on the part of the Government, that at present they did not contemplate the erection of buildings to be used as asylums for criminal lunatics, and under the pressure of the war, perhaps it might be impossible to provide new buildings for the safe custody of such persons; but whenever new asylums were erected, an important question would arise as to the classification of the persons who became inmates of those asylums. He thought, if the Government would consult the Commissioners in Lunacy, and the medical authorities who were at the head of public establishments for lunatics in this country, that, with the advantage of their experience, a plan for the erection and conduct of those asylums might be adopted, and a system of classification might be arranged, which might be introduced whenever asylums for criminal lunatics were built.

Earl Granville stated, in reply to the question, that it was doubtless most desirable that proper accommodation should be provided for the safe custody of criminal lunatics, and that arrangements should be made for their classification.

He was most happy to state, that the subject was under the consideration of the right hon. gentleman, the Secretary for the Home Department, (hear, hear,) though he, Earl Granville, was not able to give a pledge that the Government could immediately carry into effect any plan for affording the requisite accommodation. The question was, indeed, entirely one of money.

LEGISLATION RELATING TO LUNACY.—There are two *Lunacy Bills* before Parliament; one the "*Lunatic Asylums Repayment of Advances Act, for Ireland*, states in the preamble, that whereas it is doubtful whether it is competent for the Lord Lieutenant and Privy Council to make orders for the repayment of those sums, (expended from the consolidated fund in the building of asylums,) for the advance of which no orders in Council were made, &c.—That it be enacted, &c.

Sec. 1. That Commissioners of General Control and Correspondence, shall report to Clerk of Privy Council, sums expended from consolidated fund in erecting, enlarging, or extending asylums.

Sec. 2. That Lord Lieutenant and Council may order the repayment of such funds by the Counties forming the district for which the asylum is built.

Sec. 3. That the Grand Jury of each County shall make a presentment for such repayment, and that in default of this, the money shall be raised on the order of the Judge of Assize.

Sec. 4. Regulates the repayment between Counties of asylum expences in case of change of district.

Sec. 5. Gives the Lord Lieutenant power to revoke appointments of Commissioners of General Control, and to nominate others.

This Bill was read a second time before the House of Commons on the 9th of March. It received the strong opposition of the Irish members. Lord Palmerston explained that the Bill was not exactly one of indemnity, but that it was intended to set right an irregularity which had been going on a considerable time. The irregularity referred to appears to to have been the building and enlarging the Irish Pauper Lunatic Asylums on monies advanced from the consolidated fund, without the power of obtaining repayment from the county rates.

The other Bill is entitled an Act to explain and amend the Lunacy Regulation Act, 1853. It is a Bill of legal technicality, and explains and amends sec. 129 of the above-named Act, by enabling the Lord Chancellor, in matters of lunacy, to empower committees of estates to grant leases binding on issue or remaindermen.

STEWARD & CLERK. Wanted, at the DEVON COUNTY LUNATIC ASYLUM, a person to to fill the situation of Steward and Clerk. He must be thoroughly conversant with accounts, and understand Stores and Storekeeping. The salary is proposed to be £100 a year, with a residence in the Asylum, and rations. If allowed to reside out of the Asylum, the salary will be from £125 to £150 a year, without rations—as the Visitors may determine.

The person appointed will be expected to give security, himself in £200, and two securities, jointly and severally, in £200.

Applications, with testimonials, are to be sent to me, on or before the 28th day of APRIL next

13th March, 1855. T. E. DRAKE, Exeter, Clerk to the Visitors

LUNATIC CLOTHING AND BEDDING.

CHARLES ROOPE & SON, 144 SLOANE STREET, LONDON,

Have always on hand a great variety of Material, specially adapted for the above purposes; and invite the attention of the Medical Superintendents and Governors of Asylums thereto. Tenders given from a single item to the furnishing of an Establishment throughout.

Reference kindly permitted to the Hanwell and Colney Hatch Asylums,

Which they have supplied since their foundation. Private Asylums treated with on favourable terms.

THE ASYLUM BUCKLE.

This neat substitute for the Screw Locks, used to keep on the boots and clothing of the Insane Patients who strip themselves, can be supplied by PEARSE BROTHERS, Ironmongers, 93, Fore-Street, Exeter. Price 10s. 6d., per dozen.

All Communications for the forthcoming Number should be addressed to the Editor, DR. BUCKNILL, *Devon County Lunatic Asylum, near Exeter, before the 1st day of May next.*

Published by SAMUEL HIGHLEY, of 32, Fleet Street, in the Parish of Saint Dunstan-in-the-West, in the City of London, at No. 32, Fleet Street aforesaid; and Printed by WILLIAM AND HENRY POLLARD, of No. 86, North Street, in the Parish of Saint Kerrian, in the City of Exeter. Monday, April 2, 1855.

https://doi.org/10.1192/S2514990300001555 Published online by Cambridge University Press