have any validity in law, in every case to set forth the fact or facts, indicating insanity, *observed by himself.*

5. The certificate need not be dated on the day of examination.

Note.—Medical officers of unions or parishes are no longer prohibited from signing certificates in the cases of pauper lunatics belonging thereto.

R. W. S. LUTWIDGE, *Secretary.*

Office of Commissioners in Lunacy, 1853.

To the Editor of the Asylum Journal.

Sir,—The foundation of your Journal under the auspices of the medical officers of asylums, seems to offer me a good opportunity of bringing under the notice of these gentlemen the fact, that the Library of the Royal College of Surgeons, is very deficient in the Annual Reports of these establishments. Such documents are often of great value, and when collected would serve many useful purposes of reference and comparison; while, as far as I know, they are not purchasable.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN CHATTO, *Librarian.*

Royal College of Surgeons, London,
November, 1853.

M. Moreau, one of the Physicians to the Bicêtre, has brought to the test of statistical observation, M. Baillarger's opinion respecting the importance of the inequality of the pupils as a symptom of general paralysis. Of 100 individuals affected with this disease, M. Moreau found the pupils unequal in 58, the pupils were larger than usual in 26, smaller than usual in 18, and of ordinary size in 56. M. Moreau has also observed that in general paralysis, the protrusion of the eye ball was increased in 66 per cent., and that in 31 per cent. the arch of the eye brows was lost, the brows falling over the eyes curling like a moustache.—From the *Annales Medico Psychologiques.*

On Gentleness to the Insane.—WHITTIER.

Gentle as angels' ministry,
The guiding hand of love should be,
Which seeks again those chords to bind
Which human woe hath rent apart,
To heal again the wounded mind,
And bind anew the broken heart.
The hand which tunes to harmony,
The cunning harp whose strings are riven,
Must move as light and quietly
As that meek breath of summer heaven
Which woke of old its melody;
And kindness to the dim of soul,
(Whilst aught of rude and stern controul
The clouded heart can deeply feel,)
Is welcome as the odours fann'd
From some unseen and flowering land
Around the weary seaman's keel!

From *American Journal of Insanity.*

Appointments.

Mr. Francis Moseley, of London, has been appointed Assistant Medical Officer to the Gloucestershire County Asylum, in the place of Mr. John Charles Savery resigned.

Mr. William P. Kirkman, late House Surgeon of the Suffolk County Asylum, has been appointed Assistant Medical Officer to the Devon County Asylum, in the place of Dr. Manley resigned.

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All communications for the forthcoming Number should be addressed to the Editor, DR. BUCKNILL, *Devon County Lunatic Asylum, near Exeter, before the 26th day of January next.*

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