

once with the University building. It is not probable that the city will feel disposed to undertake this charge.

It is my belief, not based on very defective data, nor arrived at before mature consideration, that the extent of provision required for all the insane in Upper Canada is very large, and I am very doubtful if any increase of this provision, likely to be conceded by our government or legislature, will ever approximate the requirement. The number of lunatics at present provided *with Asylum lodgment is now nearly three times as great as it was eleven years ago, and yet I doubt if the number not in asylums is any less than it was then.*

The future provision for the insane in Western Canada is a question demanding serious and discreet consideration. Any one who believes that the whole problem finds solution in the erection of a new asylum, or the enlargement of an existing one, will in a very short time discover his error. I believe that were a new asylum provided for each of the old districts of Upper Canada—the Eastern, Midland, Prince Edward, Newcastle, Home, Gore, Wellington, London and Western—it would be found, in ten years after opening, that they would be all full. Suppose each of these nine asylums to contain 400 patients, which is a high number, the total would be only 3,600 patients; and supposing that in the next  $12\frac{1}{2}$  years the population of the province will increase as much as in the past  $12\frac{1}{2}$ , and that the general incidence of insanity shall be equal only to one-half that of the city of Toronto, there would be in this period about 8,000 claimants for asylum lodgment, or 666 annually—or 74 for each of the nine asylums. For a few years, should all the asylums start simultaneously, and immediately, instant admission of all applicants could be awarded; but every year there would be left on hands a certain proportion of those admitted. Before twenty years further action would be called for; and if the present system of fiscal provision be continued, the provincial chest must again be drawn upon, until at length the amount required for annual maintenance and for new erections, would be so formidable as to awaken the inquisitive faculties of even the most benevolent Minister of Finance, slumbering over a plethoric public chest.

It was, no doubt, very right, at the initiation of a system of