

liament is allowed to assemble and separate, yet not a solitary voice is raised during the session, to solicit the adoption of measures whereby this foul blot on our character, as a civilized and Christian community, might be wiped away for ever. Monies are voted, and voted freely too, for the furtherance of various objects, but for the cause of the poor lunatic, the cause of him whom an inscrutable Providence has allowed to become the most pitiable and helpless of men, not one penny has been appropriated. Persons who have made insanity the subject of observation, must be painfully impressed with the inhumanity of our Legislature, knowing as they do that a large proportion of insane cases, if submitted to proper treatment at an early period, will be restored to their original vigour of mind ; but the same cases allowed to be confined and watched over by friends or the *employes* of a common gaol, will certainly result in incurable insanity. It is a question pregnant with sorrowful and distressing reflections—how many of the 2,802 lunatics, at present within the borders of Canada, if properly treated, would be rejoicing in the possession of an unclouded reason, who are now furious maniacs, stolid melancholics, or drivelling idiots ?

We must have, as we said before, *two* good Hospitals for the Insane,—each to accommodate 250 patients, and to include all the improvements introduced into modern asylums. One of these should be erected in the vicinity of Montreal. Government now own twenty-nine acres of land near the city, admirably situated for an Insane Asylum. This property lies between the Tanneries de Rolland and the city, and is on the elevated *plateau* which extends from the Tanneries, in one direction towards Lachine, in the other towards Montreal. It possesses all the advantages sought in the selection of a site on which to erect an Hospital for the Insane. It is airy and elevated—the land is dry and fertile—the scenery is diversified—it is easily accessible from the city at all seasons of the year, and above all, an abundant supply of water might be obtained by having a large branch pipe laid down from the tube of the new water works, where it attains the summit of the ridge, after passing through the Hon. Mr. Quesnel's grounds. The property, moreover, extending down the hill, offers excellent facilities for thorough drainage and sewerage. The only objection that can be raised against this site, is the limited extent of the grounds. This objection may be readily obviated, as an additional quantity of adjoining land, we have been given to understand, can be easily obtained. It was originally purchased with a view to the erection of an Asylum for the Insane upon it, and the purchase was made as far back as the time of Lord Selton's administration. This nobleman, with his privy council, appointed a commission, consisting of the late Dr. Robertson, Dr. Crawford, and Mr. Lunn,