

institution take precedence of all other interests, expresses himself very strongly against the Board of Inspectors for recommending that the maximum population of the Toronto Asylum should be raised to 400.

The Medical Superintendent of this institution seems to wish to reserve his asylum for curable cases of mental aberration, and to receive, even of those, only the limited number of 350,—limited, that is to say, in proportion to the cubic space of the vast edifice.

In support of his argument, Dr. Workman accumulates statistics and opinions, which might, indeed, be met by other statistics and other opinions. But the Board of Inspectors are not called upon at present to discuss the controverted question respecting dormitories in common, and separate rooms, and the best mode of classification. They appreciate entirely the warm feelings which they know Dr. Workman to entertain for the good of the unfortunate class of whom he has the care, but the Inspectors have to consider also at the same time the interests of society in general, and the best manner of promoting those interests with the material aid afforded by Parliament for that purpose.

The Board of Inspectors might, indeed, admit all that the medical superintendent has said, without, in the slightest degree, affecting the position at which they look. Admitting that this addition of patients to the number admitted into the Toronto Asylum must be attended with serious inconvenience, the question would still remain,—whether it is not better to expose the 350 patients who are already in the institution to these inconveniences, rather than expose families, and society itself, to the dangers attendant on allowing lunatics—curable or incurable—to go at large, in view of the frequent and dreadful occurrences of which they are the cause, in addition to being a subject of alarm in their neighborhoods?

Every year, murders and other crimes are committed, by or upon lunatics; the newspapers are filled with tragic stories of lunatic mothers immolating their children, and of attempts against person and property. As to the lunatics themselves, and more especially the female lunatics, to what filthy brutalities are they not exposed when at large? Almost every year, some of these unhappy beings, after several years of neglect, are brought to the asylums or prisons in a state of pregnancy.

The Inspectors cannot persuade themselves that wretchedness of this nature is of less importance than rendering somewhat less comfortable the lot of the lunatics already confined in the asylums nearly all of whom are much better off than they have ever been in

their own families, while others, who are sent to the Government Asylum, are insufficiently cared for.

But what is the result? Only is in question, and would be. The Inspector of the establishment of Dr. Workman, from 350 to 400, of mortality, charges which are of cures.

The following table, for the year, 1857, to 1863, each year, is only:—

Year.
1857..
1858..
1859..
1860..
1861..
1862..
1863..

NOTE —
been made,

The population throughout the year. This is the table, to the highest of a first detachment 414. On 3rd March, 1860, 146, whose average population is equal to a population of 400.

In 1860, Malden and sent.—

The details follow: