

in very earnest language, to the necessity of establishing institutions for the treatment of inebriates. It is very much to be regretted that up to the present moment the Government of this Dominion has taken no action in this most important matter. It is true that Dr. Wakeham, with that enterprise and intelligence which have always characterised him, did some years ago, at his own risk and cost, open an institution in the neighborhood of Quebec, for the purpose alluded to, and has maintained it ever since upon a most respectable footing, though I fear at a considerable pecuniary loss. This he has borne, in the hope, hitherto a vain one, that government would ere this have come to his assistance. It is also true that an Act was passed by the Local Legislature in 1860, authorising the interdiction of inebriates, so that now these persons may be controlled and sent to such institutions for treatment. So far so good. But still this does not exonerate the General Government from the great responsibility which lies upon it in this matter. I agree entirely with your late President that all governments are as much morally bound to make provision for the treatment of this class of sufferers as they are to find hospital accommodation for the treatment of other forms of disease, whether of the mind or body. It will no doubt have been seen by many of you that Drs. Parrish and Dodge, Superintendents of the Sanitariums of Binghampton and Media, have been formally invited to appear before the British Parliament to give a detailed history of Inebriate Asylums in the United States, the system of treatment adopted in them, and its success. This is a most praiseworthy step on the part of Great Britain, and will be followed no doubt by other governments, our own, may it be hoped, included.

There is yet another subject to which this Association might call the immediate attention of the Government. As the law now exists no insane person, however violent [*being also an epileptic,*] can be admitted into the public asylums of the country. The consequence is our gaols constantly contain several of these doubly afflicted persons, who are exposed to the jeers and jibes of those around them, inducing, no doubt very frequently, epileptic paroxysms, which under more favourable circumstances, might have been avoided. Why an insane person, because he is also an epileptic, should be less dangerous to himself or others, or requires less the protection of Government for the same reason, I am at a loss to understand. On the contrary, being doubly afflicted, he should be a special object of sympathy, care, and protection. I believe this matter has only to be brought under the notice of the Government to be at once remedied. There are some other points upon which I might dwell, as for example the better regulating of the duties of chemists and druggists in large cities, medical fees in courts of justice and at coroners' inquests, &c., but as there is a good deal of work before the Association, and but little time to do it in, I prefer waiving these, so that we may proceed at once to the discussion of the Bill.