Thirty-third annual report of the resident physician of the Belfast District Hospital for the Insane Poor of the counties of Antrim and Down, and the county of the town of Carrickfergus: from 1st April, 1862, to the 31st March, 1863.

### Contributors

Belfast District Hospital for the Insane. Stewart, Robert.

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# THIRTY-THIRD ANNUAL REPORT

OF

### THE RESIDENT PHYSICIAN

OF THE

## BELFAST DISTRICT

# Hospital for the Insane Poor

OF THE

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

FROM 1ST APRIL, 1862, TO 31ST MARCH, 1863.

ORDERED BY THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS TO BE PRINTED.

ESTABLISHED 1829.

### BELFAST:

PRINTED AT THE DAILY "NORTHERN WHIG" OFFICE,

1863.

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# CONTENTS OF REPORT.

Administration and Directors from and Court to District	TABLE.		PAGE
Admissions and Discharges from each County in District,	18		23
Ages of the Patients Admitted during the year,	2	•••	8
Ages of the Patients who Died during the year,	12		10
Ages of the Patients Discharged Recovered during the year,	9	•••	9
Ages of Patients remaining under Treatment,	20		24
Alleged Causes of Insanity,	3		8
Amusements of the Patients,			17
Articles manufactured and made by the Patients during			
the year,	22		24
Board of Governors,			22
Charges against the late Clerk and Storekeeper,			19
Conclusion,			22
Deaths,			13
Dietary,			28
Drill Exercises,			19
Duration of the Disease in the Discharged, &c., Cases			
during the year	11		10
Duration of Posidones of Potionts	21		24
Education, Degree of, in the Admissions during the year,	8		9
Frankrim ant during the man	13	•••	11
		•••	27
Farm and Garden Produce and Expenditure,		•••	
Financial Statement,			26
Forms of Insanity,	4		8
Forms of Insanity of Entire Number,	14	•••	11
General Statement of Year's Admissions,	1		7
Governmental Official Inspections,			20
Health of Inmates,			13
Improvement in the Corridors,			16
Instruction of the Female Patients in Class Music,			18
List of Reports received during the year,			29
Number of Cases Admitted, &c., and who Died in each			
Quarter and Month during the year,	23		25
Occupation of the 82 Cases Admitted during the year,	7		9
Obituary for the year ended 31st March, 1863,	17		12
Outside Walks,			19
Detients' Pand			19
Period of time, &c., the Patients were under Treatment			1.0
	10		10
during the year,		***	
Per-Centage of Discharges, &c., for last Thirteen Years,	19	•••	23
Present State of Accommodation,		•••	15
Religion of the 82 Patients admitted during the year,	5	•••	8
Do. do. of entire number,	16		11
Social Condition of the 82 Patients admitted,	6		9
State of Cases remaining on 31st March, 1863,	15		11
Suicidal and Homicidal Cases admitted during the year,			15
The New District Hospital for the Insane for the County			
Down,			16

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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 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	Marquis of Donegal, Mayor of Belfast, Rev. Thomas Hincks. A.M., William M'Cance, Esq., J.P., Robt. J. Tennent, Esq., J.P., Right Rev. C. Denvir, D.D., Rev. John Edgar, D.D., Rev. H. Montgomery, LL.D., The Very Rev. Dean Stannus, Rev. H. Cooke, D.D., LL.D., Rev. J. S. B. Monsell, A.M., Conway B. Grimshaw, Esq., Marquis of Downshire, Robert Gordon, Esq., J.P., D.L., Major Crawford. J.P The Lord Bishop of Down and Connor and Dromore, William Dunville, Esq., J.P., Rev. T. F. Miller, D.D., Adam J. Macrory, Esq., Lord Dufferin, Thomas M'Clure, Esq., J.P., Lieutenant-Colonel Forde, M.P.,	Belfast, Finvoy Rectory, Ballymoney, Belfast, Rushpark, Belfast, Belfast, Belfast, Dunmurry. Lisburn, Belfast, Sydenham, Belfast, Castle, Hillsborough, Florida Manor, Killinchy, Purdysburn, Belfast, Crawfordsburn, Holywood, The Palace, Holywood, Richmond Lodge, County Down, The Vicarage, Belfast, Duncairn, Belfast, Clandeboye, Holywood, Belmont, County Down,	March, 1829. March, 1829 Jan. 4, 1836. Jan. 4, 1836. Oct. 28, 1836. Oct. 28, 1836. Oct. 28, 1836. April 4, 1842. April 4, 1842. July 13, 1842. Oct. 8, 1846. Nov. 16, 1847. Nov. 16, 1847. Nov. 16, 1847. Nov. 16, 1847. April 9, 1850. May 22, 1851. Dec. 8, 1851.

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

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# THIRTY-THIRD ANNUAL REPORT

OF

# The Belfast District Hospital for the Insane,

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1863.

Table I.—General Stat	ement	of the				
		Females			Females	Total
In House on 1st April, 1862,		36	64	197	165	362
Admitted since, New Cases, Relapses,	10	8	18			
iverapses,	_	_		38	44	82
Total under Treatment durin	g the	year,		235	209	444
Discharged, Recovered,	24	35	59			
Do. Relieved,	4	6	10			
Died,	7	7	14			
	-	-	-	35	48	83
D 1 The least	01	35	1 1000	000	101	9.01
Remaining under Treatment	on 31	st marc	п, 1806			
				Males	Females	Total
The total Admissions during	the ye	ear were		38	44	82
Do. for the preceding year Daily Average Number of Pa	ır,	:		55	64	
Daily Average Number of Pa	tients	during	the ye	ar,		62.90
Do. for the preceding year	r,	D 11			3	59.50
Per centage of Recoveries	and .	Relieved	i on t			TO 05
Average Daily Number und						19.01
Do. on year's total Admiss	sions,	he total	Numl			22.59
Average per centage of Death						3.15
under treatment during the Do. on the Average Daily	.e year	hor dur	ing the	o weer		3.85
"Dangerous Lunatics" adn	ritted	by W	arrant	g year,		0.00
of the Lord Lieutenant,						
embraced in the year's tota	1 Adm	issions)	. viz. :-			
one of the state o					Females	Total
From County Antain Toil			2	- Interior	- Ciliaros	-0001
From County Antrim Jail, From County Down Jail,	1	4				
From County Down Jan,		_	_	2	5	7
Average Annual Expense of	each F	atient f	or the	past)	010 1	, ,
year, including every charge	ze,				£18 1	7 4
Do. for the previous ye	ear,				19 10	71
Total Expenditure for the year	ar end	ed 31st	March,	1863,	6,847	7
Do. for the year	ar ende	ed 31st	March,	1862,	7,021 13	
Net Profit on Farm and Gard	den,				£260	5 6

Table	IIAges	of	the	82	Patients	admitted	during	the	year	ending
Slet March 1863										

		maron, roo	0.	Males	Females	Total
Under 20 years,				1	3	4
20 to 30 year	s,			8	18	26
30 to 40 "				15	8	23
40 to 50 "				8	6	14
50 to 60 "				4	6	10
60 to 70 "				2	3	5
				-	_	-
TOTALS	,			38	44	82

Table III.—Alleged Causes of Insanity in the 82 Cases admitted during the year ended 31st March, 1863.

adi guntuturin e	Jour ondo	10 3700 5000	13.70	Males	Females	Total
Bodily Ailments,				7	3	10
Disappointed Love,				. 0	2	2
Fever,				1	0	1
Fright,				1	5	6
Grief, Disappointment,	and Anx	ietv.		8	9	17
Hereditary,				0	3	3
Intemperance,				4	4	8
Jealousy,				2	2	4
Love of Money,				2	0	2
Over Study,				1	0	1
Puerperal Condition,				0	4	4
Religious Excitement,				6	4	10
Totally Unknown,				5	9	14
,				-	_	_
TOTALS,				.37	45	.82
			1911	BALL	12	1

Table IV.—Forms of Disease in the 82 Patients admitted during the year ended 31st March, 1863.

		ended of	Su martin,	1000.	Males	Females	Total
Dementia,					2	2	4
Mania,					28	32	-60
Melancholia,					3	8	11
Monomania,					5	2	7
						_	_
	TOTALS,				38	44	82

Table V.—Religion of the 82 Patients admitted during the year ended 31st March, 1863.

march, 1803.	Males	Females	Total
Methodists,	 1	0	1
Presbyterian and Protestant Dissenters,	 14	11	25
Roman Catholics,	 14	17	31
Unitarians,	 1	1	2
United Church of England and Ireland,	 8	15	23
	_		_
Totals,	 38	44	82

Table VISocial	Condition of the	82	Patients	admitted	during	the y	year
----------------	------------------	----	----------	----------	--------	-------	------

		ended	31st March,	1863.	Males	Females	Total
Married,					13	15	28
Single,					25	25	50
Widows,					0	4	4
					-	-	_
	TOTALS,				38	44	82

Table VII.—Occupations of the 82 cases admitted during the year ended

		31st	March 1863.				
~					Males	Females	Total
Carpenter,			***		1	0	1
Clerks,					2	0	2
Coast Guard	,				1	0	1
Cooper					1	0	1
Dealer,					0	1	1
Dressmakers					0	2	2
	,	***			8	õ	8
Farmers,	***				200		
Housekeeper	8,				0	13	13
Servants,		***		***	8	3	11
Mechanic,					1	. 0	1
Millworkers,					3	2	5
Policemen,					2	0	2
Publican,					0	1	1
Soldiers,					3	0	3
Student,					1	0	1
Tailor,					1	0	1
Teacher,			,		1	0	1
Weavers,					4	2	6
Without any					1	20	21
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	, and the same,						
	Totals,				38	44	82

Table VIII.-Degree of Education in the 82 cases admitted during the year ended 31st March, 1863.

No Educatian,		,	 		Males 0	Females	Totals
Read only,			 		10	20	30
Read and Write,			 		24	21	45
Well Educated,			 	***	4	0	4
Тот	ALS,		 		38	44	82

Table IX.—Ages of the 59 Patients Discharged Recovered during the year ended 31st March, 1863.

				year	епаеа	oist march,	1000.	Males	Females	Total
From	20 to	30	years	,				9	16	25
66	30 to	40	**					4	8	12
66	40 to	50	"					7	4	11
**	50 to	60	66					4	7	11
		T	OTALS,					24	35	59

Table X.—Shewing the period of time the 59 Patients Discharged Recovered were under treatment, during the year ended 31st March, 1863.

				Males	Females	Total
Under	3 months,		 	1	6	7
From	3 to 6 months,		 	8	12	20
"	6 to 12 "		 	8	8	16
"	1 to 2 years,	****	 	1	3	4
"	2 to 5 "		 	4	4	8
66	5 to 10 "		 	2	2	4
	Totals,		 	24	35	59

Table XI.—Shewing the Duration of Disease in the 83 Patients Discharged Recovered, Relieved, and who Died during the year ended March 31, 1863.

DURATION OF DISEASE.		OVERED RELIEVEI		DIED.			
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	
Under 3 months, From 3 to 6 months, " 6 to 12 months,	0 7 13	3 11 14	3 18 27	3 1 0	0 1 2	3 2 2	
" 1 to 2 years, " 2 to 5 " " 5 to 10 "	3 4 1	4 6 3	7 10 4	1 1 1	0 1 1 1	2 2 1 2 2 1	
" 10 to 20 " " 20 to 30 "	0	0	0	0 0	1 1	1	
Totals,	28	41	69	7	7	14	

Table XII.—Ages of the 14 Patients who Died during the year ended 31st March, 1863.

			0150 1	march, 10	Males	Females	Total
From	20 to 3	0 years,			 2	0	2
66	30 to 4	0 "			 3	0	3
"	40 to 5	0 "			 0	3	3
46	50 to 6	0 "			 2	2	4
**	60 to 7	0 "			 0 .	1	1
cc	70 to 8	0 "			 0	1	1
		TOTALS,			 7	7	14

### Table XIII .- Employment during the year ended 31st March, 1863-

				Males	Females	Total
Assisting Servants,				14	11	25
Basket Making,				2	0	2
Breaking Freestone,				4	0	4
Cultivating the Farm,				76	0	76
Embroidering,				0	6	6
Gardening Labour,				4	0	4
Knitting,				29	0	29
Making and Repairing C	lothing, B		&c	5	15	20
Making and Repairing Si				3	0	3
Pumping Water,				18	0	18
Smith Work,				2	0	2
Clubration .				0	21	21
Sweeping Yards, Carryin		cc		27	0	27
Tailoring,				2	0	2
Washing in Laundry,				2	24	26
Warping, Weaving, and	Winding.			8	0	8
1-0,	0,			_	_	_
Totals,				196	77	273

# Table XIV.—Forms of Disease of the Total Number of Patients remaining on 31st March, 1863.

Dementia,		011 5156 11	Males 7	Females 7	Total 14	
	***	***	 		2000	
Mania,			 	144	100	244
Do. Comp	licated with	Epilepsy,	 	12	11	23
Melancholia,			 	26	23	49
Monomania,			 	11	20	31
	Totals,		 	200	161	361

### Table XV .- Shewing the State of the Cases remaining on 31st March, 1863.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Chronic Cases, Probably Curable Cases,	 	 Males 149 51	Females 90 71	Total 239 122
Totals,	 	 200	161	361

# Table XVI.—Shewing the Religious Persuasions of the 361 Patients remaining on 31st March, 1863.

				Males	Females	Total
Covenanters,				 2	1	3
Methodists,				 0	2	2
Presbyterians,				 77	52	129
Roman Catholic	s.			 60	67	127
Unitarians,				 3	1	4
United Church	of Engl	land and l	Ireland,	 58	38	96
						_
To	TALS,			 200	161	361

Table XVII -Obituary for the year ended 31st March, 1863.

Form of Insanity and alleged   Social State,   Occupation.   Period an Inmate.	and the same of the same		-
Form of Insanity and alleged  Exciting Cause.  Mania—Unknown.  Mania—Epilepsy.  Mania—Fever.  Mania—Thereditary.  Mania—Thereditary.  Mania—Thereore.  Mania—Death of a Brother.  Mania—Epilepsy.  Single.  Married.  Married.  Married.  Married.  Married.  Married.  Single.  Married.  Married.  Married.  Married.  Single.  Married.  Married.  Married.  Single.  Single.  Married.  Married.  Married.  Single.  Single.	Cause of Death.		Pilepsy.
Form of Insanity and alleged  Exciting Cause.  Mania—Unknown.  Mania—Epilepsy.  Mania—Fever.  Mania—Thereditary.  Mania—Thereory.  Mania—Thereory.  Mania—Thereory.  Mania—Thereory.  Mania—Thereory.  Mania—Thereory.  Mania—Thereory.  Mania—Thereory.  Mania—Death of a Brother.  Mania—Epilepsy.  Single.  Married.  Married.  Married.  Married.  Keaver.  Mill Worker.  Single.  Single.  Married.  Married.  Keaver.  Mania—Epilepsy.  Single.  Single.  Keaver.  Mania—Epilepsy.  Single.  Single.  Keaver.  Single.  Single.  Keaver.  Single.  Single.  Single.  Keaver.  Single.	ite.	Days. 1 2 4 8 9 0 1 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	0
Form of Insmity and alleged  Exciting Cause.  Mania—Unknown.  Mania—Hereditary.  Mania—Tever.  Mania—Thiknown.  Mania—Thiknown.  Mania—Thiknown.  Mania—Thiknown.  Mania—Thiknown.  Mania—Thiknown.  Mania—Thiknown.  Mania—Thiknown.  Mania—Thiknown.  Mania—Death of a Brother.  Single.  Married.  Married.  Keaver.  Kali Worker.  Kalin Worker.  Single.  Kalin Worker.  Kalin Worker.  Single.  Kalin Worker.  Kalin Worker.  Single.  Kalin Worker.  Single.  Kalin Worker.  Kalin Worker.  Single.	n Inma	Wks. 00 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	0
Form of Insmity and alleged  Exciting Cause.  Mania—Unknown.  Mania—Hereditary.  Mania—Tever.  Mania—Thiknown.  Mania—Thiknown.  Mania—Thiknown.  Mania—Thiknown.  Mania—Thiknown.  Mania—Thiknown.  Mania—Thiknown.  Mania—Thiknown.  Mania—Thiknown.  Mania—Death of a Brother.  Single.  Married.  Married.  Keaver.  Kali Worker.  Kalin Worker.  Single.  Kalin Worker.  Kalin Worker.  Single.  Kalin Worker.  Kalin Worker.  Single.  Kalin Worker.  Single.  Kalin Worker.  Kalin Worker.  Single.	eriod a	Mos. 10 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8	00
Form of Insanity and alleged  Rania—Unknown.  Mania—Epilepsy.  Mania—Hereditary.  Mania—Fever.  Mania—Tever.  Mania—Unknown.  Mania—Unknown.  Mania—Unknown.  Mania—Unknown.  Mania—Unknown.  Mania—Death of a Brother.  Mania—Death of a Brother.  Mania—Death of a Brother.  Mania—Disappointment in Business.  Mania—Epilepsy.  Single.  Single.  Single.  Single.  Single.  Single.  Single.  Single.  Single.	d d	Ars. 19 0 0 0 0 8 8 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	13
Form of Insanity and alleged Exciting Cause.  Mania—Epilepsy. Mania—Misconduct of Husband. Mania—Hereditary.  Dementia—Unknown.  Mania—Fever.  Mania—Fever.  Mania—Epilepsy.  Mania—Unknown.  Mania—Death of a Brother.  Mania—Death of a Brother.  Mania—Disappointment in Business.	Occupation.	Labourer. Sawyer. Housewife. Flax Worker. Housewife. Labourer. Weaver. Weaver. Weaver. Weaver.	Sewer.
	Social State.	Single. Single. Single. Single. Single. Married. Unknown. Married. Single. Single. Single. Single.	Single.
Sex. Age. Age. Age. Age. Age. Age. Age. Age	Form of Insanity and alleged Exciting Cause.	Mania—Unknown.  Mania—Epilepsy. Mania—Misconduct of Husband. Mania—Hereditary.  Dementia—Unknown.  Mania—Tever.  Mania—Unknown.  Mania—Epilepsy.  Mania—Unknown.  Mania—Unknown.  Mania—Losappointment in	Business. Mania—Epilepsy.
Sex.	Age.	25 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50	43
		A A A A A A E E E E E E E E E E E E E E	i Ei
No. 12 2 4 2 5 4 5 6 6 7 4 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 1	No.	1 22 4 7 6 6 1 1 2 5	14

### HEALTH OF INMATES.

No year, since the Institution commened operations, was more satisfactory or favourable throughout, in respect of the general health enjoyed by the patients, than the past one, and, though the last few months were so trying to most constitutions, and so much sickness was prevalent without, yet, with the exception of merely ordinary catarrhal affections, this immunity here from anything approaching to severe illness still happily continued to exist.

### DEATHS.

As a natural result of the standard of health being so good, the casualties terminating in death were remarkably few—lower, by far, than during any former year in this respect—the total number of deaths being but fourteen, which, on an average daily population, was only 3.87 per cent., and but 3.15 per cent. if calculated upon the total number under treatment during the year—viz., 444. Within a comparatively recent period that Institution for the Insane which had not a greater mortality than 12 per cent. was deemed to be in a satisfactory condition as regarded its hygienic state, so that, with a mortality of only a third of that number, the sanitary character of this establishment for the past twelve months may fairly be recorded as having been very propitious, and this the more especially when it is remembered that it was in a crowded condition the entire year.

Of the fourteen deaths seven were males and seven females, and their causes were as follow: gradual exhaustion, mental and physical, seven (six males, one female); epilepsy, four (one male, three females); phthisis pulmonalis, one (female); lumbar abscess, one (female); suicide, one (female). One of the deceased females had been an inmate nearly twenty-one years, a second nearly twenty years, and a third thirteen years. A male was the next longest, namely, under seven years, two more between three and four years, and a fourth upwards of two years; the remaining cases were under treatment from two weeks to eight months. The oldest male was fifty-nine, and youngest twenty two; the oldest female seventy, and the

youngest forty-three; the average age of all being forty-four. The patient (a male) who died at the end of two weeks was brought into the Institution in an entirely exhausted state, from the General Hospital, Belfast, having to be carried into the ward and placed immediately in bed, life being sustained during his short inmateship by stimulants and forced nourishment, the deceased refusing food pertinaciously to the last, under the delusion that all about him were conspiring to poison him. The casualty from suicide was one of those unfortunate occurrences which no amount of vigilance can at times guard against, the wonder being their infrequency, when it is considered the extreme craft and ingenuity exercised by patients bent upon self-destruction, and known only to those who have their anxious charge and responsibility. In this instance there was no previous manifestation of the act being contemplated, and her constant cry was that she "was never to die," and that there was to be "no more day and no more night." fatal purpose was effected at the time of breakfast, nearly, when the patients and their attendants were moving about in the immediate locality where the fatal act was accomplished—viz., on a railed-in ornamental mound, planted with trees and shrubs, in one of the airing courts, where, from the arm of a tree, the deceased suspended herself in the most deliberate manner, having actually managed to throw a dark shawl over her head the better to conceal her person, and where she was discovered, quite dead, with her feet all but touching the ground, and no struggle, it was quite evident, having been made by her to extricate herself, as she might easily have done. A coroner's inquest was, of course, held on the body (as is always done when a death takes place not coming within the category of ordinary natural causes) and a verdict unanimously returned in accordance with the above fact, and entirely exonerating the officials from all blame. She had been an inmate between four and five months, but previously she had been also under treatment for some years, when ultimately she became quite restored, and returned to her domestic duties outside, to which she attended, steadily and satisfactorily in every respect, for several years before she had again to be admitted a patient.

### SUICIDAL AND HOMICIDAL CASES ADMITTED DURING THE YEAR.

Twenty-one of the former class (six males and fifteen females) and eleven of the latter (six males and five females) had these propensities, respectively, more or less strongly developed prior to their coming under treatment, in connexion with their insanity, and required, accordingly, the most unremitting supervision, in all their movements, to guard themselves and others against any evil consequences arising therefrom, and which happily did not occur. Of the suicidal males, one each attempted his life by poison, strangulation, cutting the throat, and hanging, respectively, and two by drowning. Of the fifteen females, of the same class, six threatened to drown themselves, five attempted destruction by precipitation from windows, and four by strangulation.

### PRESENT STATE OF ACCOMMODATION.

The year now terminated was, every day thereof, one of much embarrassment in endeavouring to meet the continued and urgent demands for the admission of cases more or less acute in their nature, and desirable, if by any means, to take under treatment without delay; it was, however, impossible to accommodate all, but the more pressing applications received the benefits of the House, even at the risk of adding to the innumerable inconveniencies necessarily arising from its already over-crowded The entire admissions for the year were not nearly so many as the preceding, being as 82 to 119, the total number taken under treatment in 1861-2. But the average daily number on the books this year has been greater than last, being three hundred and sixty-two against three hundred and fiftynine the year previous. The stated accommodation of the House is but three hundred and thirty, thus shewing an excess of thirty-two above what should legitimately have been on the books. The number of outstanding cases in ordinary at the present date is fourteen, which is altogether independent of those in the jails of the district, committed as "dangerous lunatics," which may be set down as about thirty, the major portion of whom is in County Down Jail.

# THE NEW DISTRICT HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE FOR THE COUNTY DOWN.

It is understood that the working plans for the erection of the new Asylum in the neighbourhood of Downpatrick are now in preparation, and, when ready, must obtain the approval of the Commissioners of Control before the buildings can be proceeded with; the delay in these preliminary matters has been greater than anticipated, and, taking all contingencies into account, it is very unlikely that this new Asylum will be in readiness for the relief of this one at an earlier period than two years from the present time, if even then.

### IMPROVEMENT IN THE CORRIDORS.

A portion of the corridors has been wainscoted and papered since last year, similarly to the day rooms, all of which are thus finished off, which has been a great improvement in every respect, and has added largely to their general appearance, the long line of whitewashed walls being naked and comfortless to a degree. The patients appreciate these furnishings more than might be expected by the uninitiated, and there can be no doubt, that everything of this kind exercises both directly and indirectly a most beneficial influence, morally and generally, in respect of promoting, if not their entire restoration to mental health, at least the mitigation in a large measure of the unhappy malady of which they are the subjects, by engaging their attention and giving a new current to their thoughts. Nor can there be too much done in these indirect ways to make more endurable, by relieving, in every possible way, the monotonous life it is the sad lot of the larger portion of the inmates of these Institutions to lead within their walls, a liberal and judicious expenditure in all such matters being in the end, not only in accordance with, happily, the humane spirit of the present day towards the insane poor, but the soundest economy. Recently, a former patient who had been an inmate prior to any of the above changes having been effected, and again returning after several years, immediately remarked how much more homely and comfortable looking the rooms, &c., were, they being now, she remarked, "quite a sanctuary."

### AMUSEMENTS OF THE PATIENTS.

During the past year, a large number of both sexes of the inmates was privileged to attend "Dr. Mark's concert of Little Men," in the Victoria Hall, that gentleman having voluntarily and very kindly given a free admission to as many as were considered fitted to witness such an entertainment, and upwards of one hundred of whom had that pleasure. Their behaviour and general demeanour were everything that could have been desired, perhaps more so than that of externs themselves. An equally large number was brought on another occasion to Mr. Clarke's Panorama of Palestine, the proprietor of which also most liberally gave them a gratuitous and unlimited admission; and further, it is especially to be stated that they were, within the last few weeks, favoured with a visit by Mrs Macready, so celebrated as a "reader" in the United States and British America, who delighted them with one of her far-famed recital performances, and with which, and the lady herself, they were immeasurably The following account of Mrs. Macready's visit is extracted from the Daily Northern Whig :-

MRS. MACREADY'S VISIT TO THE BELFAST DISTRICT HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE.—Mrs. Macready visited our local Institution for the Insane on Wednesday evening, when she gave some of her "recitals," with the best effect on the very interesting audience she had before her. The Recreation Hall of the Asylum-a large and very appropriately fitted up room at the rere of this extensive building—was completely filled with inmates of both sexes, and a select number of visitors, ladies and gentlemen from town, who were invited to witness this most happy and pleasing entertainment so kindly volunteered by Mrs. Macready, a lady who, greatly to her praise be it spoken, delights in exercising her peculiar talents on behalf of her fellowcreatures who are the subjects of mental alienation, and, accordingly, necessarily debarred from the usual varieties and enjoyments of the outward world. The whole demeanour of the patients during the two hours nearly which were occupied so agreeably in the amusements of the evening, was exemplary in the highest degree, and spoke volumes for the superior man agement that has always characterised this long-established Asylum, and the influence a lady of Mrs. Macready's great powers and commanding appearance can bring to bear upon the "mind diseased." After the recitations were concluded, Dr. Stewart, the Resident-Physician of the Institution, proposed a vote of thanks to Mrs. Macready, which was most heartily responded to. Mrs. Macready then walked through the Recreation Hall amongst the patients, who numbered nearly 200, and conversed with them

so affably as to make one and all of them quite delighted with her graciousness of manner, they embracing her and she them most cordially. A dance then followed, some of the visitors being the partners of the patients. The Band of the Asylum played, as usual, in the best style, under the conduct of Mr. Dornan, who deserves much credit for the high perfection to which he has brought it, composed as it is entirely of patients. Altogether this was a most agreeably and profitably spent evening, and one which will be long remembered by the inmates, and afford them, no doubt, much delight in thinking over and speaking about. The following is the programme which Mrs. Macready laid out for herself and enacted during the evening's recitals: -"Psalm of Life"-Longfellow. "Birth of Erin"-Burlesque. "Romeo and Juliet" (Scene from). "Auction Extraordinary—the Sale of old Bachelors"—a Burlesque, which was given with admirable humour and effect, and with which the inmates were immeasurably delighted. "Origin of Kiss-"The Three Guests"—a Poem written by His Excellency Earl Carlisle, Lord Lieutenant. "The Timid Man"—a Burlesque; also greatly exciting the mirth of the patients, especially in one portion of it where the reciter is playing with a cat in her lap, and tells it so naively "say yes, pussy," when the "timid man" proposes marriage. "The Exile of Erin." "The School for Scandal" (Scene from). "The Boy and his Angel." "The Lady's Request to her Lover"—a Burlesque; which was the last of the recitals, and not the least in affording the interesting and interested audience abundant scope for merriment, the barber-ous "request" being that the "lover's" moustache and beard should be removed. Besides the Band of the Institution "discoursing soft music" at intervals during the evening, the female patients sung "Hard times come again no more," accompanied by Mr. Dornan on a very superior harmonium, lately purchased for the purpose of instructing the females in class music, by Mr. D., and the finished manner in which this beautiful piece was executed, the spirit and pathos the patients infused into it, surprised and pleased all present to the highest degree. The patients, we should add, were liberally supplied with refreshments during the evening.

### INSTRUCTION OF THE FEMALE PATIENTS IN CLASS MUSIC.

Since last year the plan of affording class music, in singing, amongst the female inmates has been introduced, under the direction of Mr. Dornan, the efficient Bandmaster, and the progress made has been very satisfactory. An excellent harmonium has been added by the Board to the musical instruments already in the Institution, and of which number is an upright pianoforte, kindly presented by Mrs. Whitla of Lismoyne. The harmonium has proved a great desideratum, and has much facilitated the instruction above-mentioned of the females.

### PATIENTS' BAND.

The Band, composed from amongst the male patients, the strength of which is about thirteen, continues to be an unspeakable source of lively entertainment, and the performance is in such good time, &c., as to astonish even musical adepts. They played several pieces in public at Dr. Mark's concert, the execution of which was so perfect as to call forth the greatest applause.

### DRILL EXERCISES.

The drilling of the men, which was commenced here about twelve years ago, continues to be regularly practised, under the direction of an experienced military drill-sergeant, and cannot be too highly recommended for its importance and usefulness. It has been well observed\* that "drill improves the health, the carriage, the manners, even the character; sharpens the attention, gives habits of obedience, promptness, regularity, and self-restraint; defects are corrected by drill; the drilled person keeps everything in a high state of cleanliness, and special qualifications are brought out."

### OUTSIDE WALKS.

The walks beyond the precincts of the Institution hold a high place amongst the male and female inmates for popularity, and are looked forward to with the keenest desire, all feeling themselves once more citizens of the world by enjoying this occasional, however limited, intercourse outside the walls with their fellow-man.

### CHARGES AGAINST THE LATE CLERK AND STOREKEEPER.

The late Clerk and Storekeeper, Thomas Wilson, having been, in June last, summoned to appear before the Petty Sessions Court, on charges of forgery and defalcation, respectively, he absconded and has not since been heard of. An inquiry into the circumstances was, in the first instance, made by Inspector Nugent; and subsequently an investigation, upon oath,

<sup>\*</sup> Mr. Chadwick on Physical Education.

was ordered by the Lord Lieutenant, and conducted here, accordingly, by Inspector Dr. Hatchell. A full report of the case having been submitted by him to the Executive, the decision arrived at by his Excellency was that the defalcation, which amounted to forty pounds, could not be charged to the public. The forgery was for a sum under two pounds.

### GOVERNMENTAL OFFICIAL INSPECTIONS.

The visits made and recorded by the Government Inspectors, Drs. Nugent and Hatchell, who are also members of the Board of Commissioners for the control and management of Asylums, were four during the year, and were as follow:—

"I found the Belfast District Asylum, on my inspection of it this day, clean, in good general order, and well ventilated. It being a fine day the great majority of the Patients were out of doors, industriously employed or taking exercise. number of inmates here at present is 364 (201 males and 163 females). The House is overcrowded, particularly at the male side. I am glad, however, to observe that there is little or no illness—six Patients only being confined to bed. Since the date of my last report easy chairs, as suggested by me, have been procured, but not, it appears to me, in sufficient quantity. The corridors and some of the day rooms are, as I have already adverted to, still devoid of any little ornamentation. The Band here is now very effective. I am happy to hear that the Board has made arrangements for the females receiving class instruction in music: this is a step in advance, showing that moral means of treatment, as stated elsewhere, are not kept in the back-The attendants' apartments are far cleaner and more orderly than on my former inspection, when I felt it my duty to complain of the condition in which I then found them. I cannot but, in conclusion, express regret that clergymen do not visit this Institution except at periods few and far between them.

"(Signed)

"J. NUGENT.

"27th June, 1862."

"I this day specially visited the Belfast Asylum to inquire into certain defalcations laid to the charge of the late Clerk and Storekeeper, and on which I have left a memorandum for the information of the Board.

"The House I find in very good order, and the Patients carefully looked after. The easy chairs suggested in a former report have, I am happy to observe, been supplied, and they afford great comfort to the invalid and weakly; I think they might be very properly introduced too at the male side. The corridors and day rooms are, generally speaking, very naked here; I would submit to the Board, at all times anxious to administer to the necessities and enjoyments of the Insane in this Institution, some little ornaments or breaks to the monotony of long passages and spacious day rooms.

"(Signed)

"J. NUGENT.

"29th July, 1862."

"I this day specially visited the Belfast Lunatic Asylum to investigate the defalcation and forgery of Thomas Wilson, late Clerk and Storekeeper. I took occasion to inspect the Institution, and have to report most favourably on its general appearance; the day rooms, corridors, and sleeping rooms are particularly clean, orderly, and well ventilated; the Patients are, in every respect, most carefully looked after; nothing appears left undone to contribute to their comfort and welfare.

"(Signed)

"G. W. HATCHELL.

"10th September, 1862."

"I have to report very favourably of the state in which I found the Belfast District Asylum on my visit this day. The sanitary condition of the inmates is particularly good, and of the whole number (365) eight only are confined to bed by illness. During the year just expired no epidemic of any kind visited the Institution, while the deaths were scarcely five per cent. on the daily average number under treatment, which may be regarded a very low mortality. A great improvement has been effected in No. 5 Corridor, at the female side, by the new panelling along the walls and the papering; I hope a similar improvement will become now general through the house. I could desire that the meals were served up with more neatness;

at the same time, I am fully aware of the difficulty in doing so, from the construction of the building and the distance of many of the day rooms from the kitchen, to obviate which a refectory might be erected, as has been just done at the neighbouring Asylum at Armagh. I am happy to find great attention is paid to the amusement of the Patients.

" (Signed)

"JOHN NUGENT.

"31st December, 1862."

### BOARD OF GOVERNORS.

No changes of any kind have occurred on the Board since last year; the following are the names of the members who were present during the year, with their respective attendances—the stated meetings being monthly, and no special Board occurring:—The Rev. Dr. Edgar (11), C. B. Grimshaw, Esq. (10), A. J. Macrory, Esq. (9), Thomas M'Clure, Esq. (8), Major Crawford, (7), The Rev. Dr. Miller (5), The Rev. Dr. Montgomery (5), The Rev. Dr. Cooke (5), The Bishop of Down, &c. (4), The Rt. Rev. Bishop Denvir (4), Lieutenant-Colonel Forde, M.P. (4), John Clarke, Esq. (3), William Dunville, Esq. (1).

### CONCLUSION.

The general conduct of the attendants and domestics, and attention to their trying duties, it may be stated, have been entirely satisfactory and creditable during the past year. The Resident-Physician's brother officials, Dr. M'Cormac and Dr. Moore, have, as hitherto, co-operated heartily in furthering the interests of the establishment; and, finally, the Board themselves have given their warm support, as usual, in having carried into effect whatever appeared calculated to conduce to the benefit of those placed under their direction.

ROBERT STEWART, M.D., Kesident-Physician.

# GENERAL TABLES OF STATISTICS.

Table XVIII.—Shewing the Admissions, Discharges, &c., from each County in the District, during the year ended 31st March, 1663.

	ADMIT	TED FROM	M EACH C	COUNT	Υ.		
Antrim,					Males 25	Females 25	Total 50
	of C					3	3
County of the To					0	100	
Down,		***			13	16	29
					-	-	-
Тот	ALS,				38	44	82
	DISCHAR	GED. &C	TO EACH	Cou	NTY.		
		,,			Males	Females	Total
Antrim,					23	30	53
County of the To	own of Ca	rrickfero	118		0	2	2
					12	16	28
Down,	***				14	10	
							-
Тот	ALS,				35	48	83
REMA	INING IN	THE HO	USE, 31ST	MAR	сн, 18	63.	
					Males	Females	Total
Antrim,					100	92	192
County of the To	own of Ca	rrickferg	us.		3	5	8
-		_			97	64	161
DOWII,						01	101
m	STATE OF THE PARTY				000	7.07	007
TOT	ALS,				200	161	361

Table XIX—Shewing the Per Centage of Discharges and Deaths, and the Average Per Centage calculated on the Average Number of Patients for Thirteen Years ended 31st March 1863-

Years	Yearly	RECO	OVERED.	REL	JEVED.	DIED.		
alst March. Average Number.		No. of Cases.	Rate Per Cent.	No. of Cases.	Rate Per Cent.	No. of Cases.	Rate Per Cent.	
1851	271.12	81	29.87	29	10.69	29	10.69	
1852	275.71	62	22.48	24	8.70	27	9.79	
1853	280.01	67	23.92	21	7.49	25	8.92	
1854	279.11	47	16.83	20	7.16	19	6.80	
1855	266.48	36	13.50	21	7.88	39	14.63	
1856	291.96	50	17.12	14	4.79	19	6.50	
1857	323.25	66	20.41	15	4.64	39	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	

Table XX .- Ages of the 361 Patients remaining on 31st March, 1863.

			Males	Females	Total
Under 20 Years,	,	 	 2	4	6
From 20 to 30 Y	ears,	 	 40	32	72
" 30 to 40	66	 	 67	48	115
" 40 to 50	"	 	 43	38	81
" 50 to 60	66	 	 36	30	66
" 60 to 70	"	 	 10	8	18
" 70 to 80	"	 	 2	1	3
Тот	ALS,	 	 200	161	361

# Table XXI.—Shewing the Duration of Residence of the 361 Patients remaining under Treatment, 31st March, 1863.

							Males	Pemales	Total
From	m 1	to 2	Months,				 4	3	7
66	2	to 3	"				 5	4	9
"	3	to 6	"				 3	5	8
66	6	to 9	"	7			 3	3	6
"	9	Mon	ths to on	e Ye	ar,		 6	10	16
"	1	Year	to 18 M	onth	s,		 15	9	24
"	18	Mon	ths to 2	Years	3,		 6	7	13
"	2	Year	s to 4	"			 29	34	63
"	4	"	to 6	"			 27	25	52
"	6		to 10	66			 37	18	55
"	10	"	to 15	"		***	 22	22	44
"	15	"	to 20	66			 16	8	24
66	20	66	to 25	66			 15	7	22
"	25	"	to 30	66			 5	4	9
"	30	"	and upwa	ards,			 7	2	9
			Totals,				 200	161	361

# Table XXII.—Shewing the Articles Manufactured and made by the Patients during the year ended 31st March, 1863.

during the year ended 31st March, 1863.									
1,539 Hanks Linen Yarn.	142 Petticoats.								
355 Yards Plain Linen.	34 Wrappers.								
140 Yards Ticken.	110 Day Caps.								
124 Yards Plain Calico.	83 Bolsters.								
303 Pairs Stockings and Socks.	9 Bed Ticks.								
218 Sheets.	9 Gowns.								
153 Shirts.	234 Pillow Slips.								
139 Shifts.	164 Neck Ties.								
213 Aprons.	70 Towels.								

Table XXIII.—Showing the Number of Cases Admitted, Recovered, Relieved, and who Died in each Quarter and each Month, respectively, during the Year ended 31st March, 1863.

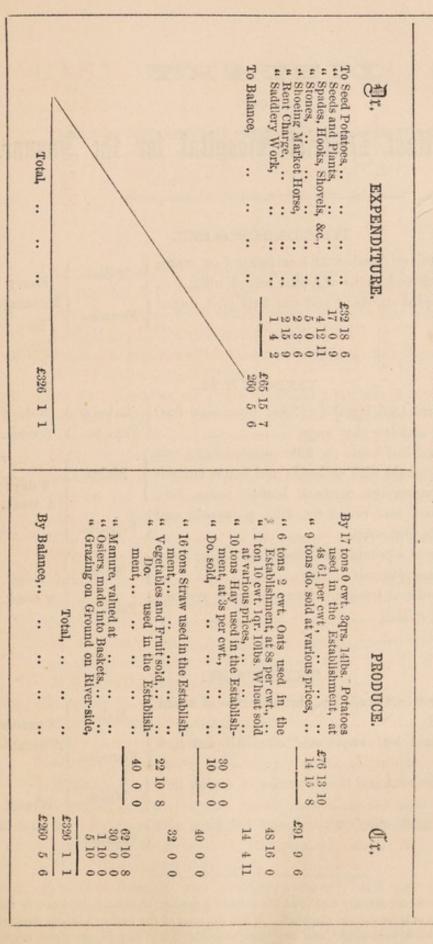
	Discharged.												
	ADMITTED.			ED. RECOVERED.					EVED.	DIED.			
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
April,	6 1 8	0 4 7	6 5 15 —26	1 1 3	7 2 1	8 3 4 —15	0 0 0	0 1 0	0 1 0 —1	1 2 2	0 1 2	1 3 4 —8	
July,	3 1 3	6 2 7	9 3 10 —22	3 1 2	2 5 1	5 6 3 —14	1 0 1		1 1 1 —3	1 0 0	0 1 0	1 1 0 -2	
October, November, December,	1 3 1	3 2 3	4 5 4 —13	4 1 0	1 4 2	5 5 2 —12	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0 -0	0 0 0	2 0 0	2 0 0 -2	
January, February, March,	3 4 4	5 2 3	8 6 7 —21	1 2 5	7 2 1	8 4 6 —18	1 0 1	1 1 2	2 1 3 —6	1 0 0	0 1 0	1 1 0 -2	
	38	44	82	24	35	59	4	6	10	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, 1862, TO 31ST MARCH, 1863.

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																	47	197	14		
-!																-	£6,847	ï	£7.044		
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ARGE.	£521 17		. 6,409 10	sold, £22 10 8		:	10 0 0	14 15 8	510 0	8 6 8	18 10 10	and	0 4 8							:	
TARGE.	£521 17		. 6,409 10	uit sold, £22 10 8		:	10 0 0	14 15 8	5 10 0	, 8 6 8	18	tato and	0 4 8							:	
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CHARGE.	£521 17		. 6,409 10	and Fruit sold, £22 10 8		:	10 0 0	:	:	drawn, 8 6 8	18	e in Potato and	0 4 8						1	:	
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THE CHARGE.	£521 17		. 6,409 10	egetables and Fruit sold, £22 10 8		:	lay sold, 10 0 0	:	:	theque not drawn, 8 6 8	18	Overcharge in Potato and	0 4 8						1	:	
THE CHARGE.	£521 17		. 6,409 10	or Vegetables and Fruit sold, £22 10 8	Oats and Wheat sold, 14 4 11	Bones and Rags sold, 18 14 7	Hay sold, 10 0 0	Potatoes sold, 14 15 8	Grazing, 5 10 0	Cheque not drawn, 8 6 8	Interest, 18 10 10	Overcharge in Potato and	0 4 8						1	:	
THE CHARGE.	£521 17		. 6,409 10	d for Vegetables and Fruit sold, £22 10 8	Oats and Wheat sold,	Bones and Rags sold,		Potatoes sold,	Grazing,		Interest, 18		0 4 8						1	:	
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THE CHARGE.		Received from the Lords Commissioners of her	. 6,409 10	Received for Vegetables and Fruit sold, £22 10 8	Oats and Wheat sold,	Bones and Rags sold,		Potatoes sold,	Grazing,		Interest, 18		0 4 8						1	:	

# AN ACCOUNT OF THE EXPENDITURE ON AND PRODUCE OF THE LAND OF THE BELFAST DISTRICT HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE FOR ONE YEAR, BEING FROM 1ST APRIL, 1862, TO 31ST MARCH, 1863.



### DIETARY

OF

# The Belfast District Hospital for the Insane.

### BREAKFAST.

One quart stirabout (made with 8 oz. fine or 7 oz. coarse meal (and three-fourths of a pint mixed milk, Males.  One-and-half pint stirabout and one half pint mixed milk, Females.	Every Morning.
DINNER.	
One half-pound loaf bread (or 3lbs. potatoes), 6oz. Males & solid meat, and one pint soup, Females.	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.),  One half-pound loaf bread (or 3lbs. potatoes), and one-and-half pint soup,	3 days
One half-pound loaf bread (or 3lbs. potatoes), and one-and-half pint soup, Females.	a week.
Three-fourths of a pound loaf bread (or 3½lbs. potatoes) and one pint mixed milk, Males.	l day
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.	a week.
SUPPER.	
One half-pound loaf bread and three-fourths of a pint of new milk, Males.	Summer
One half-pound loaf bread and three-fourths of a pint of new milk, Males.  One half-pound loaf bread and one half-pint new milk, Females.	6 months
One quart stirabout and three-fourths of a pint new } milk, Males.	Winter
One quart stirabout and three-fourths of a pint new milk, Males.  One-and-half pint stirabout and one half-pint new milk, Females.	6 months

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, 1862, TO 31st MARCH, 1863.

### Hrish.

- Armagh District Hospital for the Insane, report to 31st December, 1861, pp. 12. By Robert M'Kinstry, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
- Carlow Do., annual report to 31st March, 1862, pp. 22. By M. E. White, A.M., M.D., J.P., Physician-Superintendent.
- Clonmel Do., report to 31st December, 1862, pp. 34. By James Flynn, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
- Cork Do., statistics for the year ended 31st March, 1862, and other periods, pp. 12. By Thomas Power, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
- Derry Do., report to 31st December, 1861, pp. 19. By W. F. Rogan, M.B., Physician-Superintendent.
- Farnham House Private Lunatic Asylum (at Finglas, near Dublin), report for the year ending October 1, 1862, pp. 10. By J. F. Duncan, M.D., Visiting Physician.
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