

really to be regretted that his brains had not been knocked out with his wits—as death, in our opinion, would be far preferable to the miserable existence to which he is condemned, and which is likely to become a permanent and settled mania, as in his present condition, he is deprived of all chance of recovery, from the very nature of his surroundings, as well as the absence of all attempts at treatment. Mania, to be treated at all with a chance of benefit, must be treated early in the attack. We ask, is this a single instance? We fear not; indeed we know that cases of acute mania have been retained in the cells of our city prison, until the period has passed when the chance of benefit could have followed judicious treatment. So long as there are no means at hand for the proper care and treatment of this class of disease, so long may we anticipate a repetition of such cases; and, as a result, the necessity of support, by the people of Canada, of a class of incurables who, had proper means been at hand, might have recovered from their malady, and returned to the industrial population.

These are questions of serious moment, to be taken up and gone into with a heart and will by the philanthropist and political economist. There is no need shirking the question; it will have to be considered before long; but delay is dangerous, nay, it is worse—criminal. Communities as well as individuals are answerable for their acts; and no single act of injustice passes unrecorded and unpunished, while there is a God above us who gives us the means and teaches us how to employ them.

PROFESSIONAL REMUNERATION.

After we had written the article under the above head, which appeared in the December issue of the Journal, but before the number had reached our subscribers, the question of regulating and equalizing the fees of physicians and surgeons practising in Montreal, was brought forward at a regular meeting of the Medico-Chirurgical Society, and a brief discussion thereon took place. It seemed to be the general opinion of the members present, that, considering the high price of every necessary of life, some slight increase in the amount of professional fees should be made; but, *above all*, that there should be a good understanding among the profession, as to what should be charged for professional services, and the agreement adhered to. We have so freely expressed our views upon this subject that we will not again enter at length upon it; yet we cannot but feel that this matter is one of the very highest importance to the profession, and one concerning which action should have been taken several years ago. We are aware of the delicacy of the subject, and of