shilling grant to chronic pauper lunatics maintained in workhouse wards under special regulations, and to idiots maintained in public institutions. It was pointed out, however, that there was a material departure from the resolution adopted by the Lancashire Board, which prescribed that, before the grant was to be extended in that manner, the patients must have been treated in an asylum—a period of two years having been mentioned. Thereupon a deputation to the Local Government Board was appointed, and the Lancashire Asylum authorities are to be congratulated upon having made a stand for their own opinion. The treatment of acute insanity cannot be effective under workhouse regulations. An asylum is a hospital, and should receive the mentally-afflicted in the first instance. A workhouse may, under proper authority, be fitted to accommodate harmless dements; and, in the interest of the ratepayers as well as of the insane, such a rearrangement is highly desirable. It is, however, of essential importance that the cases selected for the cheaper, simpler, and less specialised care of workhouse officials should have passed through the local asylum and under the review of the Commissioners. We are not inclined to fix any term of residence in asylums, preferring to leave their physicians unfettered by such a regulation as the two-year limit spoken of at Lancaster. It is quite probable that a very much shorter period of observation would suffice to determine the propriety of passing a hopeless, easily-managed case from an overcrowded asylum to the lunatic ward of the neighbouring workhouse. We need not support these views by lengthy reference to the results obtained in Scotland under such a system as is now recommended, but must congratulate Dr. J. A. Campbell on the eminent success attending the proposal which he brought forward at our Annual Meeting of 1893.

The Increase of the Association.

We do not intend to anticipate Dr. Outterson Wood in any way. The results of his laborious research into the early history of our Association will be published in the next number of the Journal, and must prove of lasting interest to every loyal member. As it has become necessary, however, to increase the size of the Journal as well as to instruct the printer to produce a larger number of copies, in

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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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