

life had no conception of the charms that belonged to his social intercourse with those to whom he gave his friendship and confidence."

Dr. Ray's best known work, which appeared in 1839, has deservedly retained the first place among works in the English tongue on the medical jurisprudence of insanity. The fifth edition was reviewed in this Journal in 1872, and we believe a more recent one has appeared. We should have been glad to see one still further enriched by his mature experience and with some points more fully worked out. In his contributions to *Mental Pathology*, published in 1873, we have the principal papers which he had contributed to *Mental Science*, collected together up to that date, and a valuable selection it is. There have been many communications to the medical journals since from his pen which ought to be religiously preserved and presented in an accessible form to the public. Dr. Ray's life-work was done, properly speaking, in the twenty three years during which he laboured at the Butler Hospital, and in death he has, it is said, not forgotten to bequeath a handsome sum to this hospital.

"He continued to fill the office till January 1867, when, to the great regret of the authorities of the hospital and of all in any way interested in its welfare, he felt impelled by a conviction that his health recommended a change of climate and occupation, to resign the position which he had held so acceptably to all, and with such equal advantage to the afflicted for more than 22 years."*

It is more than probable that Dr. Ray might have been longer spared to his friends and the profession had he not lost, about a year ago, his only son, a physician. His letters from that time were mostly sorrowful, but not querulous, and show how deeply he felt the loss of one on whom he had, in a sense, centred all his hopes in the future, and without whom he felt as if life was hardly worth living. He expressed himself to the writer as paralysed, and it was too true that listening to "the closing door," his life "was darkened in the brain," perfectly clear though his mind remained to the last.

Born at Beverly, Massachusetts, he died at Philadelphia, where he had lived many years, honoured and beloved. His end came on the last day of March at the age of 74. And so the sorrow-chastened veteran passed quietly away "into that still country," to use the language of Carlyle, "where the hailstones and fire storms do not reach and the heaviest laden way-farer at last lays down his load."

D. H. T.

JAMES SHERLOCK, M.D., M.R.C.P.

Dr. Sherlock, the Medical Superintendent of the Worcester City and County Asylum, died May 13, aged 53, after occupying his post, with the greatest satisfaction to the Committee, for twenty-seven years. He was a pupil of Dr. Skae, of Edinburgh and was at one time Superintendent of James Murray's Asylum at Perth. His loss is greatly deplored.

On May 10th he was seized with acute hepatic congestion; the base of the right lung subsequently became involved, and then both lungs.

The Committee of Visitors in passing a resolution expressing their deep sorrow at the irreparable loss they and the County and City of Worcester have sustained, observe:—"Gifted with peculiar talents for the branch of the profession he embraced, Dr. Sherlock possessed a combination of powers seldom united in the same person. With a singularly correct insight into the various distinctions of peculiarities of mental aberration, and with much administrative ability and firmness of purpose, were associated exceeding kindness of heart and disposition and the greatest suavity of manner, ensuring not only the confidence but the affection of all around him. By the visitors, attendants, and patients his qualities were highly appreciated, and his death painfully lamented."

* "Philadelphia Medical Times," April 23, 1881.