in the lady herself, but only in members of her family. The Sheriff Substitute had held that these averments were irrelevant, and that the defender had no case. The defender appealed. The procedure of the Scottish courts is a little difficult to follow. The appeal was allowed and the case sent for trial, but at the same time the Court of Appeal abstained from saying whether the plea was relevant or no. —Court of Session, June 8th.—*Scotsman*, Jan. 10th.

Redfern v. *Gough.*

Joseph Lamb, the testator, was admitted into Cheadle Asylum in 1891, and was discharged therefrom in March, 1892. Shortly afterwards, finding that his mind was again becoming affected, he voluntarily returned to the Asylum, where he remained. In March, 1894, he was desirous of making a will, and Drs. Rayner and Scowcroft were of opinion that he was competent to do so. The will was correctly made and executed in the Asylum. It was now admitted to probate by Mr. Justice Barnes.—*Manchester Guardian*, Nov. 18th.

REPORTED BY DR. PERCY SMITH.

Bedford v. *Jackson.*

The following case, in which a will made by a patient while insane was upset and probate of an earlier will was granted, seems worthy of record, if only for the fact that at the formal trial in the Probate Division of the High Court no attempt was made to dispute the evidence of insanity or to uphold the will made while the patient was insane.

H. B—, æt. 86, was said to have been "eccentric" for years; to have been in the habit of going out always with an umbrella up, so that people should not see him, and on one occasion to have wired to his brother, asking him if he were of sound mind, when there was no reason to doubt this.

He had some property, which he managed jointly with his brother and nephew (a solicitor), but which the latter managed for him from 1892 to 1896. During this period the "eccentricity" continued. He used to keep the blinds down in the front of his house and the front door permanently shut. He used to keep one part of the house entirely to himself, only allowing the servant in for cleaning purposes, and then locking himself in. People used to call him "the old lunatic," and at one time he spoke of complaining to the justices about this.

By a will made June 22nd, 1892, he benefited his relatives, and there was nothing unreasonable in its contents.

In 1896 he changed in his manner to his nephew, who, on visiting him, found that he locked himself in his rooms, and that it was very difficult to obtain access to him. He asked his nephew if he was "better," and said, "You have been mentally afflicted," though there was no reason for this. He ceased to pay the share of rents received to his nephew, on the ground that the latter could not give a valid receipt, and this continued for three years.

In March, 1899, his nephew visited him at the express request of the rector of the parish, as his condition was becoming notorious. When his nephew appeared he called him an "impostor," and on his nephew's visiting-card, which was afterwards found among his effects, he had written "from an impostor, March, 1899." He also called his nephew and the latter's brother "thieves and lunatics," and then shut himself up in his room.

On July 2nd he is said to have stood in the road shouting out that the passers-by were "lunatics." He had a hammer in his hand, with which he was striking the doors and fences. He is said also to have called ladies "whores and prostitutes." About this time he also violently assaulted an old man, and had to be forcibly removed from him.

On July 3rd he went to a new solicitor, having quarrelled with the one who had acted for him before, and made a new will, ignoring his relatives and leaving his property to charities.

On July 12th, having become more excited and violent, he was certified, and was sent to the Holloway Sanatorium. While there the excitement passed off, but he continued to be insane; did not realise the nature of the institution, nor that he was under medical care; continued to believe that his brother and his nephew

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