

with the inmates of an insane hospital, than with those outside who are called sane. I believe there is no asylum superintendent who would not rather undertake the government of 500 lunatics, than of 50 sane persons taken indiscriminately from society.

For the introduction of pictures into our wards, we are indebted to the kind consideration of that excellent lady, Miss D. L. Dix, whose efforts in behalf of the insane in this country, and in every nation in Europe, have earned for her a world-wide fame, and entitled her to the highest rank among modern philanthropists.

To the objects of attraction thus introduced, I have, from time to time, added colored engravings of superior character, together with some plaster statuary; and at the present time three wards exhibit a well diversified supply of these ornaments, whilst the others have inherited the less expensive early stock.

It is a gratifying fact, that in the course of three years but two instances have occurred of wilful injury to these ornaments. In one the offence was committed by a male patient in a fit of aberration, and in the other by a female in a state of lucid ternagancy, which probably had been her normal condition at home.

Dr. Conolly, in his "treatise on the construction and government of Lunatic Asylums," makes the following remarks on the subject of ornament and decoration:--

"Much ornament and decoration, external or internal, is useless, and rather offends irritable patients than gives any satisfaction to the more contented. In some of the Italian Asylums, busts, pictures and ornaments abound, and the walls are painted with figures representing various

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