the old cells; an iron bedstead with excellent bedding, a chair, and a table, form the furniture of each room; the number of physicians has been increased, and that of the *employés* charged to watch over and attend the patients has almost been doubled. The patients take their meals in common in vast refectories, comfortably furnished. They are served in earthenware vessels; each has an iron spoon and fork, a knife, and a cup. The meals are preceded and followed by a prayer. At Bicêtre the prayers are chanted in common by the patients. Formerly, the clothing allowed was made to last three years. The state in which the clothes were after such long service, especially those worn by the infirm or the aged, who are generally not remarkable for cleanliness, may be imagined. In 1841 only 13f. a year were allowed at La Salpétrière, and 11f. at Bicêtre, for the clothing of each patient; but at present nearly double the sum is granted, and the clothes are replaced when unfit for use, without regard to the length of time they have been worn. In the two asylums at Bicêtre and La Salpétrière, 1343 patients work with acuteness which astonishes all visitors. Moreover, work is for these unfortunates a source of profit, and thereby they are able to procure some little comforts not included in the ordinary *regime* of the establishments. Finally, to amuse the patients and break the monotony of their stay at the hospital, games, singing, gymnastics, drives in the country, etc., are allowed. These experiments have produced the best results.

DETENTION OF A LUNATIC IN A UNION HOUSE.—At the court of the WEST RIDING Justices, at WAKEFIELD, on Monday, February 20th, the magistrates were asked by the union officers to sign an order for the commitment of a man, named Henry Hargreaves, to an asylum, as a lunatic. The Rev. Hugh B. Smyth stated that, in consequence of representations made to him on the preceding day, he went to the workhouse in the afternoon, and there found Hargreaves, in a refractory cell, alone. The cell he described as flagged, eight feet square, having no fire-place nor window, and being ventilated by means of a small piece of perforated zinc let into one of the walls. The man had no article of furniture, nor any bedding, except two old ragged rugs; and in this place he had been confined, without fire, without any means of washing himself, and without changing his clothes, from ten o'clock on Tuesday morning to Sunday afternoon (five days and a half), with the exception of the few minutes that he was before the guardians on the Wednesday. It was stated that the man was twenty-nine years of age, and that he had been in an asylum before; also that there were nine applications before that of the relieving officers for his admission into the West Riding Pauper Lunatic Asylum. Mr. Tew said he would not sign an order for the man's commitment on the certificate of the union surgeon alone. Another surgeon was obtained, and the order signed.

VACANCY. The appointment of Clinical Assistant at the Oxfordshire and Berks County Asylum is vacant. The salary is £70 per annum, with board. Information respecting the duties may be obtained of W. Ley, Esq., Superintendent of the asylum.

To Correspondents. A VISITING PHYSICIAN.-Our Correspondent's letter savors more of the fish-market than of the forum. If he will have the kindness to correct this defect, and authenticate his statements with his name, we shall be happy to enter into any enquiry respecting the peculiar government of the institution to which he is attached, and its results upon the welfare of the patients.

W. LEY, ESQ. The preparation used is the Tincture of the Pernitrate of Iron: dose, from ten to twenty minims in peppermint water. An excellent remedy in the diarrhœa of general paralytics and other patients of feeble powers, when inflammation does not exist, and opium is contraindicated.

HANTS COUNTY LUNATIC ASYLUM.

NOTICE.—The VISITING JUSTICES of the HANTS COUNTY LUNATIC ASYLUM are desirous of receiving applications from duly certified Medical Gentlemen to perform the duties of SUPERINTENDENT OF THE LUNATIC ASYLUM, at Knowle, near Fonham, in the said County. All candidates wishing to tender their services to the Committee of Justices for the above purpose are hereby directed to send in their applications, together with Testimonials, to the Clerk of Peace's Office, Winchester, addressed to the Chairman of the Hants Lunatic Asylum Committee, on or before Saturday the 22nd of April next.

A GENTLEMAN who has just resigned an Appointment as MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT OF A PRIVATE LUNATIC ASYLUM, is desirous of meeting with a similar situation. The Advertiser has had considerable experience in the treatment of Lunacy, and can produce the highest Testimonials. Address, 'Medicus,' 1 Lonsdale Place, Notting Hill, London.

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All communications for the forthcoming Number should be addressed to the Editor, DR. BUCKNILL, *Devon County Lunatic Asylum, near Exeter, before the 26th day of April next.*

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