

The civil condition of the above 2,633 patients, has been as follows :—

	Men.	Women.	Total.
Married, (including widowed,).....	629	779	1,408
Single	787	438	1,225
Total.....	1,416	1,217	2,633

The excess of admissions in the male sex, arose many years ago. Of 1,251 patients admitted by me, since 1st July, 1853, ($8\frac{1}{2}$ years,) 612 have been men, and 639 women; thus showing latterly a small preponderance on the female side. It would, therefore, appear that in Western Canada, the incidence of insanity in the two sexes is very nearly equal. I believe this fact would be found to obtain in every country where such ample provision for the insane might be offered as in ours. Does not the fact of this equality of incidence of insanity, lead towards an important conclusion, as to the underlying efficient cause of the malady.

When we consider how very different, in the two sexes, are the disturbing agencies, to which insanity is usually ascribed, can its equal incidence be a matter of accident, or even the result of compensating diversities of agency? How many of the ascribed causes of insanity, may be but the first manifestations of the malady itself?

The excess of single, over married male lunatics, admitted in the 22 years during which the asylum has been in operation, has been 159; but three years ago it was 154, so that the admissions of married and single men may now be said to be equal. The difference apparent in the aggregates of the 22 years, must not be assigned to difference of incidence. Three years ago, the aggregate female admissions