MEDICO-PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—IRISH MEETING.

A quarterly meeting of the Medico-Psychological Association was held at the College of Physicians, Dublin, on November 18. There were present Dr. Duncan, Dr. Patton, Mr. W. Zachary Myles, Mr. J. Molony, and Mr. Conolly Norman.

Dr. PATTON having been voted into the chair, a letter was read from Dr. Maziere Courtenay, the Secretary, apologizing for his unavoidable absence, and requesting Mr. Norman to act for him.

The following gentlemen were elected members of the Association :—W. Rutherford, M.D., Visiting Physician Ballinasloe District Asylum; Thomas H. O'Shaughnessy, M.D., Assistant Medical Officer Ballinasloe District Asylum (both the above having been proposed by Dr. Maziere Courtenay and seconded by Dr. Fletcher); George P. Cope, L.R.Q.C.P.I., &c., Junior Assistant Medical Officer Richmond District Asylum (proposed by Mr. Conolly Norman and seconded by Mr. W. Z. Myles).

Mr. CONOLLY NORMAN read a short paper "On the sedative properties of aceto-phenone" (hypnone), which he had injected hypodermically in several cases to produce sleep. (See "Clinical Notes and Cases.").

Dr. DUNCAN asked whether the drug possessed any advantages over morphia used in a similar way?

Dr. PATTON inquired as to the chemical constitution of hypnone, and wished to know whether it had been observed to communicate any particular odour to the urine.

Mr. MOLONY inquired as to the local effects of the injections, also as to the age and physical condition of the patients with whom hypnone had been used.

Mr. MYLES said that he had, in conjunction with Mr. Norman, used hypnone in the manner described in a couple of cases. The experiments made were few, but he was inclined to think that the medicine had decided hypnotic properties.

Mr. CONOLLY NORMAN, in replying, said that he was not disposed to attribute any specific virtues to hypnone. In some cases he thought he detected an odour in the urine similar to that produced by turpentine. He had never found any local effects from the injection of pure hypnone further than a discoloration of the skin, resembling an ecchymosis. Several of the patients were young, some middle-aged, one was an old broken-down woman with atheromatous arteries. In the last case great caution had been used, and the dose was never increased beyond six minims. Untoward consequences had not in any case been observed.

Obituary.

ROBERT NAIRNE, M.D., F.R.C.P.

Dr. Nairne has not long survived his resignation of the post of Commissioner in Lunacy, which he held for so protracted a period, namely, from the year 1857 to July, 1883. His death occurred at his residence, Mosley, Beckenham, November 5th, 1886. He was educated in Edinburgh, and at Trinity College, Cambridge, graduating in 1832. Six years afterwards he obtained the Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians, London, and in the following year he was appointed Physician to St. George's Hospital, where he became lecturer on medicine. He was not, we believe, altogether successful as a physician in the Metropolis, and in 1857 the Lord Chancellor presented him with the office of Commissioner in Lunacy. In 1856 he married a daughter of John Gott, Esq., of Leeds, who survives him. It is singular that Dr. Nairne should, like the late greatly respected Mr. Gaskell, have been knocked down by a cab in one of the London streets, and it seems probable that this unfortunate accident had something to do with his death. This, however, can hardly be regarded as pre-

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