

NOTE III.—Appointment, Powers, and Duties of Inspectors.

The Canadian Statutes 22 Vict., cap. 110, prescribe accurately the mode of appointment and the powers and duties of such a general board of inspectors as might advantageously be initiated in the large colonies.

In those smaller dependencies in which it might not be practicable to establish salaried boards, it would be necessary to reduce the amount of the inspector's duties, which might extend to—

- i. Making rules with regard to matters not provided for by the standing regulations.
- ii. Summary suspension of any officer except the medical chief.
- iii. Stated and occasional inspections.
- iv. The consideration of all reports and returns made by the chiefs or subordinate officers; and
- v. Making reports, at stated periods, of the condition and requirements of the institutions.

It is to be observed that the Canadian Act makes the inspectors responsible for the condition of the institutions. However good a precedent that Act may supply in other respects, to follow it in this would be to stultify a reformation the main object of which is to fix the responsibility on those who can be most easily and effectually reached; in other words, on one person instead of on several. It is true that if the boards are salaried, any member can be made practically answerable to whom individually a fault or omission can be brought home; but if the medical superintendent is to have the executive powers, he ought also to be responsible for their exercise, and in holding him so responsible there will be no difficulties of shifting or apportionment of blame. Though, therefore, it cannot be worth while to interfere on this one account with a generally successful system, such a provision ought not to be introduced into new constitutions.

NOTE IV.—Form of Medical Certificate for admission into a Lunatic Asylum in use in Nova Scotia (appended to No. 2,609, March 3, 1863).

I, the undersigned^a
 being^b _____ and in actual practice, hereby certify that I,
^a Place, _____ on the _____ day of _____ 18 _____, at^c _____,
^d County, &c. _____ in^d _____, personally examined _____,
^e Residence, _____ of^e _____, _____ and that the said _____
^f Occupation, _____ is a person of unsound mind, and a proper person to be taken charge of and detained under
 care and treatment; and that I have formed this opinion upon the following grounds,
 viz.:—

- ^a 1. Appearance.
2. Conduct.
3. Conversation.

^b State the information, and from whom.

1. Facts indicating insanity observed by myself; ^a
2. Facts indicating insanity communicated to me by others; ^b

(Signed)

Dated at _____

Two certificates are required in every case. Each examination to be separate.

NOTE.—All such certificates ought to be made upon oath, for better security.