

pointed out that he might be got into the Asylum, if he were committed to gaol; and so this man was committed,—as a dangerous lunatic, I suppose,—because he could *not* go at large. The fact of his paralysis was concealed, until he was brought to the Asylum: and though the By-laws of the Institution were violated in admitting him, it appeared to me, that, to send him back to the “authorities” of his locality, would have been a murderous extradition.

Along with the above patient was brought another “*dangerous lunatic*,” who is certainly one of the most gentle creatures I have ever seen in this house. I could easily lengthen the list of instances of committals such as the above. How do the parties, swearing, manage the task; and how do the magistrates permit the oaths to be taken? In some instances it has happened that when advice of vacancy for a “dangerous lunatic” has been forwarded to the County gaol, the patient was no longer in custody, having apparently been committed, merely as a sort of facilitating formality, in the process of admission into this Asylum.

In the present hard times, no doubt the “*authorities*” regard every person, who has nothing to eat, as dangerous to be at large; and, as the Asylum is known to be a good boarding-house, they conclude that it cannot be turned to a better purpose than that of relieving themselves from the duty of supporting their poor. It is certainly high time that Upper Canada should think of providing for the destitute, through its otherwise efficient system of municipal government. Where can be the propriety of filling the beds of this Asylum with quiet, chronic lunatics, to the certain *exclusion* of acute, improvable, or truly dangerous ones? On the average, every one of the former, admitted, costs the Pro-

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