

turnips, cabbages, &c.) produced on the land, is very large—more potatoes, I believe, than they consume. Maize, wheat, oats and buckwheat are raised. The estate consists of 600 acres. There are a large number of cows, and the asylum buys beasts to fatten and kill, thereby saving a considerable sum. I was informed that about fifty patients were usually employed out of doors, and more in harvest time. That such an establishment should be conducted by nuns must seem remarkable to those who are unacquainted with the large part taken by Sisters of Charity in the management of hospitals in countries where the influence of the Roman Catholic Church extends. Theoretically, it would seem to be an admirable system, and to afford, in this way, a wide field for the employment of women in occupations congenial to their nature, and calculated to confer great advantages upon the sick, whether in mind or body. That women have an important *rôle* in this field will not be denied; but experience proves only too surely that to entrust those of a religious order with administrative power is a practical mistake, and leads to abuses which ultimately necessitate the intervention of the civil power.

The asylum consists of a succession of corridors and rooms similarly arranged, there being dining rooms, recesses, and single and associate dormitories. There are four stories uniform in construction, exclusive of the basement and the rooms in the roof, and these four are supplied with open outer galleries or verandahs, protected by palisades. The lower stories are clean and well furnished, and the patients appeared to be comfortable. The apartments of the private patients were, of course, the best furnished. It was curious to see in the day rooms on the male side a nun with a female assistant. They are in the wards all day, and sleep together in another part of the building. In the refractory ward for men there were two male attendants, and in the other wards one male attendant, in addition to the two females. In each ward on the women's side there were two assistants with the nun in charge, and in the refractory gallery there were three assistants. The nuns and female assistants are not paid. The corridors, the width of which was fair, were carpeted down the