

Darwin's epoch-making work that it contained nothing new that was true and nothing true that was new. Haughton's knowledge, often profound, always acute, dies with him, for he has written little that will last: his sparkling wit and genial good-fellowship will survive in the memory of those who were favoured with his personal acquaintance. One great work will, we hope, long bear testimony to his zeal for knowledge and his disinterested public spirit. To him is due the revival of the so-called "School of Physic in Ireland" (Medical School of Trinity College, Dublin), and we trust the debt which that school owes him will never be forgotten. Dr. Haughton exhibited much interest in the work of our Association at the Dublin meeting of 1894, though the feeble condition of his health even then precluded his taking any active part in our proceedings.

JAMES C. HOWDEN.

Born at Musselburgh in 1830, Dr. Howden received his elementary education there. After taking his degree at the University of Edinburgh, in 1852, he studied at Paris. He served as Assistant Medical Officer, under Dr. Skae, at the Royal Asylum, Edinburgh; and in 1857 received the appointment of Medical Superintendent of the Montrose Lunatic Asylum, succeeding Dr. Gilchrist, who had gone to the Royal Crichton Institution, Dumfries.

Before his appointment the managers had found the grounds about the old asylum too restricted, and a new site was selected at Sunnyside, about two and a half miles from Montrose. This building, with its subsequent adjuncts, grew up under Dr. Howden's eye, although he has not survived to see the completion of the new house for private patients. As the years went on the main building was extended and improved. In particular, a new and spacious recreation hall was opened, for Dr. Howden took the keenest interest in all forms of recreation. Those who noticed his solemn face and listened to his slow speech might at first have imagined that they had lit upon the—imaginary—typical Scotsman, devoid of humour. It needed, however, but a moderate acquaintance to dispel that delusion. It might have astounded some of his graver acquaintances to have seen the interest which he took in *The Sunnyside Chronicle*—in its quips and cranks, mystifications and merriment—as if he had been an undergraduate running *Alma Mater* or some other college magazine.

In 1890 a detached building, containing 100 beds, was erected. This has been the model of various hospitals erected in connection with Scottish asylums during the last few years.

Thorough firmness, tact and courtesy, displayed through a long period of years, resulted in harmony with central and with local authority, and distinguished Dr. Howden's career. For many years before his death he was aught but robust. The abyss of human woe into which an asylum superintendent has daily to peer must cast on him occasional shadows of gloom, unless he is more or less than man. From these Dr. Howden was not free, nor is it advisable that men in his position should be free from the liability thereto. But these were to him but as light clouds obscuring for a little a midsummer sun. His general attitude to the outside world was that of cheeriness; to his circle of friends—no small one—it was that of genial hospitality. His very "grumpiness"—often, one was inclined to think, humorously affected—was more cheery than the bland superficial smile of shallower natures.

Holding to a high ideal of duty for himself, he did not expect too much from his fellow-creatures, nor worry himself when they did not come up to the proper standard. Things which were under his own authority he, very properly, liked to have regulated in his own way, and he would, very naturally, find fault if there was a failure on the part of those who under him were responsible. When he was away from his usual routine he could,

in a philosophical spirit, recognise that other people had different dispositions and habits, not to be lightly thrown off. This trait in his character came out noticeably in a trip to Ireland on which the writer and another friend accompanied him a few years ago. Bad weather sometimes interfered with pleasure, and there were delays and mistakes which reminded us that we were not among the business-like Anglo-Saxons. These latter troubles he took, not merely with composure, but on some occasions it seemed with glee, as if they were the troubles of other people represented for his amusement upon the stage. His ability to derive amusement from small things was indeed a notable feature in his character.

Dr. Howden did not obtrude his scientific acquirements, but was glad to co-operate with those of a kindred spirit. For many years he was Vice-President of the Montrose Natural History and Antiquarian Society. In 1888 he was President of the Section of Psychology at the Glasgow meeting of the British Medical Association.

Dr. Howden constructed an ingenious and valuable form of index for the registrations of the lesions recorded in pathological records or case-books of hospitals and asylums, and made various contributions to medical literature, among which was an interesting paper on The Religious Sentiment in Epileptics and an important statement as to Granular Degeneration of the Nerve-cell in Insanity.

A paralytic stroke, some three years ago, partially disabled him and deprived him of the power of writing. To this loss he was by no means indifferent, but he bore it calmly. In the beginning of this year increasing infirmities induced him to send in his resignation. With regret at the unavoidable necessity and with expressions of heartfelt esteem the resignation was accepted, but it was arranged that Dr. Howden should continue his connection with the asylum as salaried Psychological Consultant. Dr. Howden had been married for thirty years, but left no children.

Though the Royal Asylum of Montrose gives every promise of continuing its honourable and useful career, yet there are those who feel that the loss of the large strong soul that is gone leaves in their existence a dreary blank, who feel that the world is perceptibly smaller.

We would add to the foregoing reminiscences of Dr. Howden's career of honest and strenuous endeavour our appreciation of his kindly good sense. He was the oldest asylum physician in Scotland at the time of his death, and with him passed away a shrewd, cautious Scot, whose contributions to scientific work were always worthy of close study, whose friendship, esteem, and counsel were highly prized.—Ed.

WILLIAM GURSLAVE MARSHALL.

By a somewhat remarkable coincidence, two former Medical Superintendents of this asylum—colleagues during twenty years—surviving fifteen years more—died within one week of each other. Mr. William Gurslave Marshall, F.R.C.P., F.R.C.S., succeeded Dr. Davey, the first Superintendent of the Female Department, in 1852. The building (of which the foundation-stone was laid by Prince Albert in 1851) had been opened about a year. Mr. Marshall had previously been Resident Medical Officer of the Northampton Borough Asylum.

He continued in the active discharge of his duties at Colney Hatch for thirty-eight years. In 1868 he had a nearly fatal attack of illness, the result of an accident. But until his health failed, shortly before his departure in 1890, it was equal to the heavy demands upon his strength and energy.