

tion has been devoted during the last six years, they have thought it desirable (at the risk of being charged with needlessly repeating themselves) to enunciate once more very briefly their views in reference to the measures required for the more efficient conduct and management of the several classes of institutions which have come under their supervision.

For the same reason the suggestions which the Inspectors have already given in reference to these several classes of institutions (slightly modified or added to in some cases), will be repeated in this, their final Report; but the Inspectors do not think it necessary to reiterate the arguments which they have urged in former reports in support of their suggestions.

The usual statistical Tabular Appendices are annexed. That relating to the Common Gaols will be found immediately preceding the part of the Report which relates expressly to those institutions.

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## LUNATIC ASYLUMS IN UPPER CANADA.

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### PROVINCIAL LUNATIC ASYLUM.

This institution was visited by the Board twice during the month of July, and again during the month of October. In the intervals between these visits it was inspected frequently by one or more members of the Board.

It is again the pleasing duty of the Inspectors to record their entire satisfaction with the manner in which this vast Provincial Institution continues to be conducted by its able, humane, and experienced Medical Superintendent. In their Report for the year 1865, the Inspectors expressed their very deep regret at the enfeebled state of health of this most valuable public officer. It would have been a source of unfeigned satisfaction to the Board could they report that his health had materially improved during the past year. This, unfortunately, is not the case. The labor and anxiety incident to the administration of such an institution were greatly increased during the past year, in consequence of the erection of the new wings and hospitals. Other causes also combined to increase the physical and mental labor of the Superintendent during the year, and the Board were consequently more grieved than surprised to find at their visit to the Asylum, in the month of July, that the state of health of that officer was such as to make it imperative that he should allow himself some relaxation. They accordingly recommended strongly to the Executive Government that Dr. Workman should be permitted and requested to absent himself from the Institution for such periods during the summer as the affairs of the institution would permit. This permission was readily and promptly granted, but was not, unfortunately, taken advantage of, to the extent which the Board should have wished, by the Superintendent himself. The Inspectors allow themselves to hope that Dr. Workman may yet be able to preside, for many years, over the institution which for upwards of fourteen years he has conducted with so much success.

The new Hospitals were vigorously pushed on during the year, and it is expected that during the present year they will be ready for occupation. Considerable progress has also been made with both the wings.

The Medical Superintendent follows up in his present report the subject discussed in that for 1865, as to the necessity of establishing in Upper Canada several Secondary Lunatic Asylums for "chronic insane, or harmless incurables." This important and difficult question urgently demands the immediate and earnest consideration of our philanthropists and statesmen. For some years past it has been very fully discussed by some of the ablest physicians and others interested in such questions both in Europe and in America. In the United States, the Legislature of New York, in 1865, on a special report made by the late Dr. Willard, after a patient and full investigation into the condition of the insane poor in the asylums, gaols, poor-houses, and elsewhere, in that State, authorized the estab-