Mr. Nunn on the Study of Psychological Medicine.

"There is one branch of medicine to which I will venture to take this opportunity of directing your serious attention, which you cannot study in a general hospital—I allude to psychological medicine—the study of mental disease. It is almost humiliating to think how this branch of the healing art has been neglected. It cannot in future prove to be a rare occurrence for you to be called upon to deal with insane patients, when it is taken into account that there are in England and Wales between thirty and forty thousand pauper lunatics, and, perhaps, between six and eight thousand other insane persons. The chances of cure for such so afflicted in a great measure depends on the obtaining early treatment; a serious responsibility, therefore, rests on those under whose observation they first fall."—*The Inaugural Lecture delivered at the Middlesex Hospital*, October 1st, 1863.

The Cornwall Lunacy Case.

"The trial of Samuel Porter, of Flushing, near Falmouth, for maltreating and wilfully neglecting his brother, Robert Porter, a lunatic under his charge, was concluded on Thursday, March 17th, before Mr. Baron Martin, at Bodmin. The case, it will be recollected, created a great sensation a few months ago. It is sufficient to say that all the allegations as to the horrible condition of filth and neglect in which the lunatic existed when discovered by Dr. Byrne were entirely proved by the evidence of the Commissioners and himself. The jury found the defendant guilty of neglect, but added the following extraordinary and disgraceful clause to their verdict:—'That they recommended him to mercy, on the ground that they did not think he was aware of the law.' Sentence was postponed till the opinion of the Court of Appeal shall be known on a point of law raised by the defendant's counsel. It was urged by his counsel that the statute under which the indictment was drawn referred only to persons keeping asylums or taking in lunatics for hire; and a case was cited which was allowed by the judge to have some bearing on the question, in which it was decided that a husband could not be considered to have 'care and charge of a lunatic wife within the meaning of the statute, as such a charge was only of a domestic nature.' If this be valid law, the very fact of the relationship of the prisoner to the poor wretch—a circumstance which, if anything can do so, enhances tenfold his barbarity—places him out of the reach of retribution. Such a miscarriage of justice is not unlikely, for the man has been discharged on his recognisances to appear in case the Court of Appeal decide against him."—*Medical Times*, March 26th.

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'Topics of the Day, Medical, Social, and Scientific.' By J. A. Hingeston, President of the Brighton and Sussex Medical and Chirurgical Society. London, Churchill and Sons; pp. 400.

See Part II, *Reviews.*

'Principles and Methods of Medical Observation and Research, with copious Nosologies and Indexes of Fevers, and of Constitutional, Cutaneous, Nervous, and Mental Diseases.' By Thomas Laycock, M.D., Professor of

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