

is so truly the cause of rebellious intestinal disorders, comprising, among others, muco-membranous colopathy, that these disorders are often cured radically by the removal of an appendix in which the lesions discovered appear to be of a doubtful character.

**Insanity a Disease and Insanity an Infirmary.**—At a meeting of the Société de Biologie, Paris, May 4th, 1907, Dr. L. Marchand drew a distinction between insanity considered as a disease and insanity considered as an infirmity. In acute cases of mental alienation there are diffuse brain lesions, involving the brain cells on the meninges and the brain cells. Such cases when properly treated at the commencement of an attack often recover. In a certain number of cases the brain lesions pass into a chronic stage; they may even cease to progress; but all the same, the brain is spoiled. Patients affected with lesions of this kind become weak in the brain rather than positively insane. Finally, there are insane patients who have no lesion of the brain, but who have always been abnormal; whose brains have developed in a vicious manner, who were born with weak brains.

J. J. C.

---

#### OBITUARY.

---

THE many friends in this city of Mr. Thomas Macfarlane, F.R.S.C., Chief Analyst of the Inland Revenue Department, Ottawa, will be grieved to hear of his sudden death in Ottawa a few weeks ago. Mr. Macfarlane had been at Rockliffe, and had run a short distance to catch a train, when he stopped and suddenly expired.

The deceased, who was seventy-three years of age, had been with the Department for twenty-one years, and had only recently been granted six months' leave of absence, with the understanding that superannuation would follow. He leaves a widow and six daughters, one of the latter being Mrs. J. M. R. Fairbairn, 115 Bernard Avenue.