of Skye, and the Caledonian Medical Society. Sometimes one was inclined to wonder whether the last might not be first in his affections. He was one of five students who founded the society in 1878.

Dr. Macphail held every post in the Society in turn. He was President at the meeting held at Derby in 1920. There he delivered an interesting and original address on " Derby and the Forty-Five," which showed that during the years of exile in the south he had not been neglectful of the history of his own country. In 1928 Macphail was Joint Jubilee President with Dr. W. A. Macnaughton, of Stonehaven, at the Fiftieth Anniversary Celebrations of the Society. Macphail presided at the dinner with dignity and charm. Those who heard his speech on that occasion realized that he at least felt that the ideals that had animated the five student founders fifty years before had been more than fulfilled, and that the growth of members in the society from the original five to over five hundred had more than justified their early efforts.

Macphail was a loyal son of Skye. He knew its songs and stories, and was learned in its language and traditions. The care with which his mother's grave was tended—the one well-kept spot in a sadly neglected churchyard—the restoration of his father's church at Kilmuir, which the Macphail family undertook shortly after the war, these were to him matters of extreme importance. It pleased him to know that his father's memory was still green in the parishes of Sleat, Kilmuir and Benbecula. He loved his island birthplace, and was proud of being one of " the children of the mist." He died on September 12, 1931, and was buried on the 16th in Lasswade Churchyard. As was only right in the passing of so good a Skyeman, he went upon his way wrapped in the folds of the Macphail tartan, with the wild notes of " MacCrimmon's lament " sounding down the breeze.

G. GIBSON.

GEORGE ALFRED WATSON.

George Alfred Watson was born in India in 1866, his father being a Lieut.-Colonel in the Royal Engineers. He returned to this country in early boyhood, and was educated at Edinburgh High School, and later at Edinburgh University. Graduating M.B., C.M. in 1887, he went into general practice for two or three years, but gave this up in 1890, and went to the Royal Edinburgh Asylum, Morningside, as Assistant Physician. In 1891 he was appointed Senior Assistant Medical Officer at Birmingham City Asylum and remained there till 1899. While at Birmingham he was greatly attracted towards the pathological side of his work, and founded the first pathological laboratory at that important mental hospital. On leaving Birmingham he went to London, and became a voluntary worker in the Pathological Laboratory of the London County Asylums at Claybury, and acted as Research Scholar to the British Medical Association. Three years later he succeeded Shaw Bolton as Assistant Pathologist to the London County Asylums. While at Claybury Watson wrote two important papers: (1) " The Mammalian Cerebral Cortex," which was published by the Royal Society; (2) " The Pathology and Morbid Histology of Juvenile General Paralysis." These papers attracted much attention, and at once stamped Watson as an original and painstaking worker.

In 1905 he came to Lancashire to succeed A. W. Campbell as Pathologist at Rainhill Mental Hospital. Here, during a period of twenty-one years, he performed many thousands of *post-mortem* examinations, the written reports of which constitute perhaps the most valuable collection of such records in the country.

Watson devoted much attention to pellagra—a disease from which his wife suffered, and from which she ultimately died. A brief report of his observations on this disease are printed in the *Board of Control Reports* of 1924.

In 1926 the Lancashire Mental Hospitals Board appointed Watson as Pathologist to the mental hospitals under their control—a belated recognition of his many years of devoted and distinguished service. This recognition of the reputation which Watson had attained, not only in this country, but abroad, came too late, for already his powers were beginning to fail, and he himself was the first to recognize that the task allotted to him would tax him severely. He broke down under the strain, and after less than three years was compelled to resign his post. He was not destined to enjoy his retirement, for his health continued to deteriorate rapidly, and on July 27, 1931, he died.

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Watson's knowledge of the cerebral cortex was unrivalled, but he could with difficulty be persuaded to write, although when he did do so, no more lucid exposition of the subject could be presented. His opinion on the many histological specimens sent him from all over the country for description and report was always authoritative. His passing leaves a very real gap in the ranks of the dwindling number of workers in the histo-pathological sphere of mental disease.

E. F. REEVE.

WILLIAM ARTHUR DUNCAN.

We regret to announce the death of William Arthur Duncan, M.B., Ch.B.Edin., who passed away on September 23 last at the age of 54. He joined the Medical Staff of the East Sussex County Mental Hospital in 1915, and retired owing to ill-health in March, 1931. He was a loyal and agreeable colleague, and his early forced retirement was much regretted both by patients and staff.

NOTICES BY THE HONORARY LIBRARIAN.

The following journals are circulated from the Library:

American Journal of Psychiatry.
The Psychological Review.
Journal of Neurology and Psychopathology.
L'Encéphale.
International Journal of Psycho-Analysis.
Journal of Abnormal Psychology.
Mental Hygiene.
Journal of Nervous and Mental Diseases.
Revue Neurologique.
Archives of Neurology and Psychiatry.
Journal of Comparative Psychology.

Members are requested to return long-outstanding books to the Library as soon as possible for the purpose of cataloguing.

Members are invited to make gifts to the Library to assist in building up a historical collection of psychiatric works from the seventeenth century onwards. In selecting books for presentation, members are advised to consult the Hon. Librarian to see what books the Library possesses and those it is desirable it should possess.

Books Added to the Library.

Books selected by the Hon. Librarian from the library of the late Dr. Lord in accordance with the terms of his will:

Jelliffe, S. E., and White, W. A. *Diseases of the Nervous System.* 1929.
Hunter, W. S. (Ed.). *Psychological Abstracts.* Vols. ii and iii. 1928–9.
Oppenheim, H. *Text-book of Nervous Diseases.* 1911.
Senator, H., and Kaminer, S. (Ed.). *Health and Disease in Relation to Marriage.* (Transl. Dulberg, J.) 1904.
Berry, R. J. A. *Brain and Mind.* 1928.
Coffey, P. *Ontology.* 1914.
Muskens, L. J. J. *Epilepsy.* 1928.
United States Army in the World War (*Medical Dept.*). Vol. xv: *Neuropsychiatry.* 1929.
Freud, S. *Collected papers.* (Transl. Riviere, J.) 1924.
Hart, B. *Psychology of Insanity.* 1930.
Ewen, J. H. *Psychology.* (Catechism Series.) 1929.
Mental Diseases. (Catechism Series.) 1926. No author given.
Althaus, J. *Functions of the Brain.* 1880.

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