

THE MENTAL CONDITION OF PASSANANTE:—Tarantini the counsel for the defence of Passanante the would-be assassin of King Hubert of Italy, has asked for a commission of distinguished medico-psychologists, to enquire into the "psyc-moral state" of the criminal. The greatest respect, to their honor be it said, is always paid by both the Bench and the Bar of Italy to the opinion of the medico-psychologist.

APPOINTMENTS.—Dr. A. C. Smith has been appointed a member of the Board of health of Tracadie Lazaretto, N.B. Dr. Blackader has been appointed one of the attending physicians to the Montreal Dispensary. Dr. Beemer of the London Asylum, has been appointed resident physician to the branch asylum for refractory patients, London, and Dr. Brown of Beachville has been appointed to fill the position formerly occupied by Dr. Beemer.

The following medical gentlemen among others of the laity have been appointed Inspectors of Licenses for the following districts:—J. Kelley, M.D., Algoma; R. Parker, M.D., Hastings, N.R.; L. Harvey, M.D., Lambton, E.R.; A. McLean, M.D., Lambton, W.R.; W. McGill, M.D., Ontario, S.R.; J. F. Dowling, M.D., Renfrew, S. R.; and J. Ferguson, M.D., Russell.

CORONERS.—Byron Field, M.D., of Duffin's Creek, to be an Associate Coroner for the County of Ontario. W. F. Jackson, M.D., of Brockville to be an Associate Coroner for the Counties of Leeds and Grenville. B. F. Pearson, M.D., of Queensville, to be an Associate Coroner for the County of York. J. S. Munger, M.D., of Rodney, to be an Associate Coroner for the County of Elgin. H. Ross, M. D., of Brigden, to be an Associate Coroner for the County of Lambton. D. W. Ferrier, M. D., of Brougham, to be an Associate Coroner for the County of Ontario.

MEDICAL EXAMINERS, TORONTO UNIVERSITY.—Dr. Osler, Montreal, Physiology and Comparative Anatomy; Dr. Malloch, Hamilton, Surgery and Anatomy; Dr. Joseph Workman, Medicine and Therapeutics; Dr. D. Clarke, Midwifery and Medical Jurisprudence; Dr. W. H. Ellis, Chemistry; Dr. C. S. Minot, Boston, Botany.

The death of Dr. Herman Beigel of Vienna is announced in our British exchanges.

PARTNERSHIP.—Dr. M. McCrimmon, graduate of McGill College has entered into partnership with Dr. Buck of Palermo, in the practice of medicine.

The University of Dublin has lately conferred the degree of LL.D. *honoris causa* upon Lord Dufferin, Earle Rosse and Prof. Roscoe, the distinguished chemist.

Dr. J. B. Biddle, Prof. of Materia Medica in Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, died on the 19th ult., after a short illness.

Books and Pamphlets.

LECTURES ON BRIGHT'S DISEASE OF THE KIDNEY. Translated by H. B. Millard, M. D. New York: Wm Wood & Co. Toronto: Willing & Williamson.

This able work by Dr. Charcot, is divided into seven lectures, treating of the following subjects;—1. Normal Anatomy; 2. The same subject continued, with physiological considerations; 3. Tubular Infarctus of Kidney, Urinary Casts, Summary of Bright's views; 4. Contracted Kidney (Interstitial nephritis); 5. Subject continued; 6. Large, White Kidney (Parenchymatous nephritis); 7. Scarlatinous nephritis, (Amyloid kidney). In the third lecture Dr. Charcot pays great attention to the subject of urinary casts; he considers that information being derived from them of the anatomical condition of the tubes whose internal moulds they represent as practically open to doubt. That only the casts formed in Henle's loops or in the junctional canals and collecting tubes, can, according to all appearances, pass into the urine, on account of the small calibre of the descending branch of the loop. That this fact detracts greatly from the value of clinical investigation of casts, since the very ones whose existence it would be of the most importance to discover, seldom find their way into the urine. That they are not, therefore, faithful messengers, announcing to the clinical observer the anatomical condition of the kidney—mirrors reflecting the various renal lesions. Hyaline casts may be found in the urine in normal condition; they may be met with when there is no albuminuria, and the lesions of Bright's disease may exist without any casts being found in the