

Dr. DAWSON, who was received with cheers, said that, in thanking them all, he desired to take the occasion, in connection with what had been mentioned earlier in the evening, to record his personal gratitude to His Excellency's native country for the obligation which he would always feel under to it. It was under a son of that country, his old chief Dr. Clouston, whom he was extremely sorry not to have amongst them that day, that he received his first lessons in the science and treatment of mental diseases, and the even more valuable lessons derived from the study of his character. He had endeavoured—and he hoped would always do so—to be influenced by a consideration of that transparent honesty, that devotion to duty, and that single-minded regard for the welfare of his patients and the progress of science which distinguished Dr. Clouston. (Cheers.) For this, even if for nothing else, he felt under a lasting debt to Scotland. He would like, in conclusion, to associate himself with what His Excellency said concerning the music of the evening. He had himself the honour of being a brother "Stroller," though a humble non-performing member, but he had no doubt that even were it not so, the singers would have been good enough to come and add to their enjoyment as they had done that evening. He was sure the company would allow him to convey to them their hearty appreciation and thanks for the pleasure they had given. (Cheers.) He would also like to thank others who had so ably supported him throughout the visit of the Association, especially Dr. Bond, Dr. Leeper, Dr. Newington and the rest who had laboured indefatigably to make the meeting a success. In conclusion he expressed his warmest thanks to His Excellency for the terms in which his health had been proposed, and to all those present for the hearty manner in which they had honoured the toast. (Cheers.)

OBITUARY

DR. GEORGE FIELDING BLANDFORD.

Dr. BLANDFORD, whose death occurred at Tunbridge Wells in August last, had been so long an active member of the Medico-Psychological Association that he has been connected with many of the most important phases of its development.

Elected a member in 1857, there remains only one living member (Dr. Huertley Sankey) who is his senior. He took an active part in the work of the Association from the earliest days of his membership.

Some of his earliest literary work appeared in the *Journal of Mental Science*, of which he later on became editor.

Becoming President in 1877, his presidential address was on the subject of "Lunacy Legislation," in which he described the evolution of the lunacy laws from 1845. His choice of subject was probably affected by the fact that a special committee of the Houses of Parliament was at that time considering the Lunacy Laws as related to the liberty of the subject, but it was an evidence of the strong interest that he then and always had in the general welfare of the insane.

In the following year he compiled an index of the first twenty-four volumes of this journal. Until quite recently he has taken an active interest in the affairs of the Association, especially in the legislative aspect, his name remaining on the Parliamentary Committee at the date of his death.

The obvious services thus recorded are but a small proportion of the work that he has actually done, and form but a small part of the debt the Association owes to his advice, judgment and assistance by personal influence.

Dr. Blandford's memory must always be connected with the history of the Medico-Psychological Association as one who largely helped during the fifty-four years of his membership to its successful establishment. He was a worthy contemporary of such men as Maudsley, Bucknill, Hack Tuke, Skae, and many other distinguished members.

Dr. Blandford was the only son of his father, George Blandford, who at the time of his birth (March 7th, 1829) was in medical practice at Hindon, in Wiltshire, removing later to Hadlow, in Kent, and later still to Rugby. He was educated at Tunbridge School (1840-41) and at Rugby (1841-48). W. H. Waddington,

afterwards Prime Minister of France and French Ambassador to England, entered in the same term at Rugby.

In 1848 he entered at Wadham College, Oxford, and took the degrees of B.A. in 1852 and of M.A. in 1857.

Dr. Blandford's physical education would appear to have been excellent. Riding was an exercise to which he was accustomed from his earliest years, thus accompanying his father on his professional rounds. He was a good cricketer, playing for his school and college eleven. He was also a footballer and an oarsman. Later on he was one of the earliest volunteers, belonging to the 2nd (South) Middlesex Regiment. The excellent health that he enjoyed throughout life was probably greatly ensured by the active habits of his early years.

In October, 1852, he entered as a student at St. George's Hospital, taking the diploma of the Society of Apothecaries in 1857 and the M.B. of Oxford. In 1858 he became a member of the College of Surgeons, and of the College of Physicians in 1860. He became M.D. of Oxford in 1867, and was elected a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians in 1869.

His son, Mr. W. F. H. Blandford, furnishes an interesting description of his career as a specialist: "His connection with insanity with which he was associated throughout his professional career, was, I have heard him say, accidental, rather than the result of deliberate choice, and I believe he would have found a less restricted line of practice congenial." Certain it is that at an early period of his professional life he became closely associated with Dr. A. J. Sutherland, physician to St. Luke's Hospital, and used frequently to visit that hospital, where no doubt his early studies in insanity were made. Dr. Rawes, now medical superintendent of that hospital, writes that Dr. Blandford "was on friendly terms with Stevens, the then medical superintendent, for whom he sometimes took holiday duty," but it does not appear that he held any other official appointment there. In the minute book of the committee of St. Luke's Hospital for October, 1857, Dr. Blandford is described as "Acting Medical Superintendent, and showing his zeal by recommending improvements in the diet of patients." His name first appears in the *Medical Directory* in the year 1860, when his address was Blacklands House, Chelsea. His association at St. Luke's Hospital with Dr. Sutherland, who no doubt thus early detected the promise of eminence in his profession which his after career fulfilled, and saw that by his general culture and qualifications he was exceptionally fitted to deal with the insane of the private class, resulted in his appointment in 1859 as resident medical officer to Blackland's House, then one of the best known of the London private asylums for gentlemen, and owned by Dr. Sutherland. He also assisted Dr. Sutherland in visiting his asylum for ladies at Otto House, Hammersmith, which is still owned by members of the Sutherland family, with whom he was closely associated up to the time of his retirement in 1909, a period of over fifty years. In 1860, while resident at Blacklands House, he took the Membership of the College of Physicians. The appointment lasted till 1863, when he went into private consulting practice in Clarges Street.

On leaving Blacklands House he had become its visiting physician, and he continued to act in that capacity to Blacklands House and its successor, Newlands House, Tooting, and to Otto House, Hammersmith, until his retirement from practice in 1909. He was also for many years visiting physician to Featherstone Hall, Southall, and to Clarence Lodge, Clapham Park, both private asylums for ladies. From 1874 to 1895 he was the principal proprietor of, and visiting physician to, Munster House Asylum, Fulham. When, owing to the growth of London, the Asylum became unsuitable for this purpose, Dr. Blandford pulled down the building and converted the site into a building estate.

Dr. Blandford's literary career practically commenced with the publication of a course of lectures on insanity in the *Medical Times and Gazette* for 1866, which had been delivered in that year at St. George's Hospital for the first time. This lectureship he held for thirty-six years, entailing a close connection with the medical staff of the hospital during that period.

In 1867 he published in the *Journal of Mental Science* an article on Dr. Meschede's paper on "Paralytic Insanity and its Organic Nature," abridged from *Virchow's Archiv*, and contributed "Clinical Cases of Insanity" to the *St. George's Reports*.

In 1869 he contributed an article entitled "Insanity Without Delusions" to the

Journal of Mental Science. In this he expressed his preference for the title of his paper to the term "moral insanity." He contended that in both moral and impulsive insanity there was some disorder of the intellect.

Dr. Percy Smith has compiled the following *resumé* of his further medical work. Dr. Blandford's principal work, *Insanity and its Treatment*, was first published in Edinburgh by Oliver and Boyd in 1871, with a concurrent American edition. It was essentially a clinical and practical manual, and held the field for many years; it passed through four editions, the second, third, and fourth being published in 1877, 1884, and 1892. The third edition was translated into German. In this work Dr. Blandford made full use of his wide clinical experience in the treatment of the insane, the care of the individual patient, the symptoms of his disease, and the means of restoring him to health being emphasised much more than the classification of insanity.

In 1887 he attended the meeting of the International Medical Congress held at Washington, and gave one of the general addresses before the whole Congress on "The Treatment of Recent Cases of Insanity in Private and Asylums," the subject, as usual with him, being practical and clinical. This address had been prepared by him for the Section of Psychological Medicine, but he was specially asked to give it before the whole Congress.

To Dr. Hack Tuke's *Dictionary of Psychological Medicine*, published in 1892, he contributed the articles, "Prevention of Insanity" and "Prognosis." The former subject was also taken for his address as President of the Psychological Section of the British Medical Association in 1894. In 1895 he delivered before the Royal College of Physicians of London the Lumleian Lectures on the "Diagnosis, Prognosis, and Prophylaxis of Insanity," each of the three lectures covering one of the subjects. In 1897 he wrote the article on "Insanity," occupying 254 pages, in the *Twentieth Century Practice*. In it the whole subject is dealt with, the chapter on "Prevention of Insanity" being well worth careful study, and being full of practical suggestions as to the care and training of those belonging to neurotic or insane stocks. Referring to Pritchard's contrast between moral and intellectual insanity, his words were, "Morality is not a division of mind," and he dwelt upon the importance of conduct as the criterion in insanity. His view as to the presence of intellectual disorder in moral insanity is shown by the following extract:

"The loss of all prudence, judgment, and restraint implies the degradation of his intellectual as well as his emotional centres, and to say that his intellect is sound seems to be nothing else than a quibble about words."

In the third edition of *Quain's Dictionary of Medicine* (1902), the following articles were from the pen of Dr. Blandford: "General Considerations," "Imperative Ideas," "Impulsive Insanity," and "Moral Insanity."

Dr. Blandford served on the Council of the College of Physicians from 1887 to 1889, and took an active part in the After-care Association, on the Council of which he served most actively for many years, and remained a member at his decease. He was also President of the Society for the Relief of the Widows and Orphans of Medical Men at the date of his death.

His success as a consultant placed him in the front ranks of his specialty, a position that his robust health enabled him to retain until he was nearly eighty years of age. Even after his retirement from Wimpole Street to Tunbridge Wells, in 1909, he still occasionally enjoyed coming to town to see old patients, and to attend meetings of the bodies with which he had been so long associated. He retained to the last the clear unbiased judgment which had been his distinguishing characteristic.

His professional success was largely based on the above characteristics together with the habit of deliberate attention which enabled him to grasp the subject under consideration with admirable thoroughness. This calm deliberateness in forming and expressing his opinions not only commanded the confidence of his patients, but exercised a controlling influence on those who shared his counsel in public matters.

Thoughtful sympathy was another striking trait, which largely led to what Dr. Buzzard has described as an almost intuitive practicality in his recommendations for the care of his patients.

Dr. Blandford possessed a high appreciation of the honour of his profession, and

of the speciality of which he was a member. His sense of professional duty in relation to Society gave him the courage on more than one occasion to risk possible public reproach rather than to shun what he considered to be his duty.

In his private life Dr. Blandford was interested both in literature and art. In his early life he contributed occasionally to the *Cornhill Magazine*.

He was a collector of books, bindings and prints, the latter especially relating to Old London. This latter task doubtlessly led to his contributing an interesting article on city life in 1800 in the *British Medical Journal* (for 1900), under the title of "A Century's Retrospect of Medicine."

Sketching in water colours was his chief relaxation in the latter part of his life.

He had been a member of the Western Friendly Club and of the Mayfair Medical Book Club. He was also President of the Graphic Society of St. George's Hospital. Since 1862 he had been a member of the Athenæum Club.

In June last a chill resulted in severe general rheumatism, which rendered him quite helpless, and was complicated later by broncho-pneumonia and heart failure. The week before his death he improved, and was able to leave his bed, but subsequently had further attacks of heart failure, the end coming rather suddenly and unexpectedly on August 18th.

He was buried on August 23rd at Tunbridge Wells. Among those attending his funeral were Dr. Hayes Newington and Dr. Percy Smith, representing the Medico-Psychological Association; Dr. Seymour Tuke, Lecturer on Psychological Medicine, St. George's Hospital, and Dr. Hind, Superintendent of Newlands House. The fact that his death occurred during the holiday season prevented the attendance of many members of the profession who would otherwise have wished to be present.

He married in 1864 Louisa, only daughter of the late Rev. George Holloway, who, with two sons and two daughters, survive to mourn the loss of—

"A soul, that could securely death defy,
And count it Nature's privilege, to die."

H. R.

DIPLOMA IN PSYCHOLOGICAL MEDICINE.

The following regulations were adopted by the Royal College of Physicians on July 27th, 1911:

1. Any member of the College may ask permission to present himself for further examination in psychological medicine.
2. The further examination in psychological medicine shall be held on such dates as the Censors' Board may from time to time determine.
3. Candidates shall be examined in:
 - (1) Psychology and the study of conduct in relation to mental disorder.
 - (2) Psychological medicine and the jurisprudence of insanity.
4. Candidates shall be examined by written questions on each of the subjects mentioned above; the practical knowledge of the candidates shall be tested in an institution for the insane, and the candidates shall be examined *viduo voce* in all the subjects of the examination.
5. On the letters testimonial of every member who satisfies the examiners in psychological medicine, a statement to that effect shall be engrossed and signed by the examiners, accompanied by a certificate by the Registrar.

Form to be engrossed on the letters testimonial.

A.B. die mensis A.D.
in Medicina Psychologica examinatus satisfecit nobis Examinatoribus.
Ita testamur { A.B. }
 { C.D. } Examinatores.

6. Every member who satisfies the examiners will be permitted to add to any mention or description of his membership words purporting that he obtained distinction in psychological medicine.
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