

their work as they were to find fault with his. But to his patients he was always kind and forbearing, and his fellow officers loved and respected him. No institution in the kingdom of its size contained an older staff of officials. We think it was the sensitiveness of his temperament to control, and his not mingling much personally with his professional brethren that made him take up so fiercely a reactionary attitude towards the non-restraint movement. It was certainly not any want of benevolent feeling towards the insane. But he hated to be coerced by even a right public opinion into doing anything. One would have thought from some of his writings that he kept many of his patients in crib beds and strait jackets. In reality he used such things very sparingly. But if he thought one case in a million was the better for them he stoutly vindicated his intellectual freedom by proclaiming to all the world that such restraints were needed in *some* cases, and that therefore he would and did use them. The best of us have a hobby, and Dr. Lindsay's was to run a muck at the non-restraint principle, which he nick-named "Conollyism." He was so logical that he could not see that a few exceptions prove the rule. But the best proof that his views on this matter were recognised by his friends as being the hobby of an otherwise sound and progressive alienist, was the fact that they were allowed to pass without notice or reply. They were, we need hardly say, totally opposed to the opinions and sentiments of the great body of British alienists.

It is sad to think that Dr. Lindsay enjoyed his life and his pension so little after his retirement. He bore the burden and heat of the day, and had no calm evening of rest and reward. The cares and worry of asylum life, and the strain of continued personal intercourse with the insane, wore him out before his time. It is doubtful if such sensitive temperaments as his should take to such a life at all. But he did his work nobly up to the last. Every officer in every asylum in the kingdom owes him a debt of gratitude for his work on "The Superannuation of Officers in British Hospitals for the Insane," in which with enormous labour and no little expense to himself, he set forth the facts and the arguments for pensions to old officers.

Few men in our profession have contributed to so many journals. That his scientific work was appreciated by the most competent authorities is best proved by the number of honours he received. He received a gold medal for his Thesis from his University, the Neill prize of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, and a medal from the Royal Society, besides medals from the International Exhibition of Fine Arts, and from the New Zealand Exhibition of 1865.

DR. E. SEGUIN.

By the death of Edward Seguin, M.D., of New York, medicine has lost one of its brightest ornaments, while those who are interested in the study of Idiocy and the education and training of Idiots and Imbeciles have sustained an irreparable loss. He was, so to speak, the pioneer in this great work, pointing out the landmarks to be observed and the means to be adopted in carrying it on. His attention was first called to the subject by Itard, who prevailed upon him to undertake the education of the famous wild boy of Aveyron. As a result of his efforts, public attention was called to the subject, and in 1842 a portion of the Bicêtre was set apart for the instruction of idiots, and Dr. Seguin was appointed director. Here he remained for some time, but subsequently established a private institution for idiots in Paris. During this time he prepared his treatise on the "Traitement moral, hygiène et éducation des idiots," a work of much merit. In consequence of the Revolution in France of 1848, Dr. Seguin went to America, and was soon appointed Superintendent of the Pennsylvania School for Idiots. After a while he resigned this appointment, and commenced practice as a consulting physician in New York. He then brought out a book, entitled "Idiocy, its

Diagnosis and Treatment by the Physiological Method," which, in 1866, was revised by his son, and is now a standard work on the subject. In 1876 an Association of Medical Officers of American Institutions for Idiotic and Feeble-minded Persons was founded, and Dr. Seguin was elected its first president. To this society he contributed various papers. He was several times appointed delegate to the International Medical Congresses which have been held in different parts of Europe, and he attended from time to time the meetings of the British Medical Association. Of late he had taken much interest in and became an advocate of the metric system in medicine, and only this autumn read a paper on that subject at the International Congress of Hygiene at Turin. Dr. Seguin was a man of indomitable energy and great perseverance. He possessed a highly cultivated intellect, which through a long and active life was devoted to the best interests of the imbecile. His amiable character secured him many friends, not only in his own country, but also in England. Though he is dead his work still lives, and will grow and extend as years roll on.

F. B.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The following correspondence has been forwarded to us for publication :—

St. Andrew's Hospital, Northampton,
Oct. 1st, 1880.

DEAR SIR,—In the "Journal of Mental Science," which I have just received, I notice that in the discussion of Mr. Mould's paper on "Lunatic Hospitals" at the meeting of the Medico-Psychological Association, held in London on July 30th, Dr. Thompson is reported to have said "he heard that at Northampton they were making thousands a year, and that they did not know what to do with it, and yet the poor patients whom it was meant for were swept up and sent into the pauper lunatic asylums."

Will you be good enough to inform me whether this is a correct report, and, if so, will you also give me your authority for such a statement?

I am, yours faithfully,
Dr. George Thompson. J. BAYLEY.

City and County Lunatic Asylum,
Stapleton, near Bristol,
Oct. 2nd, 1880.

DEAR SIR,—I hope to be able, in the course of a few days, to reply in detail to your letter of the 1st inst.; meanwhile I will ask you to favour me by sending to me copies of your Reports for the years 1878 and 1879. Strange to say, these are the only Reports I do not possess.

Believe me to be, my dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,
Dr. Joseph Bayley, &c., &c. GEORGE THOMPSON.

St. Andrew's Hospital, Northampton,
November 19th, 1880.

DEAR SIR,—On Oct. 2nd you wrote: "I hope to be able, in the course of a few days, to reply in detail to your letter of the 1st inst."

As I have not yet heard from you, I think it possible the matter may have escaped your memory. I hope you received the Reports, which I sent by return of post.

I am, yours faithfully,
Dr. Thompson. J. BAYLEY.