

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO

Royal Edinburgh Asylum

The report of the Physician-Superintendent (Dr Clouston) was presented at the annual meeting of the Corporation held on February 24th. From this it appeared that 884 patients were under treatment on December 31st, 1895. One hundred and two private patients (80 of these into the New Craig House) and 308 rate-paid patients had been admitted during the year; 12 patients were admitted to Craig House as voluntary patients, the largest number of voluntary patients hitherto known. As usual, 80 per cent of the cases admitted were there from "mental worry," "domestic troubles,"

"sorrow," "shock," "adverse circumstances," etc. Intemperance headed the list of physical causes with no fewer than 37 cases. Influenza still was a power of evil, and gave 15 cases. Reference was made to New Craig House, and the excellent effect of its almost ideal conditions of treatment. Dr Clouston hoped the negotiations now in progress would lead to a diminution of the over-crowding of the rate-paid wards, and consequently to their difficulty in admitting all the poorer private patients who applied for admission.

References

British Medical Journal, February 1896, 547.

Researched by Henry Rollin, Emeritus Consultant Psychiatrist, Horton Hospital, Epsom, Surrey