Lord Chancellor admitted that, taken alone, the natural conclusion from it would be that it meant the first attack of insanity. On the principle, however, of interpreting one question and answer by others, no one could doubt that the age on first attack, namely 30, had reference to the attack of hysteria from which she had been suffering 20 years.

It is not necessary to give the observations of the Lord Chancellor on the other answers to the statutory questions, further than to quote the passage upon which he says: "It seems to me that no one with a knowledge of the facts, as we are now possessed of them, could have answered those questions with a more apparently scrupulous regard to giving the whole state of the facts."

On the point whether an alteration alleged to have been made in the order deprived it of any validity, the Lord Chancellor admitted that, if a material part of it were altered, so that the document no longer spoke the language which it did speak when it was originally received, the document was vitiated. But in all the cases which Mrs. Lowe quoted it might be clearly perceived that materiality was an essential condition to make the instrument void. In the statement upon which Mrs. Lowe was received into Burlington House, there were only the words "for hysteria" added to the sentence "during this period of 20 years has been constantly under treatment."

Lastly, on the question—whether Mr. Lowe's written direction, that Mrs. Lowe should be discharged—complied with the conditions of the Lunacy Acts, the Lord Chancellor observed: "That point appears to me to be beyond all doubt." The letter in question was so worded that it left a certain discretion to the person receiving it. Then "the question is," said the Lord Chancellor, "whether the person who acted in pursuance of that discretion, and fulfilled strictly the authority which he got, namely, to exercise a discretion to retain the lady for the period of a fortnight, disobeyed an order within the language of the statute. My lords, it seems to me that it is impossible to maintain for one moment that he did, and I am, therefore, of opinion, and so move your lordships, that the judgment of the Court of Appeal should be affirmed, and that this appeal should be dismissed with costs."

The other law lords concurred in the views expressed by the Lord Chancellor.

We congratulate the Drs. Fox on the result of Mrs. Lowe's appeal.

PHARMACEUTIC AND THERAPEUTIC MEMORANDA.*

We would draw attention to the many admirable preparations which Messrs. Burroughs and Welcome, Snow Hill, London, have introduced. Few things are more surprising than the change which has taken place during the last few years in the art of preparing medicines in a way which makes them palatable and even tempting to the most fastidious taste. There are the neat and dainty tabloids used in hypodermic injection, and there are the beautifully prepared pills which offer so striking a contrast to the repulsive boluses of former days. Again, there are the convenient cases of selected drugs which the practitioner can carry about with him. We have been more especially struck with the carefully contrived case of antidotes to poisons. This has been for a long time past a desideratum, and we can confidently recommend it to practitioners and physicians, but especially to those engaged in the department of mental medicine, for whom the possession of such a selection of remedies at hand in emergencies cannot fail to be a great help. The case contains not only bottles of remedies required for prompt exhibition, but tabloids for hypodermic injections. There is also a stomach tube which can be used as a syphon for emptying the stomach of its contents. A gag should be provided. The price of this case is moderate (£3), and ought to be procured by asylum men and by physicians specially engaged in the treatment of the insane.

* We purpose giving under this head, from time to time, short memoranda of important drugs, &c.—[Eds.]

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