

all their criminal instincts, and are among the most vicious and depraved of the human race. The presence of such patients on the wards of an ordinary asylum is a standing menace to the peace and discipline of the whole institution. In their sane moments, they never had the most distant ideas of the rights of property, and seldom placed any value on human life when it stood in the way of the prosecution of their criminal designs; when insane, these traits are intensified, because what little power of self-control they had is generally lost and the fear of punishment for their misdeeds is banished. The more an ordinary lunatic improves, the more easily he is managed, whereas the more rational an insane criminal becomes the more dangerous he is. If taunted by their fellow-patients, as is apt to be the case, such lunatics are prone to violence; in addition, they are constantly making efforts to escape, and safeguards have to be provided against their accomplishing their purpose. In this way the innocent are made to suffer for the guilty, because we cannot fully carry out the modern idea, which discourages the use of bars and locks, in fact, everything that partakes of the nature of a prison. Many of the insane retain all their self-respect, and object to associate with this class of patients, while their friends, quite rightly, feel it a grievous wrong to have their unfortunate relatives housed with men and women who have been deliberately guilty of crime, and who, while undergoing punishment for such crime, have been overtaken by insanity. The Kingston Asylum suffers most from this cause owing to its contiguity to the penitentiary, and its Superintendent, Dr. C. K. Clarke, who has long and strenuously protested against it, forcibly concludes his report for 1903 in these words: "People outside of institutions do not care to associate with instinctive criminals—there is no reason why the non-vicious insane should be forced to accept a companionship that would be repulsive in everyday life."

A resolution offered by Dr. Pliny Earle, and adopted by this Association in 1873, applies forcibly to Canada at the present day. "That when the number of this class in any state (or in any two or more adjoining states that will unite in this project) is sufficient to justify such a course, these cases should be placed in a hospital specially provided for the insane; and that until this can be done, they should be treated in a hospital connected with some prison, and not in the wards or in separate buildings upon any part of the grounds of an ordinary hospital for the insane."

The former is undeniably the better plan, and, if Ontario be taken as an index to the existing state of affairs in the Dominion, there is certainly a large enough proportion of the criminal classes of the insane to