diminishing the cost to the country of the asylum now in operation for female lunatics at Rockwood and the temporary asylum for male patients at the Penitentiary. The patients in these asylums at the present date number forty-eight, viz., thirty-three males and fifteen females.

"My interest consists solely in the property having been conveyed to me in trust for the Government, as Medical Superintendent of the asylums, pending the construction at Rockwood of the permanent asylum, for which a vote of money has been made by the Hon. the Provincial Legislature."

The Doctor deserves great credit for the disinterestedness of his motives in this matter; and the asylum, we have no doubt, will become a flourishing one under his able management.

OBITUARY.

On Tuesday, the 11th August, Dr. Marshall Hall died at Brighton, aged 67 years.

Science has lost one of the worthiest of her sons, medicine has lost a great master, and philosophy a great thinker. The clear and vivid intellect of this celebrated man has steadily and successfully risen superior to the depressing influences of disease for the last fifteen years. Even during the present year, when confined to one room, his chamber has been a scene of intellectual activity. Clear and penetrating, and impelled by a wide philanthropy, the last contribution of Dr. Marshall Hall to science has been a pre-eminently useful one to the cause of humanity.

Dr. Marshall Hall was born at Bashford, in Nottinghamshire, in the year 1790. His father was a manufacturer, and a man of no small capacity and information, and had the merit of being the first person to perceive the value of chlorine as a decolorizing agent, and applying it on a large scale.

But the first salient point in the life of Dr. Marshall Hall was his matriculation at Edinburgh University, in the year 1809. There did he first imbibe that enthusiastic love of science which has been his most marked characteristic. With youthful impetuosity he plunged into the study of chemistry. Not content with merely assimilating the accepted doctrines of the science, he boldly endeavored to push its boundaries farther. With wonderful power of generalization for so young a man, and with such small materials as then existed for the purpose, he pointed out that there was a grand distinction between all chemical bodies, which ruled their chemical affinities. He showed that this distinction was the presence or absence of oxygen. That oxygen compounds combined with oxygen compounds, and compounds not combined with oxygen compounds similarly devoid of that element; and that the two classes of