

the uncoloured unripe strands, which are pellucid, like glass. The professor assumes that the naked axis-band is not yet capable of its function, and thus its clothing with the myelin furnishes him with a key to some of the functions of the brain. We are told in a *résumé* of a paper entitled *Nervenmark und Axencylinder*, by Professor Neumann, of Königsberg (*Neurologisches Centralblatt*, No. 15, 1898), that whilst Henle still holds that the axis-band and medullary sheath cannot be separated, and that the drop which can be pressed out of the cut fibre comes from its collective contents, Kölliker believes that this oozing matter consists solely of myelin. Neumann found, by careful pressure upon the fibres, and by colouring, that this ooze was made up from both the medullary sheath and the axis-cylinder.

THE NEW MASTER IN LUNACY.

The vacant appointment of Master in Lunacy has been given to William Ambrose, Q.C., whose long legal and other experience eminently qualifies him for the post. Mr. Ambrose has been a Queen's Counsel since 1874, and Attorney-General of the Duchy of Lancaster from 1895. His appointment to his present position renders vacant the Harrow Division of Middlesex, which he has represented in Parliament since the last General Election.

OBITUARY.

JOHN HAYBALL PAUL.

John Hayball Paul, M.D.St. Andrews, F.R.C.P.Edin., M.R.C.P.Lond.,
F.R.C.S.Eng., &c., &c.

The death of Dr. Paul in his eighty-fourth year removes from the roll of the Medico-Psychological Association one of the four remaining members who joined prior to 1855. He was for very many years the most regular attendant at our meetings, and when in 1895 he resigned the post of Treasurer, which he had held for thirty-one years, he received from the hands of the President for that year (Dr. David Nicolson) a handsome silver bowl and an illuminated address on behalf of the members, testifying to the affectionate regard in which he was held, and setting forth the many services so faithfully and so zealously rendered to the Association. Few, however, but those of the older members know how deeply indebted the Association is to Dr. Paul. In the days now long gone by, when money was scarce and members few, the Treasurer of the Association practically kept the Association and its Journal going by the generous expenditure of considerable sums which he never mentioned. But it was then well known when he rose at the Annual Meetings to present his balance sheet that the satisfactory accounts he used to render showing that income and expenditure were so well balanced were to some extent due to his taking his own money out of one pocket and putting it into the pocket of the Association. After thirty-one years' service, when he retired from office, he was deeply gratified when, by the unanimous voice of the members, he was elected Emeritus Treasurer, so that his name was retained on the list of officers of the Association. Dr. Paul was born in the Isle of Wight on January 1st, 1816, and he commenced his professional career in the usual way then, by becoming apprenticed to a medical man, Mr. Newington, a surgeon who practised in Spital Square, E.C. He completed his medical curriculum at Westminster and St. Bartholomew's, qualifying as M.R.C.S. in 1840, and L.S.A. in 1845. In 1854 he graduated M.D. St. Andrews. In 1888 he was elected F.R.C.P.Edin.; and in 1859 he took the M.R.C.P.Lond. and F.R.C.S.Eng. Dr. Paul opened Camberwell House Asylum in 1846, and continued his connection with that institution until his death, which occurred on January 29th last, and he was buried in Nor-

wood Cemetery on February 2nd. His end was no doubt accelerated by the unexpected death of his wife, who departed this life on October 18th of last year. After a married life of over half a century the loss of his wife to whom he was so devotedly attached was a fatal blow to his already enfeebled frame, and he never rallied afterwards.

The Medico-Psychological Association was not the only institution in which he was interested; together with the late Dr. Arthur Hill Hassall he was one of the pioneers and life governors of the Ventnor Hospital for Consumption. He was also a life governor of Bethlem Hospital, of the Medical Benevolent College, Epsom, and the Institution for the Blind, &c., &c.

Dr. Paul was a wealthy man who dispensed charity with a liberal hand, he was always a kind, sympathetic friend, considerate and courteous to all, an honourable and upright man in all his dealings, whose chief delight was in doing good to others. Truly no man carried out more conscientiously than he did brotherly love, relief, and truth, the maxim of the Masonic body, of which he was a distinguished member. He left an only daughter.

T. O. W.

SIR JOHN NUGENT.

Sir John Nugent, who was Inspector of Lunatic Asylums in Ireland for between forty-two and forty-three years, died at the St. George's Club, Hanover Square, London, on January 26th, 1899. For a very long period he was a very prominent figure in lunacy administration in Ireland, and was well known to all the senior members of our specialty in that country. Though a good hater he was also capable of being a warm friend, and, as he was a man of great vigour of character and some originality, his personality was an important item in the current history of what should have been a great period in the development of the lunacy service in his country. Unfortunately he was one of those men in whom high and low tones are so intermingled as to produce a discord. His personal courage, which was of an eminent order (and needed to be, that it might carry him through many things which he undertook), was dashed with a spirit of wanton rashness and with a perfectly pitheoid love of mischief: his subtlety, which was considerable, degenerated, perhaps under the disadvantages of a youth spent in the atmosphere of politics and a middle age passed in that court of which Thackeray had so poor an opinion, into a love of intrigue for intrigue's sake, such as deprived him of the moral weight which his position and talents should have given him. His subtlety, wire-drawn in later years, together with a natural defect in his powers of expression, which were not developed in proportion to his other capabilities, gave rise to the peculiar complicated and contradictory style of his official reports, which made the *Irish Lunacy Blue Book* for some generations more amusing than instructive.

During Dr. Nugent's tenure of office twelve district asylums and one criminal asylum were built in Ireland. None of these nor the alterations made during the same period to the older asylums seem to indicate any special ambition on the part of those who were responsible either to be in front of any movement then going on or to strike out a new course.

The following notice from the *Dublin Daily Express* of the 28th January briefly epitomises the aims and the successes of the life of this distinguished Irish official: "Sir John Nugent died on Thursday at the advanced age of ninety-four, from bronchitis. Educated in Clongowes College, of which he was one of the earliest pupils, and Dublin University, he became the travelling physician of Daniel O'Connell, and, with him, an original member of the Reform Club. In the later thirties he was intimate with Thomas Moore and the other celebrities of the time. In 1847 he was appointed Inspector-General of Lunatic Asylums in Ireland, an office he held until 1890. This post brought him into connection with most of the nobility and gentry of Ireland, and few Irishmen during the present half-century became so universally known. He was highly appreciated as a raconteur, and had excellent artistic knowledge, which enabled him to collect proof engravings of remarkable value. His eldest son is an acting member of the Council of Bombay."

More recent Dublin newspapers again notice Sir John Nugent in connection with his will. His personal estate was valued at over £38,000 (a good deal of money in Ireland), and his will appears to have concluded with an expression of his conviction that he had never intentionally, by word or deed, injured a fellow-