

vincial revenue for the support of the insane to the figure requisite ; and if it should retain the purpose of continuing in this responsibility, it is a fact requiring no demonstration, that the fiscal concessions would always lag many years behind the actual requirements ; and would hardly ever be made until the evil resulting from its procrastination had assumed a magnitude and intensity no longer to be ignored."

" If the provincial exchequer make provision for the primary treatment of insanity in curative hospitals, and afford to every case requiring asylum benefit privilege of residence for a definite period—say two years—it appears to me it would have done all that should be expected from it. After this period, the support of the unrecovered should be devolved on the respective municipalities ; but the measure of support, and the mode of administering it, should not at all be left at the option of these corporations."

Here then is the remedy : if the government were to establish insane hospitals, two or three would be sufficient for the whole country, and after residence of the afflicted in these institutions for two years, without benefit, to transfer them to a secondary asylum, there to remain a charge on the municipality from whom they originally came. But as Dr. Workman very justly observes " the measures for support and mode of " administering it should not be left to the option of these corporations." A special tax should be levied, and the administration of the secondary institutions should be under the control of special inspectors. By the present system of affording relief, we are each year augmenting to a serious extent, the number of cases of incurables, many of whom would undoubtedly have been restored to the industrial population had prompt measures for their relief been adopted. Is it curative to place in a prison cell, an unfortunate person whose brain has been overwrought, who in the wildness of his paroxysm sees

" More devils than vast hell can hold ?"

Can it, we say, afford him a chance of recovery by placing him in a cell of one of our gaols, there to be attended to by ignorant men, and there retained until a death-vacancy occurs in one of our asylums ? What would be the death-rate of any of our hospitals, if an individual, to obtain admission there for any bodily disease, had to be sent to a prison for a certain probationary period, or until some unfortunate predecessor had bequeathed his bed by surrendering his life ? Can there be anything more grossly barbarous than this system of treating disease. We are willing to admit that the Government have erred through ignorance ; but now, since the publication of this most important document, the excuse of not knowing better cannot be offered.