

fect even in the most aggravated, if not the most hopeless cases.

With regard to your remarks respecting the "probability of the Commissioners having neglected to denounce with vigour any recurrence to the evils of the past," I would beg to observe that, to denounce with vigour, would necessarily imply a strong repugnance to the evil denounced. Assuming that the minds of the Commissioners are imbued with this repugnance to every form of restraint, then, the insinuation that they had neglected to pronounce a vigorous denunciation merely because they had been "charmed by the lower but more conspicuous attributes of an asylum," would be rather a reflection than otherwise on their penetration or their candour. That they had, in short, overlooked the greater evil, attracted by the lesser good; or, detecting the one, had failed to denounce it, carried away by the admiration of the other.

I humbly submit that neither position is applicable to the Commissioners. For, about the same period, we also received a visit from the Commissioners. I drew their especial attention to two particular cases, where mild restraint had been applied, as a 'dernier resort,' upon which an interesting discussion followed.

Now, although no vigorous denunciatory clause, or even the slightest expression of disapprobation, is to be found in their report, I most certainly cannot regard the favourable paragraph with which it closes as constituting, in the slightest degree, a "culminating pile of praises," to the all-absorbing influence of which the omitted denunciation is to be ascribed.

Nor, on the other hand, were it so, that the Commissioners themselves did entertain the non-justifiability of restraint in any form and in any possible case, can it be allowed that they would seek to reconcile such convictions with a total omission of any expression of disapproval.

In short, in every rule exceptions must ever occur, and from such exceptions, howsoever rare they be, the system of non-restraint itself cannot claim for itself any special exemption.

I remain, dear Sir, very respectfully yours,

EDWARD SIMPSON, M.D.,
Medical Superintendent.

To the Editor of the Asylum Journal.

Belfast District Asylum, July 31, 1854.

Dear Sir,—Permit me through your pages to express to the Members of the Association of Medical Officers of Asylums and Hospitals for the Insane my regret that I was unable to attend their Annual Meeting on the 28th ultimo. The most imperative duties alone prevented my doing so, and participating in the useful and important business of that meeting.

I am, my dear Sir, yours faithfully,

ROBERT STEWART, M.D.,
Secretary to the Irish Branch of the Association.

Appointment.

MR. DENNE, Medical Superintendent of the female side, Hanwell Asylum, to be Medical Superintendent of the Bedfordshire County Lunatic Asylum. Mrs. DENNE to be Matron of the same.

Notices to Correspondents. We regret that press of matter compels us to delay the remainder of Dr. Ballarger's excellent Lecture, Dr. Tuke's Review of the Meereburg Report, with other reviews of interesting works.

Mr. A. L. We are not aware of the best mode of keeping floors clean and bright by dry rubbing. If the floors are of oak the matter is easy. If they are of pine or fir we know that the task is a difficult one. We should feel obliged to any of our readers who would give us information on this subject. The floors in the Lancaster and Stafford Asylums are of wood and are dry rubbed.

A GENTLEMAN, who has had an extensive experience of several years duration both in Public and Private Asylums, and who can produce high testimonials and give unexceptionable references, is desirous of obtaining a Medical Appointment in a Private Asylum. Apply to *Medicus*, 76 Strand, London.

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SARAH ELIZABETH GRICE, having lived for the last four years in an Asylum as Ward Attendant, is desirous of obtaining a similar situation. She can have a four years good character. Apply to S. E. Grice, at Mr. Fountain's, New Town, Bedford.

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COUNTY AND CITY OF WORCESTER PAUPER LUNATIC ASYLUM, POWICK, NEAR WORCESTER.

WANTED, A MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT, who can immediately enter upon the duties of this Establishment. He will be expected to devote the whole of his time and energies to the duties of his office, and be precluded from private practice. Preference will be given to a Gentleman who has had experience in a Public Lunatic Asylum. The Salary is £350 a Year, together with Furnished Apartments, Coals, Candles, Washing, and Vegetables from the Garden. He will have to Board himself, and find his own Linen. Candidates to state their age, whether married or single, and what family (if any). Testimonials (sealed up) to be sent to Mr. Martin Curtler, Solicitor, Worcester, before the 26th instant. The Election will take place on Monday, the 4th September.

MARTIN CURTLER,

Worcester, Aug. 14, 1854. Clerk to the Committee of Visitors.

N.B.—It is particularly requested that no application shall be made to any Member of the Committee or their Clerk, by or on behalf of any Candidate. If any such is made, it will be held a disqualification.

All communications for the forthcoming Number should be addressed to the Editor, DR. BUCKNILL, Devon County Lunatic Asylum, near Exeter, before the 20th day of September next.

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