

THE INSANE IN CANADA.

By D. HACK TUKE, F.R.C.P.

Under this head I propose to give my impressions of the condition of the insane in Canada, derived during a visit made to the Dominion in August last.

The Insane in Ontario.

There were, on the 30th September, 1883, 2,825 patients in the Provincial Asylums of Ontario. This is an increase of 83, or 3·02 per cent. over the previous year. There were two less in the Insane Asylums of the Kingston Penitentiary, and the insane in jails, awaiting removal, were fewer, viz., 34 instead of 47. There were 23 patients at home on trial. In all there were 3,070 insane and idiotic persons officially recognised, being 137 more than in the previous year.

They were thus distributed :—

	M.	F.	Total.
Toronto Asylum	358	345	703
London Asylum	440	455	895
Kingston Asylum	230	219	449
Hamilton Asylum	246	301	547
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Total insane in Asylums	1,274	1,320	2,594
Asylum for Idiots at Orillia *	122	109	231
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Total	1,396	1,429	2,825
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Insane Convicts in Kingston Penitentiary	29	2	31
Insane Idiots in Common Jails	21	13	34
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Total	1,446	1,444	2,890

If to the above numbers are added the patients whose names are on the files for admission into the above asylums, viz., 157, and the number of patients out on probation, viz., 23, we obtain the total number known to the authorities at the above date, viz., 3,070.

Dr. O'Reilly, of Toronto, the Inspector of Asylums, who provided me with this information, states that there were 2,837 beds in the asylums of the Province; so that as 2,825 patients were resident at the time of this return, and a certain number were out on trial, it is clear that at that period the capacity of the institutions was pretty fully reached. More recently additional buildings have been erected, but

* On Lake Simcoe. Dr. Beaton is the superintendent.