

camp at Colchester, Staff Assistant-Surgeons Connell, W. A. Mackinnon, Philip Frank, M.D., T. Dolan, Julius Wiles, A. Macintyre, A. Bryson, W. J. Mullen, J. Anderson, E. Armstrong; and Assistant-Surgeon E. L. Hiffernan, 1st Batt. 19th foot. Deputy Inspector-General T. D. Hume, M.D., will succeed Dr. Muir at Chatham.

EDITORIAL SUMMARY.

Cruelty at Hanwell Asylum.—Despite of the extreme care displayed generally in securing the mildest treatment of the unfortunate victims of mental alienation, it is found difficult sometimes to ensure the same on the part of the keepers or domestics of the asylums. A deplorable instance of brutal treatment, attended with death, has lately been disclosed at the Hanwell Asylum, which formed the subject of a coroner's inquest. The unfortunate patient's name was Matthew Geoghegan—the keeper's name, Jones; and it was deposed to that he was accidentally seen by two spectators to kick the poor lunatic three times while lying on the ground; he then beat him on the back with a shovel, and drew him by the legs into the middle of the room. He then mounted on the deceased, and walked backwards and forwards on him. He then took hold of his legs, dragged him to the door-way, and twisted him round by the heels. Jones finally took the unhappy man by the head, knocked it three or four times on the stone floor, and kicked him two or three times on the bottom of his belly. Drs. Begbie and Jephson, the medical officers of the asylum, at the inquest, testified to the existence of most extensive bruises, one especially of a peculiar shape on the abdomen, which exactly fitted the heel of a boot. The unfortunate man was very much paralysed. The bruises gradually subsided, but he was very weak, and never recovered.

To add to the infamy of this outrage, it appears that the patient was "very imbecile and troublesome, but *not violent*." The medical evidence at the inquest could not connect in a direct manner the cause of death, which was pleuropneumonia, with the injuries inflicted by the keeper, so the jury could not bring in a verdict of manslaughter. It is too bad, however, that in one of the most important Lunatic Asylums in England, such brutal practices could obtain, and the perpetrators of them go "unwhipt of justice." The *Lancet*, from which we have abridged the foregoing, very properly observes in its concluding remarks, "It is difficult to conceive that a man capable of such a brutal outrage, could have generally conducted himself to the patients under his care with the humanity which ought to be ensured to them; or to suppose that the first offence publicly proved is also the first committed against, them. The recurrence of such exceptional horrors must stain the character of the Institution at which they occur, and the justly profound impression which such exposures produce, involves in a general censure all the authorities of the asylum. It is said the authority of the medical superintendent over the subordinate officers is unwisely restricted. If this is the case the responsibility for such deplorable events as have recently occurred, must rest elsewhere."

Case of numerous Fractures.—Dr. F. Davidson, of Barking, Essex, reports the following extraordinary case of numerous fractures. The boy fell through the roof of a large ice house, and sustained the following injuries:—Compound comminuted fracture of the right thigh; comminuted fracture of the left thigh; simple fracture of the radius of the left arm; simple fractures of the radius and ulna of the right arm; loss of four upper incisor teeth with portion of the alveolar process; severe contusion of the right eyebrow. The boy survived the accident seven days.

Benefaction to an Hospital.—On leaving Bristol lately, Madame Jenny Lind Goldschmidt, enclosed a cheque for £310 18s. 2d. to the mayor, as proceeds of