

claimants for admission, had become a public exigency not to be disregarded. It is an interesting coincidence, that in Canada this plan should have been initiated simultaneously with the very same in several places in England; and it is gratifying to know, that there, as here, it has proved, so far, satisfactory. It will continue satisfactory so long as these appendages are regulated and managed as the parent institutions are, *and no longer*. The success of our University Branch, and of the more recently established Malden Branch, has not been a matter of accident. The former has been conducted as a neighboring appendage of the chief Asylum, and has been under the immediate charge of a humane and experienced Steward, who learned his duties in the chief Asylum, and who was placed in his present position, solely because of his fitness for the office. The latter has been organized by Dr. Fisher, a gentleman eminently qualified for the duties of Superintendent, from his intimate acquaintance with nearly all the patients, acquired during his residence in the chief Asylum, as assistant physician, and from his amiable and benevolent disposition, conjoined with administrative tact, rarely perhaps exceeded. He has by his skill in the direction of the labour of his patients, and by his ingenuity and untiring industry, saved the public much expense in the preparation of the buildings and premises, and I am certain that his highest pleasure is the happiness of all under his care. In recommending him, I felt that I was faithfully meeting the wishes of the Government, by whom I was consulted; fitness for the office, was the sole consideration stipulated.

The close affiliation of our Branch Asylums, with the parent institution, will be a matter of vital importance to the well-being of their inmates, and to the public interests. If they continue to be conducted on enlightened and humane

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