ERRATUM.

To the Editor of the JOURNAL OF MENTAL SCIENCE.

DEAR SIR,—In the obituary notice of the late Dr. Urquhart it should have been stated that he succeeded Dr. William Lauder Lindsay in 1879 instead of, as recorded, Dr. Murray Lindsay (a brother who was Superintendent of the Derby Asylum) in 1880.

I am,
Yours truly,
GEORGE M. ROBERTSON.

TIPPERLINN HOUSE,
MORNINGSIDE PLACE, EDINBURGH;
January 12th, 1918.

OBITUARY.

JULIUS MICKLE, M.D.(Toronto), F.R.C.P.(Lond.)

To most of the present members of the Association it is only his name and his connection with a standard book on *General Paralysis of the Insane* that remains; but with him has passed away one of the senior members of the Medico-Psychological Association. He was elected in 1871, and thus for forty-seven years has been a member. He was Assistant-Physician, for short periods, to the Derby and County Asylums, but his life's work was done at Grove Hall, Bow. This was really a private asylum, belonging to Mr. Byas, that was taken over by the East India Company for the soldiers and other employees of the Company, and the experience of Dr. Mickle, therefore, was chiefly with old soldiers who had served abroad. As a result of this experience he was specially interested in brain disease due to syphilis, and to tropical conditions such as sunstroke and arterial degeneration.

But before entering on a discussion of his work and his professional position, one must look at him as a man. He was tall, soldierly in aspect, with a long black beard. He was very formally courteous in manner, but distant, and not given to any wide social life. His surroundings at Bow, in the East End of London, to a great extent cut him off from general society, and he was a self-contained man. His work and his duty tied him to the East End. He, however, when called upon to preside at meetings, or even at public dinners, proved a capable and genial host.

A most painstaking observer and recorder, one might say that he was rather a fact-heaper than a philosopher. His power of extracting the observations and records of work of others was most praiseworthy. His published works were encyclopædic; anything that anyone had ever recorded on the subject he was interested in was plainly set out by him. One result of this was that we had all the facts, but one was left in doubt as to their bearings and as to the recorder's own opinion as to their relative values. This voluminous collecting of facts and recording is well referred to by the late Sir John Bucknill in *Brain*. As I have said, dignified and reserved, but with good power of control, he managed a rather difficult body of old soldiers with ability and success. Yet he passed what one would have thought was a rather unsatisfied life. He was unmarried, and, as far as I know, had no special hobbies, and was not given to sport of any kind. He was a general reader. He continued at Bow until the institution was closed ten years ago, and then, for some years, he lived at Bayswater. But later his general health failed and he returned to Canada.

Next as to his professional position. He was an M.D. of Toronto, and after being a student at St. Thomas's Hospital, London, he took the M.R.C.S. and L.S.A., and in 1879 he became M.R.C.P. London, and in 1887 was elected as a Fellow of the College. He was an active member of the British Medical Association; he was Secretary to the Section of Psychology at the meeting in Liverpool in 1883, Vice-President at Glasgow in 1888, and President at the annual meeting in London in 1895, and again in Toronto in 1906, when he received the honorary degree of LL.D. He was President of the Medico-Psychological Association in 1896, and was also President, later, of the Neurological Society. At each of these he gave an important introductory address. He delivered the Gulstonian Lectures

https://doi.org/10.1192/bjp.64.264.111 Published online by Cambridge University Press