under the law as it has existed since 1861. His assumption that the conviction of the lunatic is necessary therefore rests on no better foundation than his assumption that a verdict of "guilty, but insane," is tantamount to a verdict of acquittal. It is to be hoped that there may be an early judicial revision of the Plaistow ruling.

The Attendants' Handbook.

We have received a copy of the third edition of the *Handbook for Attendants on the Insane*, published by authority of the Association. Drs. Hayes Newington and Beveridge Spence, to whom the matter was remitted, decided not to attempt a revision of the work, as the demand was so urgent and the publishers had none left in stock. They have, however, numbered the paragraphs so as to facilitate the answering of the questions to be found at the end of each chapter, and completed the book by adding the Regulations referring to the nursing examinations. As various suggestions have been made for further improvements, arrangements have been made with Messrs. Baillière, Tindall, and Cox to give timely notice when this new edition is approaching exhaustion, so that ample opportunity may be afforded for thorough revision prior to the issue of the fourth edition. Judging by past experience this will not be an affair of the dim and distant future. Meanwhile, we congratulate all concerned on the prompt appearance of this new issue in a serviceable form.

PART II.—REVIEWS.

The New Privy Council Rules.

According to the second section of the Act 30 and 31 Vic., c. 118, the Lord Lieutenant is empowered to make, by Order in Council, Rules and Regulations for the control and guidance of the officers and servants in the District Asylums of Ireland, as well as to determine the staff, appoint their salaries, and define their duties.

Accordingly from time to time a small blue-book has been issued containing the rules thus prepared, and commonly known as "the Privy Council Rules."

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