

sound mind, is not found in vain as applied to the former unfortunate class. The general theory conventionally recognized as to the utility of amusements and recreation, in the treatment of insanity, apart from the above considerations, is that by means of them we supplant the place of delusive ideas and feelings, tending by this disuse to their gradual enfeeblement or disappearance.'

In closing this brief notice, we may remark in the words of the essayist :

'Various other important matters are considered very judiciously, and in an exactly analogous mode, under the heads Breakage, Homicide, Refusal of Food, Perverted Instinct, Indecency of Action and Language, Depressing Habits, &c.'

Who among us can tell how soon those nearest and dearest to him may be visited by heaven with the affliction of insanity. Who can tell when he may himself require the care and attention which skill and science recommend as most desirable for the recalling of the truant mind. There are unhappily too many among us already who demand immediate attention. Let it not then any longer be said that Nova Scotia alone among all the lands that boast the knowledge of civilization and the feelings of humanity, is dead to the claims of the unhappy and afflicted, and neglects to employ the means already set apart and devoted to such a purpose. If the wailings of the wretched maniacs throughout our country cannot rouse us to a sense of duty, let the example of other Provinces, the upbraiding of our own consciences, stir us up to commence the work. None deny the necessity of an asylum, why then should any be found who are indifferent to the subject, far less who by their apathy retard the erection of the much required institution.

#### THE LATE HERBERT HUNTINGTON.

If we rightly apprehend the proper and legitimate vocation of such a Nova Scotian periodical as 'the Provincial,' it is to exhibit the capacity, tendencies, and duties of native mind in this young and rising country. Brief as has been the period since Europeans, in the stern spirit and hardihood of adventurous enterprise, first trod the wild shores of this rugged land—hard and toilsome as has been the struggle in contending with the privations and difficulties which are inseparable from the settlement and improvement of a new country—scattered and few as have been its inhabitants; yet its history—legendary, biographical, incidental and descriptive—is pregnant with the elements of *a literature peculiarly its own*. There have not been wanting instances of respectable native talent—(may we not venture to say—Genius?) to engage in intellectual pursuits; and if the foundations of a native literary superstructure have not already been laid, choice materials, like those prepared by King