consequence of progressive additions to the roll of members, we place on record the maximum attained at the date of last Annual Meeting. There were then 509 members on the list, inclusive of 48 honorary and corresponding members. Ten years ago the total membership was 432, inclusive of 58 honorary and corresponding members.

We look forward confidently to a still further increase, consequent upon the establishment of divisional meetings, where asylum medical officers of all grades can attend with greater frequency and greater freedom. In going so far afield for the next general meeting the Association invites candidates for membership to come forward, and we hope for a long list of names on that occasion, as well as sound scientific work and good-fellowship. The formation of an additional division, of which we have heard rumours, will, no doubt, soon take definite shape.

The Attendant's Handbook.

The new edition of the Handbook, published by authority of the Association, has already been sold out. This shows how urgent was the need for such a manual, and the success attending its compilation must be gratifying to those who gave so much time and trouble to make it a serviceable book. The first edition was published just ten years ago, and 3,000 copies were sold before the end of 1892. The experience gained by the practical work of teaching induced the Association to issue a revised edition in 1893, and many improvements were made in rewriting defective sections, and adding engravings as required. At the last meeting of Council, Dr. Hayes Newington and Dr. Beveridge Spence, who have already done so much to perfect the work, were asked to arrange for the reissue of the work, with some additions, and this new edition may be expected in the course of January, 1896.

A Journal for Asylum Workers.

We understand that proposals have been made for the establishment of a periodical for asylum workers—a periodical which will represent the special interests of asylum officials. It has not been—and we trust that it

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will never be—the policy of this Journal to neglect the interests of the insane; and the best interests of asylum patients are so intimately bound up with the best interests of asylum workers that we should fail in our plain duty were we to pass these proposals without a word of encouragement and friendly comment.

It would seem that there are once more three courses open to the parties interested. This Journal might publish as a supplement a sheet of domestic details, notes and annotations on asylum experience, communications from the various classes of officials represented on the staff of every hospital for the insane. Such a proposal has been repeatedly made, and might commend itself to the Medico-Psychological Association, which has already been urgent for the improvement of all classes of asylum workers in its corporate capacity, as well as by the individual efforts of its members. We need only instance the educational scheme, which has animated so many institutions for the treatment of the insane of late years, and the magnificent house for attendants at Prestwich.

Another course suggests itself in enlarging the scope and augmenting the activity of "The Hospital." The nursing supplement of that newspaper has been open to all who are in any way interested in the treatment of disease, and much might be said for thus drawing the bonds closer between general and special hospitals. We have so often to regret our segregation from the outer world and find such indubitable benefit in mingling with our fellows in such societies as the British Medical Association, that the contact of mind with mind in the pages of "The Hospital" would seem to give promise of good work and mutual advantage.

Lastly, a special Journal might be founded as has been recently proposed. It would certainly reflect the opinions and desires of many who may have felt that the alternatives above indicated do not commend themselves for the special purpose in view. Should this be the outcome of the deliberations now in progress, we cannot but offer our best wishes and lend every encouragement to what is done for the interests we all have at heart.

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