

Now, Sirs, when such highly qualified men as those mentioned give the book the highest praise, there appear to be good grounds for considering your reviewer's criticism as fallacious, and unworthy of serious consideration by the general public.

That some psychiatrists should look upon masturbation as being a symptom, rather than a cause of mental and physical ill-health is alarming to social reformers. I have had many opportunities for getting at the truth in this matter in this country, and in addition I was able to pursue my investigations from 1907 to 1914 in France, Germany, Austria, Italy, Belgium and Switzerland. Far from being a symptom, in my opinion masturbation is a very potent cause of ill-health. As I have already stated, the book is intended for parents generally, and if it is instrumental in bringing home to such parents the necessity of so training their offspring that entire avoidance of masturbation is the result, it will have served a very useful purpose, and have accomplished much good.

Expressing my regret for having trespassed to such an extent upon your valuable space,

I am, etc.,

(Sgd.) OLIVER W. LINCOLN.

OBITUARY.

ALFRED BOWLES, M.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond.,
Ordinary Member of the Association since 1900.

THE death of Dr. Alfred Bowles occurred on December 21, 1925, at Eastbourne, where he had resided for the past twenty-five years. He undertook the care of both certified and voluntary patients in his house, and his results were highly successful. Possessed of dogged perseverance and of a cheerful disposition, his influence over patients was of a high order. Before settling at Eastbourne he had been a medical assistant at Moorcroft House for twenty-two years, and his practical experience of mental disorders was considerable. His work was characterized by conscientious thoroughness, and he gained the respect of everyone connected with him. He had been a member of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association for many years, and he was also a member of the British Medical Association and of the Eastbourne Medical Society. Of a retiring nature, he did not, however, frequent medical meetings, but nevertheless by diligent reading kept himself abreast of all modern medical developments. Dr. Bowles was educated at University College and St. Mary's Hospital. In earlier years he possessed a good baritone voice. He also cultivated hobbies, and was fond of mechanical inventions. His health, both physical and mental, continued good until he developed a cold a day or two before he died. Though he had reached the ripe old age of 84 he was active in his professional work to the day of his death, which took place suddenly from heart failure. Besides his widow, he leaves a son who is married, and a wide circle of friends to mourn his death.

J. F. S. HAY, M.B., C.M.Aberd., *J.P.*, Inspector-General of Mental Hospitals for New Zealand.

We regret to announce the death of Dr. Frank Hay, who had been a member of the Association since 1890, which occurred on board S.S. "Rauhine" on September 5, 1925, during the voyage from Southampton to Wellington.

He had been seriously ill for the last two years, but stuck to his duties as long as possible, and left for home to recuperate early in July of last year. He was, however, not benefited in health by the trip, and his strength gradually faded on the voyage home, and he passed away as stated above.

Born at Lucknow, India, in 1867, the late Dr. Hay was educated privately at Blenheim House, Wimbledon, and Aberdeen University. He obtained his M.B. and C.M. degrees in 1890, and was appointed Assistant Medical Officer at the Murray Royal Asylum, Perth, in 1890, a position which he held until 1896. He came to New Zealand in 1897, and occupied the position of Physician Superintendent of the Ashburn Hall (Private) Mental Hospital from 1897 until 1904. He was appointed Deputy-Inspector-General of Mental Hospitals in 1904, and held the