Lunacy Commissioners for Scotland.

Her Majesty has appointed two of the Commissioners in Lunacy, Samuel Gaskell, Esq., and W. G. Campbell, Esq., to be Commissioners in Lunacy in Scotland.

The asylums in this part of the kingdom have not hitherto had the advantage of government inspection; and although several of these institutions have taken the lead in the application of scientific principles to the treatment of the insane, it is affirmed that the lion's share of the benefits has fallen to the lot of the wealthy classes of patients, and that the insane poor have not in all instances been provided with comfortable and satisfactory accommodation. It is expected that the influence of the Scotch Commissioners will approximate the fittings, the furniture, and the arrangements of the pauper wards in the Scotch asylums to that high standard which now prevails throughout this country.

Minister of Public Health.

It is said to be the purpose of Government to follow out the example which they have already set, in subordinating the warlike departments, hitherto independent, under a common head, by creating at the earliest opportunity a high and responsible official, corresponding to the French Minister of Public Health.

A few years ago the collective health of the community was entirely neglected by Government. At the present time it attracts a considerable share of government attention, and annually absorbs a large sum of public money; but it is cared for by numerous official boards, entirely independent of each other, a system which is thought to be vastly more expensive to the country, and infinitely less efficacious than a government Office of Public Health, would be corresponding in its centralizationand power to the Home Office, or the War Office under its new organization.

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