

We find on page 2 of the Report that the total number of admissions into the Toronto Asylum as recorded in the 19 years which have elapsed since the opening of the Institution has been 2244, of which 1225 were men, 532 married, 693 single, and 1019 women of whom 635 were married, and 304 were single. The learned author of the Report remarks that he does not regard these figures as "reliable indicators of the actual incidence of insanity in the sexes;" and adds "that taking the admissions of the last seven years instead of those of the entire period, it is found that "the admissions of women have exceeded those of men." This statement is followed by some highly important remarks respecting the comparative liability to insanity of married and unmarried life, in which from a well recognised cause a terrible preponderance of this calamity is given to the unmarried class, and in alluding further to the vice indicated we have the fearful statement of fact, that "the Asylums of this continent abound with the wretched victims of this apparently concomitant curse of advancing civilization, a curse which medical alienists regard not as the result of ignorance, but as one of the products of that which is called improved modern education." Here we have a further appeal, founded on an awful experience, to those in whose hands is the guardianship of education, to attend to the heart as well as the head. It is vain to expect that improvements in medical science can keep pace with the physical and mental misery generated by a system of public education which does not regard religion as its guiding star. In proof of this Dr. Workman tells us "that every American Asylum physician will corroborate the statement as to the sad concomitancy, between *our system of youthful training* and the constantly augmenting population of our insane institutions."

A very important question examined in the report, and with great care is, "whether all the patients declared recovered and accordingly discharged have actually been fit for discharge?" The author of the Report finds too much reason to believe in the tendency of the malady to recurrence; but at the same time he shews clearly that in the history of the Toronto Asylum, the proportion of re-admissions depends mainly upon the length of the first great period of treatment. As might be expected, the result of Dr. Workman's humane care in this regard is that latterly patients are discharged only in good time, and that consequently the figures shewing relapsed cases are being much diminished.

There is much more of interest in this excellent Report which we cordially recommend to the perusal of professional men. The section occupied by "post-mortem" details is one well worthy of study as shewing with a most praiseworthy minuteness, the various and varied internal condition of not less than twenty out of thirty-eight subjects, the number of deaths during the year.

The report speaks loudly in favour of Dr. Workman's untiring assiduity in his duties; and much as his appointment to his present office was cavilled at at the time, we question much, if another could have been selected, who could more faithfully have discharged those duties, or brought to his task a more efficient singleness of purpose.