

News and Notes

THE FRENCH MEDICAL CONGRESS.—The fourteenth French congress of physicians, alienists, and neurologists will be held at Paris from the 1st to the 7th of August next. The following questions will be discussed in order: 1. Psychopathic insanities; 2. Motor localizations in the medulla; 3. Steps to be taken against criminal alienists.

PRESIDENT OF CENTRAL KENTUCKY ASYLUM.—At a meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Central Kentucky Insane Asylum on March 10th, W. H. Newman was elected president for the coming year, and Dr. M. K. Allen was reelected vice-president.

CANADIAN INSTITUTION CHANGES NAME.—The New Brunswick legislature has before it a bill to change the name of the Provincial Lunatic Asylum to the New Brunswick Provincial Hospital for the Cure of Nervous Diseases. The commissioners are authorized to employ two disinterested and competent physicians, who, with the superintendent, shall examine all patients entering and leaving the institution. It is also proposed that even where a certificate of insanity has been granted by two physicians the superintendent may refuse admission if he has doubts, and consult a physician outside of the regular attendants.

REQUESTED APPROPRIATION FOR MARYLAND HOSPITAL.—The authorities of the Springfield (Maryland) Hospital for the Insane are asking for \$100,000 to be applied to buildings, and for \$40,000 as the sum necessary for maintenance.

DR. WEIR MITCHELL IN A NEW RÔLE.—Dr. S. Weir Mitchell is writing for the *Century Magazine* an article entitled, "The Youth of Washington Told in the Form of an Autobiography." An excellent reproduction of a painted portrait of Dr. Mitchell accompanies the first instalment.

LARGE APPROPRIATIONS FOR PSYCHOPATHIC INSTITUTIONS.—In some nine different States of the Union nearly \$1,500,000 is about to be spent for the erection of buildings for the insane. In New York State for this purpose between \$600,000 and \$900,000 are being expended annually. Plans are laid for new institutions at Norwich, Conn.; Allentown, Pa., and Parsons, Kansas. Additions are being made to asylums in Morristown and Harrisburg, Pa.; Spring Grove and Sykesburg, Md.; Dunning and Watertown, Ill.; Lyone View, Tenn.; Hopkinsville, Ky.; San José, Cal.; Eloise, Mich.; Las Vegas, New Mex.; Norfolk, Neb., and Pineville, La.

PROPOSED APPOINTMENT OF SANITARY INSPECTORS FOR ELLIS ISLAND.—In behalf of the New York State Commission in Lunacy a bill was introduced at Albany providing for sanity inspectors at Ellis Island. The purpose is to return all foreigners who through mental incapacity are likely to become a public charge in American institutions. It is said that the U. S. Commissioner of Immigration is in favor of the proposal, and that such permission as is necessary for the establishment of the plan would be readily granted by our general government.

PENNSYLVANIA ASYLUM CONDEMNED.—Dr. G. I. McLeod, secretary of the Pennsylvania State Lunacy Commission, has said that the Schuyl-

kill County Insane Asylum of that State is unfit for use. The buildings are old, dilapidated, and overcrowded, and as many as eight men are obliged to occupy a room 9 by 16 feet. The authorities have refused to take in any more patients, but when sent there by the Court they must be received, and conditions are becoming worse.

STATE HOME FOR EPILEPTICS IN TEXAS.—A magnificent institution provided by the State of Texas for her epileptic charges has been formally opened at Abilene in that State. It is built on the cottage plan, and has accommodations for 250 patients. Dr. John Preston, formerly superintendent at the State Asylum in Austin, is in charge. The legislature has appropriated \$250,000 for carrying on the work, a sum greater than is provided for by any other State save New York. Epileptics now cared for in three State asylums, at Austin, San Antonio, and Terrell, will be transferred. Those still in homes or jails will be taken in later, in order of application.

DR. ERCOLE PUSATERI, privat-docent in the Faculty of Medicine at Pavia, has been appointed privat-docent of psychiatry at Palermo.

The following were appointed privat-docent at Parma: Drs. Francesco Marino (neurology and psychiatry) and Giuseppe Felice Gardenghi (hygiene).

APPOINTMENT OF DR. MABON.—Dr. William Mabon has been appointed President of the State Commission in Lunacy of New York State. In our April number we announced the appointment of Dr. Pilgrim, but we have since learned that Dr. Pilgrim declined. Dr. Mabon is too well known to need introduction to our readers. The State of New York has been particularly fortunate in the appointment of so able a man, who has the ability and power to carry on the splendid work begun by Dr. Peterson.