of Edinburgh. A very large number of the men who now fill professorial chairs there, and are on the medical staff of the Royal Infirmary, have been workers in it.

He was twice Morison Lecturer to the College—once in 1874, and the second time in 1894. In due time he was sent by his College as its representative on the General Medical Council—a position he held for twenty-five years, being latterly the chairman of one of its important committees. He lectured on mental diseases in the Royal College's School of Medicine from the year 1874. In due time he was appointed President of his College, and held that position for three years, being knighted after Her late Majesty's Jubilee in 1898. After the death of Sir William Priestley in 1900, he was elected M.P. for the Universities of Edinburgh and St. Andrews, and he held that position for ten years, until his failing health compelled his retirement, to be succeeded by Sir Robert Findlay. Both Universities conferred on him the degree of LL.D., and the University of Dublin that of D.Sc. He held the office of President of the Neurological Society, was President of the Section of Psychology at the annual meeting of the British Medical Association in 1895, and three years later at the annual meeting in Edinburgh gave the address on Psychology. Early in his career in Edinburgh he helped to found the Pathological Club there, an institution with informal but fresh methods, which has been fertile in good results. He became a member of the Medico-Psychological Association in the year 1866, and did good work for the Association as its second Scottish Secretary for the years 1869-72.

Sir John Batty Tuke was a man of catholic tastes, fond of art and literature, having a large acquaintance among all classes of professional men in Edinburgh, where he was an outstanding figure. In appearance he was, when young, a strong man with a military touch in his bearing, genial to his friends, a strenuous opponent, fond of sport of various kinds—fishing, shooting, golfing—and enjoying convivial meetings. He was a man who allowed no liberties to be taken with him, was a trifle irritable at times, and always kept up the dignity of his profession. He was handicapped by a tendency to gout in the latter part of his life, and sometimes suffered severely from its effects.

It is right that Sir John Batty Tuke's contributions to psychiatry, so many of which appeared in the pages of the *Journal of Mental Science*, should be particularly referred to in this obituary notice. The first paper he wrote, so far as I have been able to ascertain, was "On the Statistics of Puerperal Insanity as observed in the Royal Edinburgh Asylum, Morningside," in the year 1865. It was based on 155 cases of that disease, which he described and analysed with great care. His

pathological and microscopic contributions to psychiatry were those which brought his name into especial notice, and is the work which will be most likely to endure. Dr. Ford Robertson, in the "Pathology of Mental Disease," specially and repeatedly refers to that work. He says, in regard to one part of it, that "There are to-day practically no new facts of importance to be added" to his work. He was the first to describe the course of pigmentary deposits in the vessels and cells of the cerebral cortex. He was the first also to describe the great importance of the intra-cranial lymphatic system as an element in the pathological process in some forms of insanity. He described a new appearance which he called "miliary sclerosis," which now is known by the name of "senile plaques," and certain other degenerations of the cerebral cells. He was one of the early observers of the clinical symptoms and pathological appearances in syphilitic arteritis, as also of the increased blood-pressure in general paralysis. He reported his cases with great care and accuracy when recording clinical work. In his Morison Lectures he described "The Insanity of Over-exertion of the Brain." He devised a new "pathological classification of insanity." He advocated a uniform system of recording *post-mortem* examinations in the insane, and he himself reported thirty cases on that system. He conjoined himself with the late Dr. Howden, of Montrose, in this work. He wrote the articles "Insanity" and "Hysteria" in the last edition of the *Encyclopædia Britannica*. He did not confine himself to pathological and clinical work, but also advocated strongly an extension of the "open-door" methods of treating patients in asylums, which had a very considerable effect in extending the ideas of the amount of freedom that might be given to many patients during their treatment with advantage to their happiness and recovery. He believed strongly in the results of a scientific study of insanity. In his address at the Edinburgh meeting of the British Medical Association he took as his subject, "The Modern Conception of the Ætiology of Insanity." He read at the Royal Society of Edinburgh a paper on the "Constitution of the Pia-mater," maintaining that the pia-arachnoid was one membrane, the arachnoid being simply the outer layer of the pia. This view has since been generally adopted. He contended that the vessels course between the two layers, instead of the older view that they ran in its inner layer.

A personal friend who knew him specially well gives the accompanying personal touches in an appreciative sketch in the *Edinburgh Medical Journal* for November, 1913: "He possessed a peculiarly subtle imagination and charm of manner which won him the friendship of men of the most various tastes and character. He was particularly happy in his relationship with younger men, in whose society he seemed to take special pleasure. Perhaps it was this association that kept his mind so alert and receptive of new ideas. Many of his friends, who have since risen to positions of distinction in their professions, have reason to remember with gratitude his encouragement and help in their early struggles with fortune. A little coterie who for many years assembled every spring as his guests at his bungalow at Gullane saw Tuke at his best. Here he was the genial, kind host, dispensing a simple but generous hospitality, making everyone feel thoroughly at home, and drawing out whatever was best and most interesting in each of his guests. He was the life of the party, the happiest of the crowd, strolling round the links, a cheroot constantly between his lips, and constantly followed by 'Dandie,' the faithful friend of many years. The memory of these delightful holidays will linger lovingly in the hearts of everyone who was privileged to participate in them."

Altogether Sir John Batty Tuke's original work and his thinking have influenced modern psychiatry, and his name will go down as one of those who gave an early impetus to the great advance which has taken place in our department of medicine during the last fifty years.

T. S. C.

PROFESSOR PAUL NÄCKE.

Dr. Paul Näcke, director of the asylum at Colditz, in Saxony, died suddenly on August 18th after more than thirty-three years of continuous work in alienism and unremitting literary activity. He was born in 1851, in St. Petersburg, the son of a German father and a French mother, and this mixed ancestry probably