

ber of the Legislative Council of Canada, and is now a Senator of the Dominion. The fare was twelve dollars from Kingston to Toronto or Niagara. The "Great Britain" and the "Aleiopé" were the next lake boats.

On the American side, the "United States" was built about 1833, and ran in connection with the "Great Britain," each calling at British and American ports alternately. After the Burlington Bay Canal was opened, the lake steamers called at Hamilton, and came down, most of the time, to Prescott. It was only after the opening of the St. Lawrence Canals that they could come down to Montreal; and every one was appalled at first at the idea of large steamers running the rapids. This, however, they have long done safely, going up again by the canals.

After the "Frontenac" was finished, in 1818, Mr. Gildersleeve, of Kingston, built—from the materials that remained over—a small boat called the "Charlotte," which plied from Prescott to Belleville. Kingston has thus the credit of having the first steamboat navigation on the lakes, and the first on the Upper St. Lawrence.

AN ASYLUM FOR INEBRIATES.

BY DR. CANNIFF, BELLEVILLE, ONT.

Inebriation is a disease, in which there is a pathological condition of the nervous system. The individual is not lost to moral feeling, necessarily; but he is overcome by the disease which involves the brain. There is truly a sad state to which many are tending, of which all who drink a little are in danger.

To this class of our fellow-countrymen we would ask special attention. They are numerous, alas! their number is increasing; they are found in all classes of society, many of them among the talented and educated. Let us consider the question what can be done for them.

To meet the wants of such patients, a special asylum is required—an asylum which no one shall be forced to enter, but to which

persons diseased, with a brain affected, may come for relief; an asylum where no one is reproached, where kindness reigns, where the law of love pervades, where charity prevails; an asylum from which one may go forth without a stigma upon his name, having been cured of his malady. To the public of Canada, the statement is respectfully made, that an asylum for inebriates is required. We have our hospitals and dispensaries for the sick; we have our lunatic asylums, our refuge for the erring, and reformatory for the young; and shall not the large number, suffering from the special malady we have attempted to portray, have offered to them a place where they may receive necessary treatment.

Inebriate asylums have already been tried in at least two States of the neighboring Union—New York and Massachusetts. The principles upon which these institutions are based, and the plan pursued, are thus set forth in a late report by Dr. Day, Superintendent and Physician to the New York Asylum at Binghamton:

"The fundamental basis upon which all hopeful treatment must rest lies in the desire of the patient himself to escape from the slavery that enthalls him. But little, if anything, can be accomplished in opposition to the wishes of the person to be treated; and it is a melancholy fact that cases do exist of those so naturally base or debauched, by long indulgence, that no aspirations for better things can be excited within them, and no effort can stimulate them to that personal exertion which their salvation demands. Such cases, however, are rare, and are found chiefly among those whose moral natures are slightly or imperfectly developed—who are naturally attracted to intemperance because it is a vice; and who, it may be, are saved from the commission of more serious crimes by the indulgence of this form of sensuality. But in a vast majority of cases, we may confidentially rely upon the hearty co-operation of the patients themselves. It would surprise one not familiar with the fact to be made aware of the almost universal de-