

"Eames Fund" has been started, and we would enlist the sympathies of our readers on behalf of the subjoined appeal:—

THE LATE DR. EAMES.

SIR,—It having come to the knowledge of some of the friends of the late Dr. Eames, Resident Medical Superintendent of the Cork District Lunatic Asylum, that his family, owing to his premature and unexpected death, is left in a very unprovided-for position, it was resolved, at a meeting held at the Mayor's Office, Cork, on the 22nd inst., the Mayor in the chair—

"That this fact should be brought under the notice of Dr. Eames' many friends in Cork and elsewhere, in the hope that a testimonial of a substantial character may be subscribed for, in order to give such assistance as would help towards completing the education of the younger members of the family, and for other purposes."

To carry out this laudable object, a committee was appointed, to whom subscriptions may be sent, as also to the different Banks in Cork.

Earnestly soliciting your co-operation,

Signed on behalf of the Committee,

J. H. CRONIN, }
J. G. CURTIS, M.D., } Hon. Secs.

Mayor's Office, Cork,
27th July, 1886.

JOSEPH LALOR, M.D.

It is our painful task to record in our obituary the death of another Irish member of our Association, the late Medical Superintendent of the Richmond Asylum, Dublin, the excellent and kind-hearted Dr. Joseph Lalor. He may be said to have died in harness, having been engaged till within a few weeks of his death in the duties which occupied his time and thought for so many years. Formerly Resident Physician at the Kilkenny Asylum, he was appointed in 1857 to the Dublin Asylum, which is the public institution for poor lunatics in the counties of Dublin, Wicklow, and Louth, the town of Drogheda as well as the city of Dublin.

It is stated on good authority* that at that period, refractory patients were confined in cells for most of the day as well as the night, receiving their food in such a way as best suited the convenience of the attendants. Open-air exercise was rarely permitted, and then only in the dark confined yards or sheds surrounded by stone walls. All this was changed by Dr. Lalor; better grounds were prepared, games were introduced, and the general comfort of the patients was attended to. Dr. Lalor, as is well known, enthusiastically carried out the school system at the Richmond Asylum, and it was an unceasing source of regret to him that so few superintendents would take the necessary trouble to secure its success.

It should be stated that for two years before he became Superintendent a school had been in operation on the female side under an excellent school-mistress. It was Dr. Lalor who introduced the same system for the male patients, and he obtained additional teachers, trained under the National Board, for the female school. Singing and music were much cultivated, while object and picture lessons were given, as well as others in natural history and geography. At the Exhibition held some years ago in Dublin, drawings, paintings, and industrial work, all executed by the patients, attracted considerable attention. Along with the schools, concerts were given every fortnight, or even weekly, which, common as they now are, were rare when Dr. Lalor organized

* See the "Irish Times," August 5, 1886, to which we are indebted for some of the particulars which follow.

them. The furnishing of the rooms and corridors was vastly improved, although, probably, many English asylums appear to better advantage than the Richmond at its best. But Irish asylums must be judged in this particular by the homes of the class of Irish from which the patients come, and there can be no question that the furniture of the Dublin Asylum was superior to that in the homes of the pauper patients there resident.

On other points than those to which we have referred, such as that of the almost complete abolition of single bedrooms and airing-courts, and the bringing of patients together at dinner, Dr. Lalor entertained strong opinions, and introduced important changes into the asylum. In the last report of the Sligo Asylum, Dr. Petit, formerly Assistant Superintendent of the Dublin Asylum, bears testimony to what he learnt under his old and greatly beloved friend, and to the successful adoption of Dr. Lalor's practice in regard to single rooms and airing-courts (see Retrospect of Asylums in this number of the Journal).

It may, in short, be said that Dr. Lalor's administration was a great success, and no one could visit the institution and the Superintendent without being struck with the general comfort of the patients, and the very small number—if, indeed, there were any—that were lounging about or squatting on the ground dirty and unoccupied; while the man himself could not fail to impress the visitor with his wonderful good nature, fund of spirits and humour, and the complete devotion of his mind to the interests of the patients. During his long period of office he retained the confidence of the Board, the affection of the staff, and, indeed, of all with whom he came in contact.

Although his work drew naturally to a close at his advanced period of life, his loss will be deplored, and it could have been wished that he might have enjoyed a period of well-earned repose in his retirement from the active duties of asylum life ere the fatal scissors cut the thread of the genial doctor's life in two. He retired to Sligo, where, after a short illness, he expired. He had suffered from weakness of the heart for some years past. He became ill in the early part of the night of the 16th of August, having gone to bed as usual, but woke up at half-past ten complaining of spasms of the heart. Three members of the profession were called in, but they saw at once that his case was beyond the reach of medical skill. He passed away at half-past eight on the following day, August 17, 1886.

The Asylum is fortunate in securing, as the successor of the lamented Dr. Lalor, a man of experience and proved ability, Dr. Conolly Norman, who will doubtless preserve all that was good under the late *régime*, and may be able to introduce more clinical teaching, and that special scientific work which is expected from younger men.

M. LEGRAND DU SAULLE, M.D.

This distinguished physician died at Paris, May 6, 1886, aged 56. Born at Dijon, he was formerly *interne* at the asylum there, and subsequently at Rouen and Charenton. After going to Paris he was Trousseau's collaborateur in the "Gazette des Hôpitaux," to which he contributed many papers. He became physician to the Bicêtre in 1867, and afterwards was appointed to the Salpêtrière. He was the author of many works, among which were:—*La Folie devant les tribunaux*, 1884; *Le Délire des persécutions*, 1873; *La Folie héréditaire*, 1873; *La Folie du doute*, 1875; *Études Médico-légales sur les épileptiques*, 1877; *Étude Clinique sur la peur des espaces (agoraphobie)*, 1878; *Signes physiques des folies raisonnantes*, 1878; *Étude médico-légale sur les testaments; Contestes pour cause de folie*, 1879; *Étude médico-légale sur l'interdiction des aliénés et sur le conseil judiciaire*, 1881; *Les Hystériques*, 1883; *Traité de médecine légale*, 1881.