

Whenever an Asylum becomes filled to its utmost capacity, admissions can be made only as beds are vacated through discharges and deaths; and when it is a rule of the Institution to retain all unrecovered patients for life, and as, on the general average, the proportion of recoveries to admissions falls under 50 per cent, it is manifest that unless death carries off annually the other 50 per cent., there must be a progressive annual decrease of vacancies. The death rate of this Asylum has not yet reached the proportions of 50 per cent. on the admissions, but it must come nearer to it every year, not by a positive increase of deaths, but decrease in admissions.

The admissions, discharges and deaths for the last five years have been as follows:

	Admissions.	Discharges.	Deaths.
1861	204	91	45
1862	177	78	27
1863 (including 2 elopers).....	168	87	25
1864 " 1 " 	136	77	35
1865 " 1 " 	96	74	27
	781	407	159

The total discharges and deaths in the above five years amount to 566. The admissions were 781; the difference, 215, has been provided for by the transfer of patients to the branches, and by overcrowding in the chief Asylum. The proportion of deaths to admissions, above shewn, for five years, is about 20 per cent. The proportion of discharges is over 52 per cent. on admissions; but as a certain number of patients were taken home by their friends, unrecovered, but improved, or so far advanced towards death as to render the friends unapprehensive of danger in taking care of them, and as there is no certain rule of conduct directing the proportion of such discharges, we must put the actual proportion of regular discharges as under 50 per cent.

The average death number for the last five years has been 32 per annum. Unless we are visited by some fatal epidemic, this average will probably obtain in the next five years.