LUNATICS IN WORKHOUSES.

By permission of the Division, Dr. WOODS introduced the question of dealing with lunatics in workhouses, and after some discussion, in which the following —Drs. DRAPES, FINEGAN, LAWLESS, JOHN EUSTACE, and the PRESIDENT— joined, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—"That the time has arrived when provision should be made for the large number of lunatics in the workhouses of the country at present uncertified for, not properly cared for, and treated not as lunatics, but merely as paupers, and that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Inspectors of Lunatics."

A paper promised by the PRESIDENT under the title of "Opuscula Clinica" was postponed owing to the lateness of the hour.

Dr. FINEGAN proposed, and Dr. DRAPES seconded, that the next meeting of the Irish Division should be held at the Limerick Asylum on a date to be fixed in the month of October.

SIR JOHN BUCKNILL.

Honneur aux armes, honneur par les armes! We have much pleasure in congratulating our veteran colleague Sir John Bucknill on the splendid reception he met with in Exeter. Full of years and honours he found himself amid the scenes of his early labours, surrounded by troops of friends, and personally thanked by the Commander-in-Chief for his patriotic and magnificent service to his country. The idea which sprung from his active mind in 1852, fertilized by his careful enthusiasm, has now attained its full development in the fact of 224,525 efficient volunteers ready to defend their country should occasion unhappily arise.

No doubt to us, who regard Sir John Bucknill first of all as a physician whose achievements in the field of modern medicine are most noteworthy, it seems extraordinary that no mention of his life work and world-wide reputation should be made on this occasion. That a by-product, a recreation of his busy life, should eclipse his services in the care of the insane is surely the very irony of fate. As for us who remain in the ranks of the battalions of the specialty, and labour at the bugle call of science in the entrenchments thrown up against the encroachments of folly and disease, we must be content with the pale reflection of the glory Sir John Bucknill has achieved, in that we can claim him as a colleague, and as one who was ever ready to wield sword or pen for the good of his fellow men.

FIRE AT THE OXFORD COUNTY ASYLUM.

We regret to record that a disastrous fire occurred at the Littlemore Asylum on the 15th April, causing the destruction of the three-storey block containing the female observation wards. It is supposed to have originated in a spark from a defective chimney. Fortunately the outbreak was noticed about eleven o'clock in the forenoon, at a time when a competition of fire brigades was going on in the neighbourhood, and, by a curious coincidence, just as the Chairman was about to alarm the asylum brigade in order to test efficiency. Under the direction of the officers, the patients were speedily removed and accommodated elsewhere, and it is gratifying to learn that none of them suffered injury. Unfortunately an unusual number of accidents occurred amongst the firemen, who worked energetically to save the lower part of the building, in the face of a fierce fire which spread with great rapidity owing to the high wind. Mr. Sankey is to be congratulated on the completeness of his arrangements, which resulted in the safety of patients and staff, and the salvage of the greater part of the bedding, so that the committee are able to assure the friends of patients that the occupants of the block are well cared for in the main building.

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