

Beauport Lunatic Asylum is no longer what it was at the time of our controversy with Dr. Douglas; we observed in the old building some of the cells had been enlarged; we believe what formerly constituted two cells is at the present day one; with regard to the cells themselves, they open into corridors, receiving their light and air from the latter; this may be regarded, and is without question faulty in principle. The Inspectors in their report advise the establishment of insane Hospitals for the treatment of curable cases, and have other establishments for the maintenance and care of incurables. So long as these unfortunates are forced to undergo a certain probation of prison life before removal to an asylum, so long will the cases of incurables augment to an alarming degree. The disease insanity is at the outset amenable to treatment, with every hope of a successful issue. In proof we can adduce numerous instances, among the better class, where those thus afflicted have been sent without delay to asylums in the United States, and the most happy results followed judicious treatment and isolation. The necessity of guarding against the abuse of establishments of this character will be freely admitted, but the incarceration in an asylum, of an individual not really insane, is a result which we regard as extremely improbable; and we think that society is over-scrupulous in offering such opposition to the speedy care of those afflicted, without having gone through a certain routine to enable them to be legally sent to an institution for which they are alone fitted.

Under the heading Asylum Accommodation, we notice in the Inspectors' report, that they point out the urgent necessity of increased room, not in any one asylum, but in the system of asylum buildings.

"The Inspectors have frequently taken occasion, in former Reports, to point out the pressing need of increased accommodation for the insane in both Upper and Lower Canada. In their Report for 1864, they devoted a special memorandum to this very important topic. In reverting to the matter this year, the Inspectors have great pleasure in calling special attention to the remarks contained in the Report of the Superintendent of the Provincial Lunatic Asylum. Dr. Workman discusses this large and difficult question in all its bearings—social, medical and economic—with his accustomed force and practical ability.

"It may be remembered that in their Report for 1864, the Inspectors strongly recommended—

"1. The completion of the Provincial Lunatic Asylum at Toronto, by the construction of the wings, etc., as proposed in the original design.

"2. The completion of the Rockwood Asylum, with exception of certain wings not then commenced; and—