

He was born at Saint-Brieuc in 1808. He took an active part in the political events of 1848, and on two occasions was returned at the elections.

M. Lucas was not a voluminous writer, but he was also the author of a dissertation entitled, "De l'imitation contagieuse, ou de la propagation sympathétique des névroses et des monomanies."

M. Lucas will be remembered, however, by his treatise on Heredity, which, at the time it was published, was far in advance of anything that had been written. It was stated in the obituary notice of him in the "Temps" that the author had collected together, in his attendance on the insane, numerous documents which he intended to utilize in a volume supplementary to his large work, in which he would have studied the laws which regulate the inheritance of mental affections.

DR. LUNIER.

During the Congress of Mental Medicine held at Antwerp in September last, the unexpected death of M. Lunier was announced by the President as having occurred in Paris on the 5th of that month. The intelligence was communicated by his fellow-editor of the "Annales Médico-Psychologiques," M. Foville, who delivered a feeling discourse over his tomb, in which he stated that M. Lunier had been for nearly 40 years attached to the public service of the insane, including the honourable office of Inspector-General of the "services administratifs" of the Minister of the Interior. M. Foville points out that, while his numerous scientific works procured for him well-merited renown among alienist physicians, his publications relative to the administration of asylums extended his reputation beyond the limits of France, and that in this twofold character he has been considered by the foreigner, since the death of Parchappe, as one of the most eminent authorities in the science of medical administration in regard to the insane. We learn from this discourse that M. Lunier was *interne* of the Paris hospitals, and spent several years at the Salpêtrière. After being at the private asylum at Ivry, founded by Esquirol, he became Medical Superintendent of the lunatic asylum at Niort in 1851. Subsequently he took charge of the asylum at Blois, where he introduced numerous improvements and organized a quarter for paying patients, which remains one of the best in France. Appointed inspector in 1864, he contributed largely to the construction of asylums in the provinces. During the siege of Paris, when his duties as inspector were paralysed, he took an active part in assisting the "Ambulances of the Press," and he received the Cross of Officer of the Legion of Honour in acknowledgment of his indefatigable energy. During the International Congress of Mental Medicine in Paris, 1878, we received from him the "Rapport à M. le Ministre de l'Intérieur sur le service des aliénés en 1874," prepared by himself in conjunction with two *collaborateurs*, and found it to contain an able sketch of the past history of insane administration in France. At the Congress he was, perhaps, the most intelligent speaker in the discussion on the French law of lunacy, and consistently with this he took a leading part in the recent revision of the law of 1838 relative to the insane, personally assisting the Minister of the Interior, M. Fallières, in the preparation of the *projet de loi*, which has been for some time under the consideration of Parliament. Interested in questions bearing on the practice of medicine and the interests of the medical profession, M. Lunier was a member of the General Association of French Physicians from its foundation, and was one of the most useful members of the Council. He was also for long the treasurer of the French Psychological Association.

We must not omit to mention that M. Lunier was specially interested in the *Société de Tempérance*. In the name of this Association M. Motet pronounced a discourse at the tomb in his customary glowing language:—"Cruel death, by a blow as brutal as it was unforeseen, breaks our union, the closeness of which I measure by the grief which affects me. Let your friendship for me excuse my reference to it. All who have enjoyed the society of Lunier will

understand the supreme satisfaction with which I am permitted to recall it." M. Motet states that M. Lunier entertained the idea of gathering around him those who were appalled by the advancing wave of alcoholism, thinking it possible that, if this evil could not be arrested, its ravages might be lessened. Hence, with an energy which never flagged for a moment, he founded the Temperance Society, the utility of which soon became everywhere recognised. He was the General Secretary from its commencement, and, preaching by example, he began and completed researches in regard to the consumption of alcohol and its relation to intemperance, insanity, and crime. M. Motet says he was the soul, the life, of the 2,000 members who constituted this Society. An apostle, he desired to carry everywhere the good news to other countries, always sustained by a zeal into which there entered, in the words of M. Dumas, "Autant de patriotisme pratique que d'amour de l'humanité."

M. Lunier became a member of the Academy of Medicine in May, 1883—an honour which M. Ritti, who spoke at the tomb in the name of the Société Médico-Psychologique, observed that he specially coveted. He adds that "the hour of triumph was not for him the commencement of repose. Work was his life, and, thanks to his prodigious activity, he succeeded in accomplishing numerous works; but he consecrated most of his time to objects of benevolence, goodfellowship, and the honour of the Association, thus proving that with him social duty was not an empty expression."

We conclude this notice in the words of M. Vallin, who represented the Academy of Medicine—words which will be recognised as appropriate by those who were personally acquainted with M. Lunier:—"Qui de nous en le voyant passer, il y a quelques jours, avec sa robuste apparence, avec sa belle et aimable figure, à laquelle une abondante chevelure blanche donnait non moins de dignité que de douceur, qui de nous eût pu songer un instant à une fin si prochaine? . . . Cher collègue, la mort est venue vous surprendre au milieu de tant d'activité, et c'est avant d'avoir achevé votre tâche que vous entrez dans l'éternel repos, mais vous vivrez dans le souvenir de tous ceux à qui vous avez fait du bien, de ceux que vous avez aimés, dans le souvenir aussi de ceux dont vous avez été trop peu de temps le collègue."

Appointments.

ALDOUS, G. F., F.R.C.P., M.B.C.S., Lond., appointed Res. Med. Officer to the County Asylum, Colney Hatch.

CALDECOTT, CHAS., M.R.C.S., L.S.A. Lond., appointed Res. Med. Officer to the Eastern Counties Asylum for Idiots, Colchester.

CLEMENT, R. J., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. Ed., appointed Res. Clin. Assistant at St. Luke's Hospital.

JOHNSTONE, J. CARLYLE, M.B., Senior Ass. Phys. Royal Edinb. Asylum, appointed interim Med. Superintendent of the Roxburgh, Berwick, and Selkirk District Asylum at Melrose.

MILLER, RICHARD, M.B., B. Ch. T.C.D., appointed Junior Assistant Medical Officer to the Sussex County Asylum, Haywards Heath.

MURDOCH, JAMES W. A., M.B., C.M. Glasg., appointed Assistant Medical Officer to the Berks County Lunatic Asylum.

STAPLE, JAS. D., L.S.A. Lond., appointed Res. Clin. Assistant at St. Luke's Hospital.