

Bodmin of the abuse and ill-treatment of his lunatic brother. In our previous comments we had anticipated the decision of the judges, and pointed out the difference between cases in which an obligation was imposed by law to support an afflicted wife or child, and the voluntary assumption of such a responsibility by any person to whom such claim did not extend. This view was that on which the learned judges based their decision. It will be in the recollection of our readers that the indictment was framed under the 16th and 17th Vict., c. 96, s. 9. It was contended that the case of Porter was not within the statute, which applied only to persons keeping asylums or taking in lunatics for hire. The case of the *Queen v. Rundell* was quoted, which was that of a man taking charge of his lunatic wife, where it was decided that the husband was not responsible, as the charge was only of a domestic nature. The Lord Chief Baron said, 'the Court was unanimously of opinion that the case came within the statute—that the defendant had the charge of his lunatic brother.' Mr. Baron Martin said 'he was clearly of opinion that the statute applied to this case. He could hardly have supposed that such a state of things could have existed in this country, but he had heard on good authority that there were cases where lunatics had been kept chained up for years.' The Court confirmed the conviction without calling on the opposite side. This is so far satisfactory. It is well to know that in the construction of Acts of Parliament technicalities will not avail for the purpose of evading the law where the spirit has been so essentially violated. We augur from this case the most beneficial results. There can be no doubt that Mr. Baron Martin's information is not without foundation, and that even now there are many cases which would not admit of close scrutiny. It is well that it be published to the world, that on behalf of those afflicted with mental disease the law will be ever vigilant and prompt to punish practices that are not only a gross cruelty towards the afflicted but a flagrant outrage on humanity."—*The Lancet*, April 30.

Publications received, 1864.

(Continued from the 'Journal of Mental Science,' April, 1864.)

'Stimulants and Narcotics: their Mutual Relations, with Special Researches on the Action of Alcohol, Æther, and Chloroform on the Vital Organism.' By Francis E. Anstie, M.D., M.R.C.P., Assistant-Physician in Westminster Hospital; Lecturer on *Materia Medica* and Therapeutics to the School; and formerly Lecturer on Toxicology. Macmillan and Co., London and Cambridge.

See Part II, *Reviews*.

'The Senses and the Intellect.' By Alexander Bain, M.A., Professor of Logic in the University of Aberdeen. Second edition. London, Longmans, 1864, pp. 640.

Will be reviewed in an early number.

'The Census of Ireland for the Year 1861.' Part III. Vital Statistics, Presented to both Houses of Parliament by command of Her Majesty. Dublin, 1863; pp. 167.

See Part III, *Quarterly Report on the Progress of Psychological Medicine*.

'The Classification of the Sciences; to which are added Reasons for Dissenting from the Philosophy of M. Comte.' By Herbert Spencer. London, Williams and Norgate, 1864, pp. 48.

See Part I, *Original Articles*. *The Classification of the Sciences*.

'A voice from Derby to Bedlam.' London, 1864, pp. 71 (pamphlet).

*This anonymous attempt to cover Dr. Forbes Winslow's discomfiture in the Townley case is meant also for a reply to our 'Commentary.'** It is an effort of forensic skill of the Old Bailey type, consisting mainly of personalities directed against the Editors of this Journal, for venturing to differ in their judgment on the case from the opinions of "the Great Psychologist!" The writer also assails with his abuse our associate, Dr. Hitchman, and expresses his wonder that, in the 'Commentary,' we should have spoken of Dr. Hitchman as an "eminent psychologist and conscientious man," asking, also, "What are his (Dr. Hitchman's) contributions to the literature and science of psychology?" Dr. Forbes Winslow, of whom this writer appears to entertain a curiously exaggerated admiration, could have informed him of the value he attached to Dr. Hitchman's contributions to the early numbers of the 'Journal of Psychological Medicine,' and how, at the annual meeting of this association, in 1855, he seconded Dr. Hitchman's nomination as President, in preference to so distinguished a physician as Sir Charles Hastings. Even were Dr. F. Winslow so vainly weak as to have inspired the attack on ourselves in this pamphlet, because on a difficult case we were bold enough to differ from his opinion, and ventured to criticise the scientific value of his evidence, we feel sure that he could never have been guilty, even under the chagrin of his late failure, of giving approval—however indirect—to this attempt to damage Dr. Hitchman's character and well-earned reputation. The anonymous writer of this pamphlet may surely claim the sole glory of this effort to disparage the good name of a gentleman placed far above the reach of his small malice.

'Remarks on Criminal Responsibility in relation to Insanity.' By John A. Symonds, M.D., F.R.C.P. (reprinted from the 'British Medical Journal,' February 27th, 1864).

See Part III, *Quarterly Report on the Progress of Psychological Medicine*.

'Modern Scepticism in Medicine.' Introductory Address delivered at the Opening of the Winter Session in St. Mary's Hospital Medical School. By W. O. Markham, M.D., F.R.C.P. (pamphlet).

An able address, and characterised by the freedom of thought and speech of its talented writer.

'The Roman or Turkish Bath; together with Barège, Medicated, Galvanic, and Hydropathic Baths.' By James Lawrie, M.D. Edinburgh, Maclachlan and Stewart, 1864, pp. 294.

Not a satisfactory production. Dr. Lawrie's chief aim appears to be to advertise himself and his baths near Edinburgh. The local papers would have been a more fitting and decent advertising medium than a book wearing the garb of science.

'Kleiner Katechismus über die Nothwendigkeit und Möglichkeit einer radikalen Reform des Irrenwesens.' Vom Verfasser der Gheeler Frage. London, 1864; pp. 38.

An English translation of this catechism will be found as an appendix to this number of the 'Journal of Mental Science.'

* 'Insanity and Crime: a Medico-legal Commentary on the case of George Victor Townley.' By the Editors of the 'Journal of Mental Science.' Churchill and Sons, 1864, pp. 48.

'Intorno ad alcuni prospetti Statistici del Manicomio di Alessandria. Considerazioni del Medico-capo. G. L. Ponza, Dottore in Medicina. Alessandria, 1863, pp. 133.

'On the Structure and Formation of the so-called Apolar, Unipolar, and Bipolar Nerve-cells of the Frog.' By Lionel S. Beale, F.R.S., M.B. Lond.

(From the Transactions of the Royal Society.)

'De la formation du type dans les variétés dégénérées; ou nouveaux éléments d'Anthropologie Morbide pour faire suite à la théorie des dégénérescences dans l'espèce Humaine.' Par M. le Dr. Morel, Médecin en Chef de l'Asile de St. Yon (Rouen), Lauréat de l'Institut. *Premier Fascicule*. Paris, 1864.

Dr. Morel renews here his researches—already so appreciated by this association—into the interesting question of the degeneration of the race. We shall return to this subject on an early occasion.

'Du Goitre et du Crétinisme; Etiologie, Prophylaxie, Traitement, Programme Médico-administratif.' Par M. le Dr. Morel. Paris, 1864; pp. 80.

'Sixth Annual Report of the General Board of Commissioners in Lunacy for Scotland.' Presented to both Houses of Parliament by command of Her Majesty. Edinburgh, 1864; pp. 246.

This valued annual report will be noticed in our October number.

County Asylum Reports, 1864.

(Continued from the April number of the 'Journal of Mental Science'.)

15. The Thirteenth Annual Report of the Committee of Visitors of the Birmingham Lunatic Asylum, presented to the Council at the Adjourned Quarterly Meeting. 16th February, 1864.

16. The fifteenth Annual Report of the United Committee of Visitors of Leicestershire and Rutland Lunatic Asylums. January, 1864.

17. General Reports of the Royal Hospitals of Bridewell and Bethlehem, and of King Edward's Schools, for the year ending 31st December, 1863.

18. The Eighth Annual Report of the United Lunatic Asylum for the county and borough of Nottingham, and fifty-third of the original institution, formerly the General Lunatic Asylum. January, 1864.

19. Eighteenth Annual Report of the Devon Asylum. Epiphany session, 1864.

20. Second Annual Report of Cumberland and Westmorland, for the year 1863.

21. Report of the Committee of Visitors of the County Lunatic Asylum, Hants, at the Epiphany Sessions, 1864.

22. Thirteenth Annual Report of the Wilts County Asylum, Devizes, for the Insane Poor, for the year 1863.

23. The Forty-fifth Annual Report of the Committee of Visitors of the County Lunatic Asylum, Stafford, presented to the Court of Quarter Sessions. January 4th, 1864.

24. Butler's Hospital for the Insane. Report presented to the Corporation at their Annual Meeting. January 27th, 1864.

25. Report of the County Lunatic Asylum, Prestwich, presented to the adjourned Annual Sessions. December 31, 1863.