

what more they do back in the gloomy woods it is very hard to say, unless it be to drink more tea and smoke more tobacco ; for the monotony of Canadian bush-life, and how the mind outlives it, are mysteries which I confess I cannot penetrate. Is it to be doubted that defective alimentation is the chief cause of the insanity of these people ? No doubt, too, in our townspeople the same cause is largely operative ; and if in either we would seek to lessen the extent of insanity, our first attention should be directed to their physical improvement. No amount of religious exhortation or of moral preception will draw the ignorant away from danger, so long as they continue to live in filth, and disregard the inflexible laws of Providence. We must teach mankind the value of comfort, before they will go to any trouble in procuring it ; but those who have found comfort in dirt, and contentment in beggary, and have never been taught to rely upon their own efforts, but to call upon Providence to do everything for them, or, this appeal failing, to turn about and accuse the fates, or government, or the weather, or any other corporate body, as the cause of all their grievances, are not easily converted to cleanliness, sobriety, or social decency ; and to lecture these people on the laws of hygiene would be about as hopeful as to discourse to them on the conic sections. Yet we do know that even in lunatic asylums, and even whilst they are yet insane, these people can be taught cleanliness, and, under kind management, they can be induced to work well and to love comfort.

I have frequently drawn attention to the extensive prevalence in the insane, or at least in the incurable insane, of pulmonary consumption. I believe that in every asylum where *post mortem* examinations are sufficiently attended to, this disease will be discovered to be by far the largest factor of mortality ; and I have pointed out the important fact, that in the insane the disease seldom assumes the manifest form, but runs its entire course without any of the ordinary symptoms observed in cases among the sane.

In 1865, 10 deaths out of 27 which occurred have been from pulmonary consumption, and seven of the ten were of the latent form. This is a smaller proportion of the latent form than usual. The affinity between organic lung disease and insanity is a subject of deep interest, and should command more attention than it has yet received, I alluded last year to the numerical coincidence

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