Appointments.

BEACH, FLETCHER, M.B., Physician's Assistant at Bethlem Hospital, has been appointed Medical Superintendent of the Clapton Asylum for Idiots.

BROWN, W. J., M.B., has been appointed Assistant Medical Officer at the Borough Lunatic Asylum, Newcastle-on-Tyne, *vice* Levinge resigned.

CARRE, GEO. E., M.B., B.A., L.R.C.S.I., has been appointed the Resident Medical Superintendent of the Castlebar District Hospital for the Insane, having been previously the Visiting Physician of the Letterkenny District Establishment.

CONNOLLY, P.R., M.D., M.A., has been appointed Resident Medical Superintendent of the Waterford District Hospital for the Insane, in which he had held the office, since 1856, of Visiting Physician.

ELLIS, J. L., L.K.Q.C.P.I., L.M., has been appointed Assistant Medical Officer to the North Wales Counties Lunatic Asylum, Denbigh, *vice* Powell, resigned.

FLETCHER, ROBERT V., L.R.C.P. Ed., has been appointed the Medical Superintendent of the Ballinasloe District Hospital for the Insane, having been transferred to it from the Waterford District Institution, on the death of the late Richard Eaton, M.D.

FOOT, R. H., M.D. Trin. Coll. Dub., L.R.C.S.I., has been appointed Assistant Medical Superintendent of the Fife and Kinross Lunatic District Asylum, Cupar, vice Mackenzie resigned.

HIGGINS, W. H., M.B., C.M., M.R.C.S.E., has been appointed Assistant Medical Officer to the Derby County Lunatic Asylum.

INGLIS, THOS., L.R.C.S., has been appointed Assistant Physician to the Royal Edinburgh Asylum.

LEVINGE, E. G., A.B., M.B., L.R.C.S.I., has been appointed Junior Assistant Medical Officer of the Hants County Lunatic Asylum, Knowle, Fareham.

PITTS, Mr. B., has been appointed Physician's Assistant at the Bethlem Royal Hospital for Lunatics, vice Beach, appointed Medical Superintendent of the Clapton Asylum for Idiots.

POWELL, E., M.R.C.S.E., has been appointed Second Assistant Medical Officer at the Essex Lunatic Asylum, Brentwood, *vice* Shone, resigned.

SECCOMBE, G. S., L.R.C.P.L., M.R.C.S.E., has been appointed Assistant Medical Officer to the Metropolitan District Asylum for Lunatics, Caterham, *vice* Younger, appointed Apothecary to the Middlesex Lunatic Asylum, Hanwell.

YOUNGER, E. G., L.R.C.P.L., M.R.C.S.E., has been appointed Apothecary to the Middlesex Lunatic Asylum, Hanwell, *vice* Williams, appointed Medical Superintendent of the North Wales Counties Lunatic Asylum, Denbigh.

A GOOD APPETITE.

An unfortunate lunatic, who died in the Prestwich Asylum on the 18th ult., seems to have lived not wisely but too well. A post-mortem examination led to the discovery of no fewer than 1,841 articles in his inside—namely, 1,639 shoemaker's sparables, 6 4-inch cut nails, 19 3-inch cut nails, 8 2½-inch cut nails, 18 2-inch cut nails, 40 ½-inch cut nails, 7 ⅜ inch cut nails, 39 tacks, 5 brass nails, 9 brass brace buttons, 20 pieces of buckles, 1 pin, 14 bits of glass, 10 small pebbles, 3 pieces of string, 1 piece of leather three inches long, one piece of lead four inches long, and one American pegging awl—the total 11lbs. 10ozs. It seems strange that any man's state of mind should be such that he could take as much pleasure in eating the contents of a rag-and-bottle shop as of a butcher's or pastrycook's establishment; but the story shews that if, as often alleged, the equilibrium of the mind is to a great extent dependent on the digestion, so the converse is true, that the

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appetite is, more than we are aware of, dependent on the condition of the brain. This poor lunatic, who gormandized on rusty nails, broken glass, and other rubbish, was probably little more mad than many other persons who habitually eat food, if not "unfit for human consumption," at least so injurious to the constitution that it causes premature death. If an alderman, for instance, were really in his right senses, he would not live on turtle and punch; it is because he is guided by appetite rather than by reason that he is so often afflicted with gout, and dies, universally respected, no doubt, but still before his time. The guests at any large dinner party are, as a rule, equally "crazed." They do not, it is true, swallow their knives and forks, or feed in quite such an extravagant fashion as the Prestwich lunatic, but the difference between him and them in the matter of sanity as regards their appetites and diet is a mere question of degree.—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

SALARIES OF OFFICERS OF PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.

At the monthly meeting of the Governors of the Clare District Hospital for the Insane on Saturday, the 13th of March, several applications of officers and servants of the Institution came under consideration. After considerable discussion, the applications were refused *in toto*, and the following resolution, proposed by Lord Dunboyne, and seconded by Lord Inchiquim, adopted unanimously:—"That in future if any officer or servant of Ennis Lunatic Asylum proposes to make an application for increase of salary, he should make such application on the 1st February each year, and that it should be accompanied with the resignation of the office."

CORRECTION.—In Dr. Ireland's article on "The Hallucinations of Mahomet and others," in the last number, read *corpora quadrigemina* for *optic thalami* in the reference to Dr. Luy's Theory of Hallucinations.

THE W. AND S. TUKE PRIZE ESSAY.

Some of the descendants of WILLIAM *and* SAMUEL TUKE *(the former of whom proposed the establishment of the York Retreat in* 1792, *and the latter wrote the "Description" of the humane system of treatment commenced there) having placed at the disposal of the Medico-Psychological Association the sum of One Hundred Guineas, the Association offers a prize of this amount for*

"The best series of original Cases and Commentary, illustrative of the Somatic Ætiology of various Forms of Insanity, accompanied, when possible, in fatal cases, by reports of post-mortem examinations and microscopical preparations—their bearing on the symptoms being pointed out."

Cases not seen by the writer may be cited, but must be distinguished from those actually witnessed by himself.

The W. *and* S. TUKE PRIZE *is open to all without restriction as to country, profession, &c., but the right is reserved to withhold it, should there be no essay of sufficient merit. Essays, to be written in English, and not in the author's handwriting, to be sent in a sealed envelope, bearing the motto of the essay, and containing the name of the writer, to the undersigned, not later than June 30th,* 1876. *The microscopical preparations, but not the essay, to belong to the Association.*

W. RHYS WILLIAMS, M.D.,
Hon. Sec.

Bethlem Royal Hospital, London.
Dec., 1874.

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