

than be qualified to administer it to others. Recourse to harshness in any form or degree must indicate not merely ill nature but also the utter absence of common sense and correct information. To live among the insane is but to be irresistibly constrained to pity and to love them; and, when once this bond is established between the physician and his confiding family, the task of government becomes, so far as *they* are concerned, a labour of inconceivable pleasure.

But the Superintendent of an insane Asylum has other people to manage and to govern, besides his patients. Numerous servants and attendants under whose charge the insane are placed, demand his vigilant, keen and incessant supervision. The amount of mischief which even one scoundrel is capable of working in any large establishment, and the annoyance and perplexity such a character can contrive to give, can be understood only by those who have encountered the evil.

The Toronto Asylum has not enjoyed total exemption from troubles of this sort. I have, however, fearlessly and without favor exercised, as I purpose for the future to exercise towards all under my control, that authority which the law has vested in me as Medical Superintendent of this Asylum, and without which all salutary discipline would be but a delusion.

No man of sense in a position of heavy responsibility will dismiss a good servant,—none but a fool or a knave will retain a bad one.

No evil which can redound from the dismissal of a bad servant in a public institution, no slander which he may whisper or publish, can possibly be so dangerous as his retention. Such persons seldom fail to paint in dark colours