

Thirty-sixth annual report of the resident physician of the Belfast District Hospital for the Insane of the counties of Antrim and Down, and the county of the town of Carrickfergus : from 1st April, 1865, to the 31st March, 1866.

Contributors

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1866-70
THIRTY-SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE RESIDENT PHYSICIAN

OF THE

BELFAST

District Hospital for the Insane

OF THE

COUNTIES OF ANTRIM AND DOWN, AND THE COUNTY OF
THE TOWN OF CARRICKFERGUS,

FROM 1ST APRIL, 1865, TO 31ST MARCH, 1866.

[ORDERED BY THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS TO BE PRINTED].

ESTABLISHED 1829.



BELFAST :

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GOVERNORS

OF

The Belfast District Hospital for the Insane,

APPOINTED BY

THE LORD LIEUTENANT AND PRIVY COUNCIL OF IRELAND,

Under the Provisions of 1 and 2 George IV., Cap. 33.

NO	NAME.	RESIDENCE.	DATE OF APPOINTMENT
1	Marquis of Donegal,	London,	March, 1829
2	Mayor of Belfast,	Belfast,	March, 1829
3	The Ven. Archden. Hincks, A M.,	Billy, Bushmills,	March, 1829
4	Robt. J. Tennent, Esq., J.P., D.L.,	Rushpark, Belfast,	Jan. 4, 1836
5	Right Rev. C. Denvir, D.D., ..	Belfast,	Oct. 28, 1836
6	Rev. John Edgar, D.D., ..	Belfast,	Oct. 28, 1836
7	The Very Rev. Dean Stannus, ..	Lisburn,	April 4, 1842
8	Rev. H. Cooke, D.D., LL.D., ..	Belfast,	April 4, 1842
9	Rev. J. S. B. Monsell, A.M., ..		July 13, 1842
10	Conway B. Grimshaw, Esq., ..	Sydenham, Belfast,	Oct. 8, 1846
11	Marquis of Downshire,	Castle, Hillsborough,	Nov. 16, 1847
12	John S. Crawford, J.P., D.L., ..	Crawfordsburn, Holywood, ..	Nov. 16, 1847
13	The Lord Bishop of Down and	The Palace, Holywood, ..	April 9, 1850
14	Connor and Dromore,		
	William Dunville, Esq., J.P., ..	Richmond Lodge, Co. Down,	May 22, 1851
15	Rev. T. F. Miller, D.D.,	The Vicarage, Belfast, ..	Dec. 8, 1851
16	Adam J. Macrory, Esq.,	Duncairn, Belfast,	June 15, 1852
17	Lord Dufferin,	Clandeboyne, Belfast, ..	Dec. 10, 1855
18	Thomas M'Clure, Esq., J.P., D.L.,	Belmont, County Down, ..	Jan. 29, 1856
19	Lieutenant-Colonel Forde, M.P., ..	Seaforde, County Down, ..	March 26, 1862

Resident Physician-Superintendent,	..	ROBERT STEWART, M.D.
Visiting and Consulting Physician,	..	HENRY M'CORMAC, M.D.
Visiting Surgeon, &c.,	JAMES MOORE, M.D.

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STATED MEETINGS OF GOVERNORS ARE HELD AT THE INSTITUTION ON  
THE FIRST MONDAY OF EACH MONTH, AT ONE O'CLOCK, P.M.,

GOVERNORS  
OF  
THE MEDICAL DISTRICT HOSPITAL for the Poor  
BY  
THE HON. MR. JUSTICE  
IN THE COURT OF COMMONS  
IN THE YEAR 1811  
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# THIRTY-SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF

## The Belfast District Hospital for the Insane,

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1866.

Table I.—General Statement of the year's Admissions, &c.

|                                                                                                                                        | Males | Females | Total | Males | Females | Total  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|---------|-------|-------|---------|--------|
| In House on 1st April, 1865,                                                                                                           | ...   | ...     | ...   | 201   | 161     | 362    |
| Admitted since, New Cases,                                                                                                             | 33    | 43      | 76    |       |         |        |
| Relapses, ...                                                                                                                          | 5     | 6       | 11    |       |         |        |
|                                                                                                                                        | —     | —       | —     | 38    | 49      | 87     |
| Total under Treatment during the year, ...                                                                                             |       |         |       | 239   | 210     | 449    |
| Discharged Recovered, ...                                                                                                              | 26    | 30      | 56    |       |         |        |
| Do., Relieved, ...                                                                                                                     | 10    | 9       | 19    |       |         |        |
| Died, ...                                                                                                                              | 7     | 7       | 14    |       |         |        |
|                                                                                                                                        | —     | —       | —     | 43    | 46      | 89     |
| Remaining under Treatment on 31st March, 1866,                                                                                         |       |         |       | 196   | 164     | 340    |
|                                                                                                                                        |       |         |       | Males | Females | Total  |
| The total Admissions during the year were ...                                                                                          |       |         |       | 38    | 49      | 87     |
| Do. for the preceding year, ...                                                                                                        |       |         |       | 33    | 40      | 73     |
| Daily Average Number of Patients during the year,                                                                                      |       |         |       | ...   | ...     | 364.75 |
| Do. for the preceding year, ...                                                                                                        |       |         |       | ...   | ...     | 364.51 |
| Per-centage of Recoveries and Relieved on the                                                                                          |       |         |       |       |         |        |
| Average Daily Number under Treatment, ...                                                                                              |       |         |       | ...   | ...     | 20.56  |
| Do. for the preceding year, ...                                                                                                        |       |         |       | ...   | ...     | 15.90  |
| Do. on year's total Admissions, ...                                                                                                    |       |         |       | ...   | ...     | 23.85  |
| Do. for the preceding year, ...                                                                                                        |       |         |       | ...   | ...     | 20.26  |
| Average Per-centage of Deaths on the total Number                                                                                      |       |         |       |       |         |        |
| under Treatment during the year, ...                                                                                                   |       |         |       | ...   | ...     | 3.11   |
| Do. for the preceding year, ...                                                                                                        |       |         |       | ...   | ...     | 4.96   |
| Do. on the Average Daily Number during the year, ...                                                                                   |       |         |       | ...   | ...     | 3.83   |
| Do. for the preceding year, ...                                                                                                        |       |         |       | ...   | ...     | 6.03   |
| “Dangerous Lunatics” admitted by Warrants of the Lord Lieutenant during the year (as embraced in the year's total Admissions), viz. :— |       |         |       |       |         |        |
|                                                                                                                                        | Males | Females | Total | Males | Females | Total  |
| From County Antrim Jail, ...                                                                                                           | 1     | 0       | 1     |       |         |        |
| From County Down Jail, ...                                                                                                             | 2     | 6       | 8     |       |         |        |
|                                                                                                                                        | —     | —       | —     | 3     | 6       | 9      |
| Average Annual Expense of each Patient for the past }<br>year, including every charge, ...                                             |       |         |       |       | £18     | 2 7    |
| Do. for the previous year, ...                                                                                                         |       |         |       |       | 18      | 15 1½  |
| Total Expenditure for the year ended 31st March, 1866,                                                                                 |       |         |       |       | 6,617   | 5 11   |
| Do. for the year ended 31st March, 1865,                                                                                               |       |         |       |       | 6,831   | 16 8   |
| Net Profit on Farm and Garden, ...                                                                                                     |       |         |       |       | £331    | 16 0   |



Table II.—Ages of the 87 Patients admitted during the year ending  
31st March, 1866.

|                     | Males | Females | Total |
|---------------------|-------|---------|-------|
| Under 20 years, ... | 4     | 2       | 6     |
| 20 to 30 years, ... | 10    | 15      | 25    |
| 30 to 40 " ...      | 9     | 12      | 21    |
| 40 to 50 " ...      | 8     | 12      | 20    |
| 50 to 60 " ...      | 3     | 2       | 5     |
| 60 to 70 " ...      | 4     | 6       | 10    |
| TOTALS, ...         | 38    | 49      | 87    |

Table III.—Alleged Causes of Insanity in the 87 Cases admitted during  
the year ended 31st March, 1866.

|                                         | Males | Females | Total |
|-----------------------------------------|-------|---------|-------|
| Bodily Ailments, ...                    | 4     | 3       | 7     |
| Disappointed Affections, ...            | 0     | 4       | 4     |
| Fright, ...                             | 2     | 6       | 8     |
| Grief, Disappointment, and Anxiety, ... | 3     | 7       | 10    |
| Hereditary, ...                         | 3     | 7       | 10    |
| Intemperance, ...                       | 5     | 1       | 6     |
| Jealousy, ...                           | 2     | 0       | 2     |
| Love of Money, ...                      | 5     | 2       | 7     |
| Over Study, ...                         | 2     | 0       | 2     |
| Puerperal Condition, ...                | 0     | 5       | 5     |
| Religious Excitement, ...               | 4     | 8       | 12    |
| Seduction, ...                          | 0     | 2       | 2     |
| Sun Stroke, ...                         | 1     | 0       | 1     |
| Totally Unknown, ...                    | 7     | 4       | 11    |
| TOTALS, ...                             | 38    | 49      | 87    |

Table IV.—Forms of Disease in the 87 Patients admitted during the year  
ended 31st March, 1866.

|                  | Males | Females | Total |
|------------------|-------|---------|-------|
| Dementia, ...    | 1     | 2       | 3     |
| Mania, ...       | 27    | 34      | 61    |
| Melancholia, ... | 4     | 9       | 13    |
| Monomania, ...   | 6     | 4       | 10    |
| TOTALS, ...      | 38    | 49      | 87    |

Table V.—Religion of the 87 Patients admitted during the year ended 31st March, 1866.

|                                              | Males | Females | Total |
|----------------------------------------------|-------|---------|-------|
| Methodists, ... ..                           | 0     | 3       | 3     |
| Presbyterians and Protestant Dissenters, ... | 19    | 13      | 32    |
| Roman Catholics, ... ..                      | 12    | 16      | 28    |
| United Church of England and Ireland, ...    | 7     | 17      | 24    |
| TOTALS, ... ..                               | 38    | 49      | 87    |

Table VI.—Social Condition of the 87 Patients admitted during the year ended 31st March, 1866.

|                            | Males | Females | Total |
|----------------------------|-------|---------|-------|
| Married, ... ..            | 15    | 22      | 37    |
| Single, ... ..             | 22    | 22      | 44    |
| Widower and Widows, ... .. | 1     | 5       | 6     |
| TOTALS, ... ..             | 38    | 49      | 87    |

Table VII.—Occupations of the 87 cases admitted during the year ended 31st March, 1866.

|                                | Males | Females | Total |
|--------------------------------|-------|---------|-------|
| Baker, ... ..                  | 1     | 0       | 1     |
| Carpenters, ... ..             | 3     | 0       | 3     |
| Clerks, ... ..                 | 2     | 0       | 2     |
| Dressmakers, ... ..            | 0     | 8       | 8     |
| Farmers, ... ..                | 5     | 0       | 5     |
| Housekeepers, ... ..           | 0     | 20      | 20    |
| Servants, ... ..               | 0     | 9       | 9     |
| Labourers, ... ..              | 15    | 0       | 15    |
| Millworkers, ... ..            | 2     | 3       | 5     |
| Shirt Maker, ... ..            | 0     | 1       | 1     |
| Shoemaker, ... ..              | 1     | 0       | 1     |
| Student, ... ..                | 1     | 0       | 1     |
| Surgeon, ... ..                | 1     | 0       | 1     |
| Teacher, ... ..                | 1     | 0       | 1     |
| Weavers, ... ..                | 2     | 2       | 4     |
| Without any Occupation, ... .. | 4     | 6       | 10    |
| TOTALS, ... ..                 | 38    | 49      | 87    |



**Table VIII.—Degree of Education in the 87 cases admitted during the year ended 31st March, 1866.**

|                        | Males | Females | Total |
|------------------------|-------|---------|-------|
| No Education, ... ..   | 2     | 4       | 6     |
| Read only, ... ..      | 5     | 15      | 20    |
| Read and Write, ... .. | 24    | 29      | 53    |
| Well Educated, ... ..  | 7     | 1       | 8     |
| TOTALS, ... ..         | 38    | 49      | 87    |

**Table IX.—Ages of the 56 Patients Discharged Recovered during the year ended 31st March, 1866.**

|                             | Males | Females | Total |
|-----------------------------|-------|---------|-------|
| Under 20 years, ... ..      | 1     | 2       | 3     |
| From 20 to 30 years, ... .. | 8     | 10      | 18    |
| “ 30 to 40 “ ... ..         | 6     | 7       | 13    |
| “ 40 to 50 “ ... ..         | 5     | 7       | 12    |
| “ 50 to 60 “ ... ..         | 5     | 4       | 9     |
| “ 60 to 70 “ ... ..         | 1     | 0       | 1     |
| TOTALS, ... ..              | 26    | 30      | 56    |

**Table X.—Shewing the period of time the 56 Patients Discharged Recovered were under treatment during the year ended 31st March, 1866.**

|                            | Males | Females | Total |
|----------------------------|-------|---------|-------|
| Under 3 months, ... ..     | 1     | 0       | 1     |
| From 3 to 6 months, ... .. | 8     | 9       | 17    |
| “ 6 to 12 “ ... ..         | 5     | 10      | 15    |
| “ 1 to 2 years, ... ..     | 8     | 8       | 11    |
| “ 2 to 5 “ ... ..          | 6     | 2       | 8     |
| “ 5 to 10 “ ... ..         | 3     | 1       | 4     |
| TOTALS, ... ..             | 26    | 30      | 56    |

**Table XI.—Ages of the 14 Patients who Died during the year ended 31st March, 1866.**

|                             | Males | Females | Total |
|-----------------------------|-------|---------|-------|
| From 20 to 30 years, ... .. | 2     | 0       | 2     |
| “ 30 to 40 “ ... ..         | 1     | 4       | 5     |
| “ 40 to 50 “ ... ..         | 3     | 2       | 5     |
| “ 50 to 60 “ ... ..         | 0     | 1       | 1     |
| “ 60 to 70 “ ... ..         | 0     | 0       | 0     |
| “ 70 to 80 “ ... ..         | 1     | 0       | 1     |
| TOTALS, ... ..              | 7     | 7       | 14    |



**Table XII.—Shewing the Duration of Disease in the 89 Patients Discharged Recovered, Relieved, and who Died, during the year ended March 31st, 1866.**

| DURATION OF DISEASE.   | RECOVERED AND RELIEVED. |         |       | DIED. |         |       |
|------------------------|-------------------------|---------|-------|-------|---------|-------|
|                        | Males                   | Females | Total | Males | Females | Total |
| Under 3 months, ...    | 4                       | 5       | 9     | 0     | 0       | 0     |
| From 3 to 6 months,... | 9                       | 10      | 19    | 1     | 1       | 2     |
| “ 6 to 12 “ ...        | 7                       | 11      | 18    | 0     | 0       | 0     |
| “ 1 to 2 years, ...    | 3                       | 8       | 11    | 1     | 2       | 3     |
| “ 2 to 5 “ ...         | 7                       | 2       | 9     | 3     | 1       | 4     |
| “ 5 to 10 “ ...        | 5                       | 2       | 7     | 0     | 3       | 3     |
| “ 10 to 20 “ ...       | 1                       | 1       | 2     | 1     | 0       | 1     |
| “ 20 to 30 “ ...       | 0                       | 0       | 0     | 1     | 0       | 1     |
| TOTALS,...             | 36                      | 39      | 75    | 7     | 7       | 14    |

**Table XIII.—Employment during the year ended 31st March, 1866.**

|                                              | Males | Females | Total |
|----------------------------------------------|-------|---------|-------|
| Assisting Servants, ...                      | 14    | 11      | 25    |
| Basket Making, ...                           | 2     | 0       | 2     |
| Breaking Freestone, ...                      | 3     | 0       | 3     |
| Cultivating the Farm, ...                    | 80    | 0       | 80    |
| Embroidering, ...                            | 0     | 2       | 2     |
| Gardening Labour, ...                        | 4     | 0       | 4     |
| Knitting, ...                                | 1     | 30      | 31    |
| Making and Repairing Clothing, Bedding, &c., | 4     | 20      | 24    |
| Making and Repairing Shoes, ...              | 2     | 0       | 2     |
| Pumping Water, ...                           | 28    | 0       | 28    |
| Smith Work, ...                              | 1     | 0       | 1     |
| Spinning, ...                                | 0     | 26      | 26    |
| Sweeping Yards, Carrying Coals, &c., ...     | 28    | 0       | 28    |
| Tailoring, ...                               | 1     | 0       | 1     |
| Washing in Laundry, ...                      | 3     | 20      | 23    |
| Warping, Weaving, and Winding, ...           | 6     | 0       | 6     |
| TOTALS, ...                                  | 177   | 109     | 286   |

**Table XIV.—Forms of Disease of the Total Number of Patients remaining on 31st March, 1866.**

|                                    | Males | Females | Total |
|------------------------------------|-------|---------|-------|
| Dementia, ...                      | 6     | 7       | 13    |
| Mania, ...                         | 132   | 104     | 236   |
| Do. Complicated with Epilepsy, ... | 13    | 9       | 22    |
| Melancholia, ...                   | 24    | 22      | 46    |
| Monomania, ...                     | 21    | 22      | 43    |
| TOTALS, ...                        | 196   | 164     | 360   |

Table XV.—Shewing the State of the Cases remaining on 31st March, 1866.

|                                | Males | Females | Total |
|--------------------------------|-------|---------|-------|
| Chronic Cases, ... ..          | 100   | 101     | 201   |
| Probably Curable Cases, ... .. | 96    | 63      | 159   |
| TOTALS, ... ..                 | 196   | 164     | 360   |

Table XVI.—Shewing the Religious Persuasions of the 360 Patients remaining on 31st March, 1866.

|                                              | Males | Females | Total |
|----------------------------------------------|-------|---------|-------|
| Methodists, ... ..                           | 0     | 2       | 2     |
| Presbyterians, ... ..                        | 89    | 48      | 137   |
| Roman Catholics, ... ..                      | 52    | 70      | 122   |
| Unitarians, ... ..                           | 1     | 0       | 1     |
| United Church of England and Ireland, ... .. | 54    | 44      | 98    |
| TOTALS, ... ..                               | 196   | 164     | 360   |



Table XVII.—Obituary for the year ending 31st March, 1866.

| No. | Sex. | Age. | Alleged form of Insanity & exciting cause.<br>Any mental improvement. Conduct. | Social State. | Occupation. | Period an Inmate.<br>Yrs. Mos. Wks. Days. | Cause of Death.      |
|-----|------|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-------------|-------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1   | M.   | 30   | { Fright from being shut up in a<br>Coal Mine—Mania—None—<br>Convalescent.     | Married.      |             | 1 11 1 6                                  | General Debility.    |
| 2   | M.   | 28   | { Unknown—Melancholia—Im-<br>proved latterly—Quiet.                            | Single.       | Shoemaker.  | 3 0 4 0                                   | Suicide—Inquest.     |
| 3   | F.   | 43   | { Intemperance—Mania—None<br>—Turbulent.                                       | Married.      | None.       | 0 2 2 6                                   | Heart Disease.       |
| 4   | M.   | 49   | { Melancholia—Pecuniary Diffi-<br>culties—None—Quiet.                          | Single.       | Labourer.   | 4 1 0 0                                   | Maniacal Exhaustion. |
| 5   | M.   | 21   | { Epilepsy—Mania—None—<br>Turbulent.                                           | Single.       | Soldier.    | 3 5 3 4                                   | Epilepsy.            |
| 6   | F.   | 30   | { Unknown—Mania—None—Quiet                                                     | Single.       | Servant.    | 1 9 3 2                                   | Phthisis Pulmonalis. |
| 7   | F.   | 31   | { Childbirth—Mania—None—<br>Quiet.                                             | Single.       | Dressmaker. | 4 10 3 4                                  | Phthisis Pulmonalis. |
| 8   | F.   | 43   | { Grief—Mania—None—Quiet.                                                      | Single.       | Governess.  | 9 9 3 5                                   | Paralysis.           |
| 9   | M.   | 40   | { Death of Child—Melancholia<br>—None—Quiet.                                   | Married.      | Teacher.    | 0 2 1 1                                   | Inanition.           |
| 10  | M.   | 76   | { Intemperance—Mania—None<br>—Quiet.                                           | Single.       | Weaver.     | 35 10 3 0                                 | Senile Decay.        |
| 11  | F.   | 54   | { Unknown—Mania—None—<br>Quiet.                                                | Married.      | None.       | 4 0 0 2                                   | Anasarca.            |
| 12  | F.   | 31   | { Dementia from Birth—None—<br>Quiet.                                          | Married.      | Flowerer.   | 0 11 1 4                                  | Diarrhoea.           |
| 13  | M.   | 42   | { Fall from a beam—Mania—<br>None—Quiet.                                       | Single.       | Soldier.    | 8 0 7 6                                   | Scrofulous Disease.  |
| 14  | F.   | 31   | { Epilepsy—Mania—None—<br>Quiet.                                               | Single.       | None.       | 6 11 2 1                                  | Epilepsy.            |



## GENERAL HEALTH.

LIKE former years, the condition of the patients this one, as to physical health, and entire freedom from any ailment of moment, has been most satisfactory. The overcrowded state of the wards, so entirely unavoidable throughout the year, was often a source of disquietude, in the apprehension of causing a deviation from the prevailing health standard, and which, though happily proving groundless, is nevertheless a state of things in an institution of this nature far from what could be desired, but which must only be guarded against as best can, under existing circumstances.

## DEATHS DURING THE YEAR.

The number of death casualties has been remarkably low, only fourteen occurring in a daily population of upwards of three hundred and sixty—seven of each sex, being eight less than last year. The causes of death were, viz :—two (males), of general debility ; two (females), of pulmonary consumption ; two (a male and a female), of epilepsy ; one (male), of maniacal exhaustion ; one (female), of paralysis ; one (female), of heart disease ; one (female), of general dropsy ; one (female), of chronic diarrhœa ; one (male), of scrofulous disease ; one (male), senile decay ; one (male), suicide by dividing the trachea. In this unhappy case (an inmate three years), a Coroner's Inquest was held, and a verdict returned in accordance with the evidence adduced, the jury exonerating the attendant in immediate charge of the deceased, and the staff generally, from all blame. The fatal deed was done in the most deliberate and determined manner, and, as so frequently happens with suicides, was a totally unlooked for occurrence in the case of this patient in particular, no previous suicidal intent having been manifested by the deceased, but who, on the contrary, had been so steady and generally well conducted for some time past, that he was permitted to occupy a bed in the attendants' room of his division, and was shortly to have been removed home by his friends.



The periods of residence of those who died were as follow, viz :—two (a male and a female), above two months and under three ; one (female), above six months and under one year ; two (a male and a female), above eighteen months and under two years ; two (males), under four years ; two (a male and a female), under five years ; four (one male, three females), between nine and ten years ; and one (male), for the lengthened period of thirty-five years and upwards, and who could not endure the thought of death ; he becoming exceedingly irate (being naturally very irascible), when such was hinted at, and to the last pertinently refused to lie in bed until rapidly declining strength compelled him to do so. He was the oldest of all in the deaths of the year, having reached the age of seventy-six, and throughout his inmateship, until within a few months of his dissolution, constantly, and by his own desire, employing himself on the farm. The youngest deceased male was twenty-one ; the oldest and youngest females, respectively, were fifty-four and thirty ; and the average age of the fourteen deceased was thirty-nine.

#### SUICIDAL AND HOMICIDAL CASES.

The number of suicidal and homicidal cases admitted during the year was, thirteen of the former, who made actual attempts on their own lives prior to admission, and two of the latter, a male and a female, respectively—the male having attempted his wife's life by stabbing her, and the female having similarly attacked her mother. Seven of the suicidal cases were males, three of whom attempted cutting their throats, one to stab himself, one to strangle himself, and one to drown himself. As regards the six female suicidal cases, two each attempted drowning and cutting their throats respectively, and one each poisoning and precipitation from a window. Those who threatened, only, to shorten their lives by their own hands were eleven, four being males, and seven females.

The constant anxiety caused in such Institutions as these by inmates of the above class, is of the most serious and harassing kind, and can alone be felt and understood by those having their immediate charge.



## ACCOMMODATION.

The House at the present time contains three hundred and sixty inmates, one hundred and ninety-six males, and one hundred and sixty-four females ; there is only accommodation, properly, for three hundred and thirty, and this, too, with only the minimum cubical space to each patient, so that this trenching upon breathing space so largely by an excess of thirty, and frequently more, when some pressure from without occurs for the reception of urgently dangerous cases, is a matter of serious importance, but still is unavoidable. Agreeably to the Board's instructions, as many harmless cases as possible of the chronic class have been endeavouring to be handed over to their friends and sureties, in order to enable new and probably curable cases to be taken under treatment, it being an established fact that, in no disease "which flesh is heir to" is it of more consequence that early professional treatment should be had recourse to than that of insanity, every day's delay being of vital moment as to the ultimate issue. The outstanding cases in ordinary awaiting admission, as vacancies can be made, are at the present time but three. There are, however, between forty and fifty in County Down Gaol, committed as "Dangerous Lunatics," and about six in County Antrim Gaol of the same class.

## THE COUNTY DOWN NEW HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE.

In last year's report it was stated that this new and much-required Institution was then about being actually commenced erecting ; and it is now satisfactory to know that the works in connexion therewith are in active progress ; but, allowing for every expedition being used in its erection, its readiness for the reception of patients is possible, perhaps, in two years hence, but not very probable, judging from past experience in regard to the building and completion of these establishments, even under the most favourable and promising circumstances.

## ADDITIONAL LAND.

To the present time, the additional ground referred to in last Annual Report, as having been applied for to be purchased, has



not yet been obtained. A good deal of correspondence has since been going on with the Government authorities in respect of this important matter, and one principal cause of delay has arisen from the great discrepancy in the valuation of the land marked out for purchase, viz., four statute acres, on the part of its owner and the Government respectively. It is earnestly to be hoped, however, that whatever the differences may be that they will speedily be adjusted, and the ground in question secured for the Institution, its continued well being and good working being very seriously concerned in this matter of detail, as is plainly manifest to the most ordinary observer; for, in the event of not being obtained, and buildings arising on this proposed addition, as will without doubt be the case, the due privacy of the establishment will be altogether interfered with, and a class of houses brought into close approximation with the establishment, which will be incalculably detrimental, in every point of view, to its welfare and the treatment of the patients.

#### THE CHAPLAIN QUESTION.

Recently the subject of Chaplains being appointed here was again officially before the Board, and having been specially discussed before a very full meeting of the Governors, and a vote taken on the question, the proposed appointments were negatived by ten to three.

#### IMPROVEMENTS.

Several additional matters in respect of pleasing the eye, &c., have been effected during the year, such as increasing the number and variety of pictures, engravings, and prints throughout the day-rooms and corridors, thus greatly enlivening them, and affording sources of indirect amusement to the patients. The Zoological Collection, referred to in a former Report, continues to be duly attended to by additions of birds and animals occasionally, a means towards an end of still further contributing to the effecting of a most salutary and happy influence on the inmates generally, and one in which it has already been



intimated the outside public could easily and largely enhance by making presentations to, and which, it is needless to say, would be very gladly and thankfully received.

#### RECREATIONS.

Amongst the recreations in ordinary of the inmates, the weekly dance is one in which large numbers join *con amore*, even the most apathetic, and who would not otherwise take the least, or who could be afforded, amusement in anything else. The walks outside are also much prized as an indulgence, and looked forward to with the greatest pleasure, and especially the occasional visits which they make to the Royal Botanic Gardens, through the kind and considerate permission of the authorities of that beautifully kept and elevating place of public resort.

#### THE HOUSE BAND.

The Instrumental Band, now in operation these several years past, and with the best effect, is increasingly popular, as well inside as outside the walls of the Institution. The fact of its members being all inmates—with but one exception—and the greater number of the chronic class, makes it so much the more interesting and remarkable, the performances being unexceptionable, as admitted by competent judges—the pieces, and difficult pieces too, being played in the best time. This perfection has been attained under the persevering and judicious management of Mr. Dornan, the Bandmaster, who spares no trouble with his peculiar class of pupils, and who attends to give them lessons once or twice in the week.

#### OFFICIAL INSPECTIONS.

“I have this day inspected the Belfast District Lunatic Asylum, and am happy to find it presenting its usual appearance of extreme cleanliness and order. I know of no Asylum superior to this, as to the cheerful and civilized state of the several day-rooms, corridors, and dormitories, owing, in a great measure, to the papering and varnishing of the walls, and hanging the walls with prints. I observed the patients, both male and female, tranquil and orderly, and as happy as could



be expected, considering the various forms of insanity under which they labour. The sanitary state of the Institution is very good, there being only five patients confined to bed, which is a very low per centage out of 364 patients ; there is none under restraint, and but one in seclusion.

“(Signed),

“G. H. HATCHELL.

“7th July, 1865.”

“On my visit to the Belfast District Asylum this day, I found it presenting the same satisfactory appearance which on former occasions I had reason to note. I saw all the patients, who, as a body, were well clad, clean, and orderly, while the various dormitories, corridors, and day-rooms were not only well ventilated but of a wholesome temperature. The sanitary condition of the establishment, notwithstanding its very overcrowded state, is particularly good ; two inmates alone being confined to bed out of a total of 366—just 36 beyond the proper number. As usual, no person is under restraint. I examined the food, and consider it of a very fine quality. At the meeting of the Governors of the 6th instant, a case came before them of a patient becoming pregnant, and who has since been confined in the house. I further investigated very minutely, however painful, the occurrence, and I arrived at the same conclusion as the Board, exonerating all parties of blame within the Asylum.

“(Signed),

“JOHN NUGENT.

“15th November, 1865.”

#### DEATHS OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD.

Since last year there have been two removals by death on the list of Governors—namely, William M'Cance, Esq., J.P., and the Rev. Dr. Montgomery. For several years preceding his decease, Mr. M'Cance had not attended, having gone to reside in England, and previously his other avocations did not enable him to attend except on very rare or special occasions. But as regarded the Rev. Dr. Montgomery, his presence here at the stated meetings of the Governors, during the thirty years nearly



that he was a member of the Board, was unremitting, and the interest he took in all that concerned the welfare of the Institution was unceasingly zealous and eminently serviceable.

The following resolution of the Board was unanimously adopted on the 1st January, on the occasion of their first meeting after his generally and much lamented decease had occurred.

Moved by the Lord Bishop of Down and Connor and Dromore, and seconded by Adam J. Macrory, Esq., and unanimously

*Resolved*—That it has been with unfeigned regret this Board has now learned officially of the death of the Rev. Dr. Montgomery since its last meeting, and who for nearly thirty years had been one of its most distinguished, painstaking, and regularly attending members. The records of the Institution contain innumerable proofs of his great ability and untiring zeal on its behalf, and all connected with its management, together with his readiness at all times to give his powerful aid in the promotion of its important objects to the utmost extent. That, accordingly, his removal is strongly felt by the Governors, collectively and individually, and who now desire to convey, in the most respectful manner, to his sorrowing family their sincere sympathy with them in their irreparable and afflictive bereavement, and their own deep concern at the loss of so valuable and zealous a member of the Board.

“That a copy of the foregoing Resolution be transmitted to Mrs. Montgomery.”

#### MEETINGS AND ATTENDANCE OF THE GOVERNORS.

The Members of the Board of Governors, and their attendances at the Monthly Meetings during the year were as follow (the average attendance was six, three constituting a quorum):—Thomas M'Clure, Esq. (11), C. B. Grimshaw, Esq. (10), The Right Rev. Dr. Denvir (9), The Lord Bishop of Down, &c. (8), John Sharman Crawford, Esq. (7), The Rev. Dr. Miller (7), The Rev. Dr. Cooke (6), William Dunville, Esq. (6), A. J. Macrory, Esq. (6), The Very Rev. Dean Stannus (4), Dr. Edgar (4), Lieutenant-Colonel Forde, M.P. (3), Lord Downshire (1), R. J. Tennent, Esq. (1), The Mayor of Belfast, (William Mullan, Esq.), (1).

## ATTENDANTS.—CONCLUSION.

It remains only to state that the manner in which the attendants performed their onerous duties during the past year was entirely satisfactory and creditable; and further, that the Resident-Physician feels bound to express to the Board how highly he estimates their warm support of him in the discharge of the arduous and unceasingly anxious trust now reposing in his hands for thirty years and upwards, and to thank his brother officers for their efficient aid, also, in carrying out the objects of this great and important Institution.

ROBERT STEWART, M.D.,

Resident Physician-Superintendent.



# GENERAL TABLES OF STATISTICS.

Table XVIII.—Shewing the Admissions, Discharges, &c., from each County in the District, during the year ended 31st March, 1866.

| ADMITTED FROM EACH COUNTY.                |     |     |     |     |       |         |       |
|-------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|---------|-------|
|                                           |     |     |     |     | Males | Females | Total |
| Antrim,                                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 26    | 26      | 52    |
| County of the Town of Carrickfergus,      | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1     | 0       | 1     |
| Down, ...                                 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11    | 23      | 34    |
| TOTALS,                                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 38    | 49      | 87    |
| DISCHARGED, ETC., TO EACH COUNTY.         |     |     |     |     |       |         |       |
|                                           |     |     |     |     | Males | Females | Total |
| Antrim,                                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 28    | 26      | 54    |
| County of the Town of Carrickfergus,      | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0     | 1       | 1     |
| Down, ...                                 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 15    | 19      | 34    |
| TOTALS,                                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 43    | 46      | 89    |
| REMAINING IN THE HOUSE, 31st MARCH, 1866. |     |     |     |     |       |         |       |
|                                           |     |     |     |     | Males | Females | Total |
| Antrim,                                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 100   | 92      | 192   |
| County of the Town of Carrickfergus,      | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5     | 3       | 8     |
| Down, ...                                 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 91    | 69      | 160   |
| TOTALS,                                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 196   | 164     | 360   |

Table XIX.—Shewing the Per Centage of Discharges and Deaths, and the Average Per Centage calculated on the Average Number of Patients for Ten Years ended 31st March, 1866.

| Years ending 31st March. | Yearly Average Number. | RECOVERED.    |                | Relieved.    |                | DIED.        |                |
|--------------------------|------------------------|---------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|
|                          |                        | No. of Cases. | Rate Per Cent. | No of Cases. | Rate Per Cent. | No. of Cases | Rate Per Cent. |
| 1857                     | 323.25                 | 66            | 40.21          | 15           | 4.64           | 35           | 11.75          |
| 1858                     | 342.59                 | 82            | 23.93          | 26           | 7.58           | 25           | 7.29           |
| 1859                     | 347.20                 | 65            | 18.17          | 18           | 5.18           | 18           | 5.18           |
| 1860                     | 358.97                 | 75            | 20.89          | 22           | 6.12           | 25           | 6.96           |
| 1861                     | 356.98                 | 47            | 13.16          | 31           | 8.68           | 22           | 6.16           |
| 1862                     | 359.50                 | 73            | 23.05          | 21           | 5.08           | 19           | 5.02           |
| 1863                     | 362.90                 | 59            | 16.25          | 10           | 2.75           | 14           | 3.85           |
| 1864                     | 366.02                 | 52            | 14.20          | 19           | 5.24           | 12           | 3.27           |
| 1865                     | 364.51                 | 68            | 18.65          | 23           | 6.30           | 22           | 6.03           |
| 1866                     | 364.75                 | 57            | 15.62          | 19           | 5.20           | 14           | 3.83           |

Table XX.—Ages of the Patients remaining on 31st March, 1866.

|                      |     |     |     | Males | Females | Total |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|-------|---------|-------|
| Under 20 Years, ...  | ... | ... | ... | 4     | 2       | 6     |
| From 20 to 30 Years, | ... | ... | ... | 42    | 34      | 76    |
| “ 30 to 40 “         | ... | ... | ... | 61    | 45      | 106   |
| “ 40 to 50 “         | ... | ... | ... | 50    | 41      | 91    |
| “ 50 to 60 “         | ... | ... | ... | 29    | 29      | 58    |
| “ 60 to 70 “         | ... | ... | ... | 10    | 12      | 22    |
| “ 70 to 80 “         | ... | ... | ... | 0     | 1       | 1     |
| TOTALS,              | ... | ... | ... | 196   | 164     | 360   |

Table XXI.—Shewing the Duration of Residence of the 360 Patients remaining under Treatment, 31st March, 1866.

|                         |     |     |     | Males | Females | Total |
|-------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-------|---------|-------|
| From 1 to 2 Months,     | ... | ... | ... | 6     | 7       | 13    |
| “ 2 to 3 “              | ... | ... | ... | 5     | 6       | 11    |
| “ 3 to 6 “              | ... | ... | ... | 5     | 8       | 13    |
| “ 6 to 9 “              | ... | ... | ... | 5     | 7       | 12    |
| “ 9 Months to 1 Year,   | ... | ... | ... | 9     | 4       | 13    |
| “ 1 Year to 18 Months,  | ... | ... | ... | 6     | 9       | 15    |
| “ 18 Months to 2 Years, | ... | ... | ... | 14    | 6       | 20    |
| “ 2 Years to 4 “        | ... | ... | ... | 18    | 22      | 40    |
| “ 4 “ to 6 “            | ... | ... | ... | 28    | 26      | 54    |
| “ 6 “ to 10 “           | ... | ... | ... | 42    | 22      | 64    |
| “ 10 “ to 15 “          | ... | ... | ... | 16    | 15      | 31    |
| “ 15 “ to 20 “          | ... | ... | ... | 17    | 16      | 33    |
| “ 20 “ to 30 “          | ... | ... | ... | 16    | 13      | 29    |
| “ 30 and upwards “      | ... | ... | ... | 9     | 3       | 12    |
| TOTALS,                 | ... | ... | ... | 196   | 164     | 360   |

Table XXII.—Shewing the Articles Manufactured and made by the Patients during the year ended 31st March, 1866.

|                                |                   |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1,494 Hanks Linen Yarn.        | 86 Petticoats.    |
| 1,200 Yards Plain Linen.       | 102 Day Caps.     |
| 320 Pairs Stockings and Socks. | 34 Bed Ticks.     |
| 92 Sheets.                     | 109 Gowns.        |
| 250 Shirts.                    | 179 Pillow Slips. |
| 95 Shifts.                     | 60 Towels.        |
| 167 Aprons.                    |                   |



Table XXXIII.—Shewing the Number of Cases Admitted, Recovered, Relieved, and who Died in each Quarter and each Month, respectively, during the Year ended 31st March, 1866.

|                  | ADMITTED. |          |        | DISCHARGED. |          |        |           |          |        | DIED.  |          |        |
|------------------|-----------|----------|--------|-------------|----------|--------|-----------|----------|--------|--------|----------|--------|
|                  |           |          |        | RECOVERED.  |          |        | RELIEVED. |          |        |        |          |        |
|                  | Males.    | Females. | Total. | Males.      | Females. | Total. | Males.    | Females. | Total. | Males. | Females. | Total. |
| April, .....     | 2         | 3        | 5      | 1           | 1        | 2      | 0         | 0        | 0      | 3      | 1        | 4      |
| May, .....       | 4         | 5        | 9      | 2           | 1        | 3      | 0         | 1        | 1      | 1      | 0        | 1      |
| June, .....      | 3         | 6        | 9      | 1           | 4        | 5      | 0         | 2        | 2      | 0      | 2        | 2      |
|                  |           |          | —23    |             |          | —10    |           |          | —3     |        |          | —7     |
| July, .....      | 5         | 3        | 8      | 1           | 3        | 4      | 0         | 2        | 2      | 1      | 1        | 2      |
| August, .....    | 1         | 4        | 5      | 1           | 2        | 3      | 0         | 1        | 1      | 0      | 0        | 0      |
| September, ..... | 1         | 1        | 2      | 2           | 3        | 5      | 0         | 0        | 0      | 1      | 0        | 1      |
|                  |           |          | —15    |             |          | —12    |           |          | —3     |        |          | —3     |
| October, ...     | 5         | 6        | 11     | 4           | 2        | 6      | 0         | 0        | 0      | 0      | 0        | 0      |
| November, ..     | 2         | 2        | 4      | 0           | 4        | 4      | 2         | 1        | 3      | 0      | 1        | 1      |
| December, ..     | 7         | 3        | 10     | 4           | 5        | 9      | 2         | 0        | 2      | 0      | 0        | 0      |
|                  |           |          | —25    |             |          | —19    |           |          | —5     |        |          | —1     |
| January, ...     | 3         | 6        | 9      | 3           | 1        | 4      | 1         | 0        | 1      | 0      | 1        | 1      |
| February, ...    | 4         | 6        | 10     | 2           | 1        | 3      | 0         | 0        | 0      | 0      | 0        | 0      |
| March, .....     | 1         | 4        | 5      | 5           | 3        | 8      | 5         | 2        | 7      | 1      | 1        | 2      |
|                  |           |          | —24    |             |          | —15    |           |          | —8     |        |          | —3     |
|                  | 38        | 49       | 87     | 26          | 30       | 56     | 10        | 9        | 19     | 7      | 7        | 14     |

# AN ACCOUNT OF THE RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS OF THE BELFAST DISTRICT HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE FOR ONE YEAR,

BEING FROM 1ST APRIL, 1865, TO 31ST MARCH, 1866.

## THE CHARGE.

|                                                                     |        |    |    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|----|----|
| Balance of last Account in favour of the Public, ..                 | £471   | 5  | 9  |
| Received from the Lords Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury, .. | 6,355  | 9  | 1  |
| Received for Vegetables and Fruit sold, £11 14 5                    |        |    |    |
| Do. Oats and Wheat sold, .. 41 4 1                                  |        |    |    |
| Do. Bones and Rags sold, .. 17 9 4                                  |        |    |    |
| Do. Hay sold, .. 24 10 9                                            |        |    |    |
| Do. Potatoes sold, .. 4 12 2                                        |        |    |    |
| Do. Grazing, .. 5 10 6                                              |        |    |    |
| Do. Interest, .. 22 4 3                                             |        |    |    |
| Do. Overcharge on Accounts, .. 1 19 0                               |        |    |    |
|                                                                     | £129   | 4  | 0  |
| Balance in favour of the public, ..                                 | £6,955 | 18 | 10 |
|                                                                     | £388   | 12 | 11 |

## THE DISCHARGE.

|                                                            |        |    |    |
|------------------------------------------------------------|--------|----|----|
| Paid for Provisions, ..                                    | £3,235 | 4  | 10 |
| Do. Clothing, ..                                           | 812    | 7  | 10 |
| Do. Bedding, ..                                            | 221    | 3  | 0  |
| Do. Furniture, ..                                          | 118    | 14 | 7  |
| Do. Fuel and Light, ..                                     | 365    | 11 | 3  |
| Do. Soap and Candles, ..                                   | 94     | 3  | 6  |
| Do. Stationery, Printing, Periodicals, and Advertising, .. | 47     | 10 | 7  |
| Do. Medicines, ..                                          | 13     | 18 | 2  |
| Do. Repairs and Alterations, ..                            | 249    | 1  | 11 |
| Do. Farm and Garden Expenses, ..                           | 28     | 16 | 7  |
| Do. Insurance, ..                                          | 26     | 13 | 6  |
| Do. Incidental Expenses, ..                                | 219    | 5  | 3  |
| Do. Salaries and Wages, ..                                 | 1,181  | 3  | 6  |
| Do. Postage, ..                                            | 3      | 11 | 5  |
| Balance on hand, ..                                        | £6,617 | 5  | 11 |
|                                                            | 388    | 12 | 11 |
|                                                            | £6,955 | 18 | 10 |



BEING FROM 1ST APRIL, 1865, TO 31ST MARCH, 1866.

|    |    |    |    |          |
|----|----|----|----|----------|
| T0 | .. | .. | .. | £368 8 2 |
| .. | .. | .. | .. | £368 8 2 |

|                |    |    |          |
|----------------|----|----|----------|
| By Balance, .. | .. | .. | 331 16 0 |
|----------------|----|----|----------|

# DIETARY

OF

## The Belfast District Hospital for the Insane.

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### BREAKFAST.

|                                                                                                          |          |                  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|------------------|
| One quart stirabout (made with 8oz. fine or 7oz. coarse meal and three-fourths of a pint mixed milk, ... | Males.   | } Every Morning. |
| One-and-half pint stirabout and one half pint mixed milk, ... ..                                         | Females. |                  |

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### DINNER.

|                                                                                                                                                          |                  |                  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| One half-pound loaf bread (or 3lbs. potatoes), 6oz. solid meat, and one pint soup, ... ..                                                                | Males & Females. | } 3 days a week. |
| One half-pound loaf bread (or 3lbs. potatoes) and one quart soup (made with ox-heads and bones cut out of meat, vegetables, oatmeal, barley, pease, &c.) | Males.           |                  |
| One half-pound loaf bread (or 3lbs. potatoes), and one-and-half pint soup, ... ..                                                                        | Females.         | } 3 days a week. |
| Three-fourths of a pound loaf bread (or 3½lbs. potatoes) and one pint mixed milk, ... ..                                                                 | Males.           |                  |
| One half-pound loaf bread (or 3lbs. potatoes) and one pint mixed milk, ... ..                                                                            | Females.         | } 1 day a week.  |
|                                                                                                                                                          |                  |                  |

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### SUPPER.

|                                                                           |          |                   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-------------------|
| One half-pound loaf bread and three-fourths of a pint of new milk, ... .. | Males.   | } Summer 6 months |
| One half-pound loaf bread and one half-pint new milk, ... ..              | Females. |                   |
| One quart stirabout and three-fourths of a pint new milk, ... ..          | Males.   | } Winter 6 months |
| One-and-half pint stirabout and one half pint new milk, ... ..            | Females. |                   |

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\* \* Patients who are actively employed are allowed a portion of meat, in addition to the soup, five instead of three days in the week. When the state of the patient's health requires it, the diet is changed accordingly, and any other substituted that may be considered requisite by the Medical Officers.



# LIST OF REPORTS, & c.,

RECEIVED FROM 1st APRIL 1865, TO 31st MARCH, 1866.

## Irish.

1. *Armagh District Hospital for the Insane*, annual report, 1864, pp. 31. By Robert M'Kinstry, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
2. *Clonmel Additional Do.*, report for 1865, pp. 12. By J. Edmundson, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
3. *Cork District Hospital for the Insane*, annual report, 1864, pp. 15. By Thomas Power, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
4. *District, Criminal, and Private Hospitals for the Insane in Ireland*, Report on (fourteenth), for the year 1864 (Blue Book), pp. 134. By John Nugent, M.D., and G. W. Hatchell, M.D., Government Commissioners and Inspectors. Presented to both Houses of Parliament by command of her Majesty.
5. *Killarney District Hospital for the Insane*, annual report, 1864, pp. 23. By M. S. Lawlor, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
6. *Mullingar Do.*, annual report, 1864, pp. 28. By H. Berkeley, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
7. *Personal Responsibility of the Insane*. By James F. Duncan, M.D. pp. 98. Dublin, 1863.
8. *Richmond District Hospital for the Insane*, annual report, 1865, pp. 40. By Joseph Lalor, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
9. *Suggestions for the appointment of a Royal Commission of Inquiry into the Asylums for the Insane in the United Kingdom*. By John A. Blake, M.P. Pamphlet, pp. 19. Waterford, 1866.
10. *Thoughts on Mind, and its Derangement*. By W. S. Stanley, L. K. & Q., College of Physicians. Pamphlet, pp. 32. Dublin, 1865.
11. *Waterford District Hospital for the Insane*, annual report, 1865, pp. 22. By F. Maccabe, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.

## English.

12. *Bristol City and County Asylum*, annual report for 1864, pp. 43. By H. O. Stephens, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
13. *Bucks County Asylum*, twelfth annual report, 1864, pp. 31. By J. Humphrey, M.R.C.S., England.
14. *Cheshire Do.*, tenth annual report, 1863, pp. 46, and eleventh do., 1864, pp. 47. By T. N. Brushfield, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.