

ishment of a State Asylum for the "Chronic Insane,"\* thus sanctioning the principle contended for by Dr. Workman. The whole report of the Medical Superintendent will be found, as usual, well deserving of the attentive consideration of all who are interested in the social and psychological questions of which it so ably treats.

#### ROCKWOOD CRIMINAL LUNATIC ASYLUM.

The Board held regular quarterly meetings at this Institution, and on each of those occasions thoroughly inspected every part of it. In the interval between these meetings of the Board the Asylum was visited almost every month by the Inspector who made the monthly visit to the Penitentiary. The Inspectors upon every occasion had reason to be satisfied with the state in which they found the Institution.

The building of the west wing has progressed satisfactorily, and it is hoped that by the fall of the present year it will be ready for the reception of patients. The building will then be able to accommodate about 300.

The labor of superintending the extensive building operations at Rockwood, and other matters connected therewith, was found, as the Board anticipated, more than Mr. Coverdale could satisfactorily perform. The Government, therefore, early in 1866, on the advice of the Board, associated with Mr. Coverdale, Mr. Powers of Kingston, an architect of intelligence and high standing, as joint architects of the Asylum. These gentlemen have worked together very harmoniously, and under their joint superintendence the buildings have made rapid progress. The architects have given their most careful attention to all details, particularly to the important matters of heating and lighting the building, and of supplying it with water from the Lake.

The Medical Superintendent in his report again takes up the subject of the expediency of making this Asylum the General Lunatic Asylum for the Eastern section of Upper Canada.

The Superintendent shews that by an evasion, or rather an abuse, of the law relating to "Criminal Lunatics" (as the Statute terms them), Rockwood is now practically the Asylum for all the lunatic population of the Eastern section of Upper Canada. Of the whole number of patients sent to the Institution from all Upper Canada, four-fifths are from the Counties to the East of Kingston. The evils that result to the unfortunate lunatics from this state of things, will be readily understood when it is remembered that in order to bring their cases within the *letter* of the law relating to the so-called Criminal or dangerous Lunatics, they must be sent to a gaol before they can be taken into Rockwood. In these gaols, the very worst places where lunatics could possibly be placed, they are frequently detained weeks and sometimes months before their removal to Rockwood can be effected.

It is almost needless to add that the Board are entirely agreed with the able Medical Superintendent in his views on the matter. Indeed they have already in former reports strongly advocated making this Asylum the General Asylum for the Eastern part of Upper Canada.

#### ORILLIA LUNATIC ASYLUM.

This Institution was visited and thoroughly inspected by the Board in the month of July. It was also visited during the year by one or more of the Inspectors.

The affairs of the Institution continue to be carried on to the satisfaction of the Board. In the month of February the Asylum narrowly escaped destruction by fire. The house in which the fire broke out, situated in the immediate vicinity of the Asylum, was entirely burnt down, and the Asylum itself was saved from destruction mainly through the efficiency of the hose attachment to the steam engine, which had been purchased during the preceding year for the Institution.

\*See an able and exhaustive pamphlet on the subject, entitled "On Provision for the Insane Poor of the State of New York," by Charles A. Lee, M.D.