

The following appreciation was written by Dr. M. J. Nolan, of the Down District Asylum, Downpatrick, in his Annual Report for 1922 on Dr. Colles' retirement:

"The retirement of J. M. Colles, Esq., LL.D., K.C., after so many years from the position of Registrar in Lunacy is the cause of very great regret to all those with whom he had official relations. His loss will be particularly felt by those patients to whose circumstances he always gave the kindest and most sympathetic consideration. In no department of legal matters can 'red tape' cause such stagnation as in that connected with official lunacy matters, but with Dr. Colles it was unknown—he gave each case his attention promptly, and so did the best speedily for each patient in safeguarding his affairs and placing him in circumstances most suitable to his particular needs. In the larger issues of much-needed amendment of the existing lunacy laws Dr. Colles has been long a powerful influence in medico-legal circles, and he has never failed to use that influence in promoting the betterment of the insane in general, and in assisting the individual cases under his charge to get the fullest benefits from their properties, so far as it could be usefully applied."

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ARTHUR NATHANIEL DAVIS, L.R.C.P.&S. Edin.

THE death, on June 29, 1922, of Dr. A. N. Davis, who was for twenty-four years Medical Superintendent of Devon County Mental Hospital, occurred unexpectedly the day before he was to have said farewell to the hospital on his resignation owing to ill-health, and was a great shock to his staff and many friends.

This experienced psychiatrist and asylum administrator, previously to his appointment at Devon County Mental Hospital in 1898, had seen service at Bethnal House, London, and Plymouth Borough Asylum, where he was for seven years Medical Superintendent. Dr. Davis was born on June 14, 1857, and received his medical education in Edinburgh, qualifying in 1880 as L.R.C.P.&S. and L.M.

He was an indefatigable organiser with an immense capacity for work, qualities which stood him in good stead during the war when both his senior and junior medical officers were mobilised. In addition to this he did valuable recruiting work, and was commissioned as a Major R.A.M.C. (T.). It was no wonder that, like many others, he overtaxed himself and broke down in health in the winter of 1915. He apparently made a good recovery and returned to his duties. He sustained an injury to his hip about twelve months ago, from the effects of which he never seemed to properly rally, and about Christmas, 1921, he intimated his desire to resign. He was persuaded to remain on for a while, and he did, though with great reluctance.

In addition he was a good all-round sportsman, being a good shot, and well known in the county of Devon as a first-class cricketer.

In 1883 he married a daughter of the late General George Warren and took up an appointment in Antigua, but only stood the climate for a year. His name will ever be recalled with gratitude in his neighbouring village, where he devoted his energies to the establishment of the "Exminster Victory Hall."

Dr. Richard Eager, who succeeded him at the Devon County Mental Hospital, aptly says: "He extended his sporting instincts into the field of his work, and as an administrator was always anxious to overlook offenders and forgive rather than punish."

He was buried in the presence of his committee and staff and many others who loved and respected him at Littleham Cemetery, near Exmouth, on July 4, 1922.

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#### NOTICES BY THE REGISTRAR.

##### FINAL EXAMINATION FOR THE NURSING CERTIFICATE, MAY, 1922.

###### *List of Successful Candidates.*

\* Passed with distinction.

*Berkshire.*—Simeon James Scard, Harriett Kirk, Grace Mary Kirk.

*Cambridge.*—\*Edward Baker, Henry D. Lewis, Henry T. Webb, Florence Canham, Pretoria Rose Deacon.

*Carmarthen.*—Richard Samuel Edwards, Elizabeth Davies.