

Thirty-first annual report of the resident physician of the Belfast District Hospital for the Insane Poor of the counties of Antrim and Down, and the county of the town of Carrickfergus : from 1st April, 1860, to the 31st March, 1861.

Contributors

Belfast District Hospital for the Insane.
Stewart, Robert.

Publication/Creation

Belfast : Printed at the Daily "Northern Whig" Office, 1861.

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/du7f5mr4>

License and attribution

This work has been identified as being free of known restrictions under copyright law, including all related and neighbouring rights and is being made available under the Creative Commons, Public Domain Mark.

You can copy, modify, distribute and perform the work, even for commercial purposes, without asking permission.

**wellcome
collection**

Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

14/2/61 1 5-8 Belfast

THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT
OF
THE RESIDENT PHYSICIAN
OF THE
BELFAST DISTRICT
West
Derby
1861

Hospital for the Insane Poor

OF THE
COUNTIES OF ANTRIM AND DOWN, AND THE COUNTY
OF THE TOWN OF CARRICKFERGUS,

FROM 1ST APRIL, 1860, TO THE 31ST MARCH, 1861.

ESTABLISHED 1829.

BELFAST:
PRINTED AT THE DAILY "NORTHERN WHIG" OFFICE,
CALENDER STREET.

1861.

[From the Daily "Northern Whig" of March 8, 1862.]

BELFAST DISTRICT LUNATIC ASYLUM.—Dr. Nugent, Inspector of Lunatic Asylums, yesterday, visited this establishment, and the following is a copy of the report he wrote on the occasion in the visitors' book :—“I, this day, inspected the Belfast District Asylum. It contains 369 patients—199 from the County Antrim (of whom 116 belong to Belfast), 162 from the County Down—or, proportionably to Belfast in regard to their different population, as 1 to 2—and 8 from Carrickfergus. Upwards of 70 of the inmates I was gratified to see going to a public place of amusement—the Hippodrome—under the care of their attendants. The patients, generally, throughout the house, were well clad, and had the appearance of being carefully looked after. From the very few confined to bed—six in all—I cannot but regard the sanitary state of the house as very satisfactory. The associated dormitories are overcrowded, but orderly, cleanly, and well ventilated; the bedding good. I am glad to notice the progressive increase of hair mattresses in place of cocoa fibre or straw. The day-rooms are very comfortable. I feel I can report most favourably of this district asylum.”

VISIT OF INSANE PATIENTS TO THE CIRCUS.—Yesterday afternoon, between seventy and eighty of the inmates—male and female—of the Belfast District Asylum for the Insane were taken by Dr. Stewart, the Resident Physician of the institution, to see the performances at Bell's Circus. The experiment was most successful and gratifying. The conduct of the entire party, both on going to, and coming from, the Circus, was of the most correct and orderly nature, while their behaviour during the performances was such that strangers were unable to distinguish them from the other visitants of the Circus. On the termination of the entertainment, which lasted two hours, the male patients were drawn up in military array, and, on receiving the word of command, marched off with their attendants in the steadiest and most soldier-like manner. The females also returned to the Asylum most quietly, and great, indeed, was the delight of all at the sights they witnessed. The day will no doubt be an epoch in their monotonous lives. Mr. Bell deserves great credit for his liberal and considerate invitation, and the patients will, without fail, long remember his kindness.

CONTENTS OF REPORT.

	TABLE.	PAGE.
Admission and Discharges of each County in District,	18	18
Ages of the Patients admitted during the year,	2	7
Ages of the Patients who Died during the year,	12	10
Ages of the Patients Discharged Recovered during the year, ...	9	10
Ages of Patients Remaining under Treatment,	20	19
Alleged Causes of Insanity,	3	8
Causes of Death, .. ..	..	14
Death of the Clerk and Storekeeper, .. ..	..	16
Dietary, .. ..	..	23
Duration of the Disease in the Discharged, &c., Cases during the year, 11	..	10
Duration of Residence of Patients,	21	19
Education, Degree of, in the Admissions during the year, ...	8	9
Employment,	13	11
Engine for Pumping Water, ... ..	..	16
Farm and Garden Produce and Expenditure, .. ..	..	22
Financial Statement, .. ...	..	21
Forms of Insanity,	4	8
Forms of Insanity of Entire Number,	14	11
General Statement of year's admissions,	1	7
General Health during the year, .. ...	..	13
Increase of Wages, &c., .. ..	..	17
Mortality of the year, .. ...	..	13
Number of Cases Admitted, &c., and who Died in each Quarter and Month during the year,	23	20
Obituary for the year,	17	12
Occupation of Cases Admitted during the year,	7	9
Official Visitation, .. ...	..	16
Patients' Band, &c., .. ..	..	16
Period of Time the Patients, &c., were under Treatment during the year,	10	10
Per-Centage of Discharges, &c., for the last Thirteen Years, ..	19	18
Present State of Accommodation, .. ..	..	15
Recoveries, .. ..	..	15
Religious Persuasion of year's admissions,	5	8
Do. do. of entire number,	16	11
Social Condition of year's admissions,	6	8
State of Cases as to Curability, &c.,	15	11
Suicidal Cases, .. ..	..	14
Works and Manufactures during the year,	22	19

CONTENTS OF APPENDIX.

Deputation of the Governors to the Grand Juries of the District respecting Additional Accommodation, .. ...	..	30
Increase of Accommodation—Statement of the Governors to the Foreman and Grand Jurors of the Counties of Antrim and Down and the County of the Town of Carrickfergus, .. ..	..	24
List of Reports, .. ..	..	47
Proceedings of Meeting of Committees appointed by the Grand Juries of the District and of Governors for Increased Accommodation, .. ...	..	33

STATE OF NEW YORK

IN SENATE,
January 10, 1901.

REPORT
OF THE
COMMISSIONERS OF THE LAND OFFICE

IN ANSWER TO A RESOLUTION
PASSED BY THE SENATE
MAY 17, 1899.

ALBANY:
J. B. LIPPINCOTT & COMPANY,
PRINTERS,
1899.

THE STATE OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF THE LAND OFFICE,
ALBANY, N. Y.,
JANUARY 10, 1901.

SIR:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th inst., and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Yours obediently,
COMMISSIONER OF THE LAND OFFICE.

Very truly,
J. B. LIPPINCOTT & COMPANY,
PRINTERS,
ALBANY, N. Y.

GOVERNORS
OF
The Belfast District Hospital for the Insane,

APPOINTED BY
THE LORD LIEUTENANT AND PRIVY COUNCIL OF IRELAND,


Under the Provisions of 1 and 2 George IV., Cap. 33.

No.	NAME.	RESIDENCE.	DATE OF APPOINTMENT.
1	Marquis of Donegall,	London,	March, 1829.
2	Mayor of Belfast,	Belfast,	March, 1829.
3	Rev. Thomas Hincks, A.M., ..	Derrykeighan Rectory, Dervock,	March, 1829.
4	Sir Robert Bateson, Bart., D.L., ..	Belvoir Park, Belfast,	June 28, 1829.
5	William M'Cance, Esq., J.P., ..	Belfast,	Jan. 4, 1836.
6	Robt. J. Tennent, Esq., J.P., D.L., ..	Rushpark, Belfast,	Jan. 4, 1836.
7	Edward Bruce, Esq., J.P., ..	.. ..	Oct. 28, 1836.
8	Right Rev. C. Denvir, D.D., ..	Belfast,	Oct. 28, 1836.
9	Rev. John Edgar, D.D., ..	Belfast,	Oct. 28, 1836.
10	Rev. H. Montgomery, L.L.D., ..	Dunmurry,	Oct. 28, 1836.
11	The Very Rev. Dean Stannus, ..	Lisburn,	April 4, 1842.
12	Rev. H. Cooke, D.D., L.L.D., ..	Belfast,	April 4, 1842.
13	Rev. J. S. B. Monsell, A.M., ..	.. ..	July 13, 1842.
14	Conway B. Grimshaw, Esq., ..	Lynfield House, Belfast, ..	Oct. 8, 1846.
15	John Clarke, Esq., J.P., ..	Belfast,	Sept. 13, 1847.
16	Marquis of Downshire, ..	Castle, Hillsborough, ..	Nov. 16, 1847.
17	Robt. Gordon, Esq., J.P., D.L., ..	Florida Manor, Killinchy, ..	Nov. 16, 1847.
18	Robert Batt, Esq., J.P., D.L., ..	Purdysburn, Belfast, ..	Nov. 16, 1847.
19	Major Crawford, J.P., ..	Crawfordsburn, Holywood, ..	Nov. 16, 1847.
20	The Lord Bishop of Down and Connor and Dromore, for the time being,	The Palace, Holywood, ..	April 9, 1850.
21	William Dunville, Esq., J.P., ..	Richmond Lodge, County Down,	May 22, 1851.
22	Rev. T. F. Miller, D.D., ..	The Vicarage, Belfast, ..	Dec. 8, 1851.
23	Adam J. Macrory, Esq., ..	Duncairn, Belfast, ..	June 15, 1852.
24	Lord Dufferin,	Clandeboye, Holywood, ..	Dec. 10, 1855.
25	Thomas M'Clure, Esq., J.P., ..	Belmont, County Down, ..	Jan. 29, 1856.

The Two Government Commissioners of Asylums, Drs Nugent and Hatchell, are
ex-officio members of the Board.

Resident Physician, ROBERT STEWART, M.D.
Visiting Physician, HENRY M'CORMAC, M.D.
Visiting Surgeon, &c., JAMES MOORE, M.D.

STATED MEETINGS OF GOVERNORS ARE HELD IN THE INSTITUTION ON
THE FIRST MONDAY OF EACH MONTH AT ONE O'CLOCK, P.M.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30304313>

THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

OF

The Belfast District Hospital for the Insane,

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1861.

Table I.—General Statement of the year's admissions, &c.

	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
In House, on 1st April, 1860, ...	...	...	...	188	166	354
Admitted since, New Cases, 49	49	49	98			
Relapses, 2	2	2	4			
	—	—	—	51	51	102
Total under Treatment during the year, ...			...	239	217	456
Discharged, Recovered, ... 18	18	29	47			
Do., Relieved, ... 14	14	17	31			
Died, ... 14	14	8	22			
	—	—	—	46	54	100
Remaining under Treatment on 31st March, 1861,			...	193	163	356
The total Admissions during the year, were ...			...	51	51	102
Do. for the preceding year, ...			...	51	69	120
Daily Average Number of Patients during the year, was ...			...			356.98
Do. for the preceding year, ...			...			358.97
"Dangerous Lunatics" admitted during the year—						
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
From Antrim Gaol, ... 4	4	6	10			
From County Down Gaol 10	10	2	12			
	—	—	—	14	8	22
Average Annual Expense of each Patient for the past } £18 16 2¼						
year, including every charge, ... } ...						
Do. for the previous year, ... } ...						17 15 4
Being an increase on each Patient this year of ...						1 0 10¼
Total Expenditure for the year ended 31st March, 1861,				6,713	3	2
Do. for the year ended 31st March, 1860,				6,377	16	4
Produce of Farm and Garden, ...					£372	15 2
Deduct Farm and Garden Expenses, ...					65	2 10
Net Profit, ...					307	12 4

Table II.—Ages of the 102 Patients admitted during the year ending 31st March, 1861.

	Males	Females	Total
Under 20 years, ...	10	2	12
" 20 to 30 years, ...	9	17	26
" 30 to 40 " ...	13	12	25
" 40 to 50 " ...	12	13	25
" 50 to 60 " ...	6	5	11
" 60 to 70 " ...	1	2	3
TOTALS, ...	51	51	102

Table III.—Alleged Causes of Insanity in the 102 cases admitted during the year ended 31st March, 1861.

	Males	Females	Total
Bodily Ailments, ...	6	2	8
Child Birth, ...	0	2	2
Disappointed Love, ...	0	1	1
Excessive Work, ...	0	1	1
Fright, ...	1	2	3
Grief, Disappointment, and Anxiety.	6	12	18
Hereditary, ...	12	5	17
Hysteria, ...	0	1	1
Intemperance, ...	8	2	10
Jealousy, ...	0	1	1
Puerperal Condition, ...	0	1	1
Religious Excitement, ...	5	9	14
Softening of Brain, ...	2	0	2
Totally Unknown, ...	11	12	23
TOTALS, ...	51	51	102

Table IV.—Forms of Disease in the 102 cases admitted during the year ended 31st March, 1861.

	Males	Females	Total
Dementia, ...	3	0	3
Mania, ...	37	33	70
Melancholia, ...	6	12	18
Monomania, ...	5	6	11
TOTALS, ...	51	51	102

Table V.—Religion of the 102 cases admitted during the year ended 31st March, 1861.

	Males	Females	Total
Covenanters, ...	0	1	1
Methodists, ...	0	1	1
Moravian, ...	0	1	1
Presbyterian and Protestant Dissenters, ...	21	21	42
Roman Catholics, ...	14	13	27
Unitarian, ...	1	0	1
United Church of England and Ireland, ...	15	14	29
TOTALS, ...	51	51	102

Table VI.—Social Condition of the 102 cases admitted during the year ended 31st March, 1861.

	Males	Females	Total
Married, ..	21	25	46
Single, ...	27	22	49
Widowers and Widows, ...	3	4	7
TOTALS, ...	51	51	102

Table VII.—Occupation of the 102 cases admitted during the year ended
31st March, 1861.

	Males	Females	Total
Butcher,	1	0	1
Cabdriver,	1	0	1
Cardriver,	1	0	1
Carpenters,	3	0	3
Clerk,	1	0	1
Coast-guard and Coast-guard's Wife,	1	1	2
Dealer,	1	0	1
Dressmakers,	0	2	2
Farmers, Wives and Daughters of...	8	3	11
Flowerers and Sewers,	0	3	3
French Polisher,	1	0	1
Hacklers,	3	0	3
Hatter,	1	0	1
Housekeepers,	0	5	5
Housemaid,	0	1	1
House Servants,	2	5	7
Housewives,	0	12	12
Labourers and Wives of do.	12	0	12
Mechanic,	1	0	1
Millworkers,	0	4	4
Nurse,	0	1	1
Paupers,	0	1	1
Pensioner,	1	0	1
Publicans,	1	0	1
Sailor,	1	0	1
Seamstress's,	0	3	3
Shoemakers,	2	0	2
Teacher,	0	1	1
Weavers,	7	3	10
Without any Occupation,	2	6	8
	—	—	—
TOTALS,	51	51	102

Table VIII.—Degree of Education in the 102 cases admitted during the
year ended 31st March, 1861.

	Males	Females	Total
No Education,	6	11	17
Read only,	9	15	24
Read and Write,	35	24	59
Well Educated,	1	1	2
	—	—	—
	51	51	102

Table IX.—Ages of the 47 Patients discharged Recovered during the year ended 31st March, 1861.

	Males	Females	Total
Under 20 years, ...	3	4	7
From 20 to 30 years, ...	3	8	11
“ 30 to 40 “ ...	3	9	12
“ 40 to 50 “ ...	5	4	9
“ 50 to 60 “ ...	4	4	8
“ 60 to 70 “ ...	0	0	0
TOTALS, ...	18	29	47

Table X.—Shewing the period of time the 47 Patients discharged Recovered were under treatment during the year ended 31st March, 1861.

	Males	Females	Total
Under 3 Months, ...	1	1	2
From 3 to 6 Months, ...	6	9	15
“ 6 to 12 “ ...	7	13	20
“ 1 to 2 Years, ...	1	5	6
“ 2 to 5 “ ...	1	1	2
“ 5 to 10 “ ...	1	0	1
“ 10 to 20 “ ...	1	0	1
TOTALS, ...	18	29	47

Table XI.—Shewing the Duration of Disease in the 78 Patients discharged, Recovered, and relieved, and who died during the year ended March 31, 1861.

DURATION OF DISEASE.	RECOVERED AND RELIEVED.			DIED.		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Under 3 Months, ...	0	2	2	1	1	2
From 3 to 6 Months, ...	8	8	16	0	1	1
“ 6 to 12 “ ...	9	15	24	0	1	1
“ 1 to 2 Years, ...	7	8	15	2	0	2
“ 2 to 5 “ ...	2	7	9	5	1	6
“ 5 to 10 “ ...	2	2	4	0	2	2
“ 10 to 20 “ ...	4	3	7	4	2	6
“ 20 to 23 “ ...	0	0	0	0	0	0
“ 23 to 30 “ ...	0	1	1	2	0	2
TOTALS, ...	32	46	78	14	8	22

Table XII.—Ages of the 22 Patients who died during the year ended 31st March, 1861.

	Males	Females	Total
Under 20 Years, ...	0	0	0
From 20 to 30 Years, ...	2	3	5
“ 30 to 40 “ ...	2	4	6
“ 40 to 50 “ ...	4	0	4
“ 50 to 60 “ ...	1	0	1
“ 60 to 70 “ ...	3	1	4
“ 70 to 80 “ ...	2	0	2
TOTALS, ...	14	8	22

Table XIII.—Employment during the year ended 31st March, 1861.

	Males	Females	Total
Assisting Servants, ...	12	14	26
Basket Making, ...	2	0	2
Breaking Freestone, ...	6	0	6
Cultivating the Farm, ...	75	0	75
Embroidering, ...	0	13	13
Gardening Labour, ...	5	0	5
Knitting, ...	0	16	16
Making and Repairing Clothing, Bedding, &c., ...	4	18	22
Making and Repairing Shoes, ...	2	0	2
Painting, ...	1	0	1
Pumping Water, ...	12	0	12
Quilting, ...	0	4	4
Smith Work, ...	2	0	2
Spinning, ...	0	23	23
Sweeping Yards, Carrying Coals, &c., ...	20	0	20
Tailoring, ...	3	0	3
Warping, Weaving, and Winding, ...	10	0	10
Washing in Laundry, ...	0	20	20
TOTALS, ...	154	108	262

Table XIV.—Forms of Disease of the Total Number of Patients remaining in the Hospital on 31st March, 1861.

	Males	Females	Total
Dementia, ...	6	4	10
Mania, ...	128	90	218
Do., complicated with Epilepsy, ...	17	12	29
Melancholia, ...	27	40	67
Monomania, ...	15	17	32
TOTALS, ...	193	163	356

Table XV.—Shewing the State of the Cases remaining in the Hospital on the 31st March, 1861.

	Males	Females	Total
Considered Chronic or Incurable Cases, ...	150	94	244
Probably Curable, ...	43	69	112
TOTALS, ...	193	163	356

Table XVI.—Shewing the Religious Persuasions of the 356 Patients Remaining in the Hospital on 31st March, 1861.

	Males	Females	Total
Covenanters, ...	2	0	2
Methodists, ...	0	2	2
Presbyterians, ...	65	53	118
Roman Catholics, ...	64	65	129
Unitarians, ...	2	1	3
United Church of England and Ireland, ...	60	42	102
TOTALS, ...	193	163	356

Table XVII.—Obituary for the year ended 31st March, 1861.

No	Sex.	Age.	Form of Insanity and supposed Exciting Cause.	Social State.	Occupation.	Period an Inmate.			Cause of Death.	
						Yrs.	Mos.	Wks. Days		
1	M.	63	Dementia—Intemperance.	Single.	Grocer.	23	1	2	0	General Debility.
2	F.	19	Mania—Hereditary.	Single.	Domestic.	0	2	2	3	Maniacal Exhaustion.
3	M.	42	Mania—Fall on Ship Board.	Married.	Coast Guard.	0	1	0	6	Paralysis.
4	M.	36	Melancholia—Unknown.	Single.	Dealer.	2	2	4	0	{ Malignant Ulcer of Jaw and General Debility.
5	F.	60	Mania—Receiving Stolen Goods.	Married.	Labourer's Wife.	5	1	1	1	Anasarca.
6	F.	29	Mania—Epilepsy.	Single.	None.	12	2	1	5	Epilepsy.
7	M.	41	Mania—Unknown.	Married.	Car Owner.	1	4	0	0	General Paralysis.
8	F.	28	Mania—Unknown.	Single.	Servant.	0	5	3	4	Apoplexy.
9	F.	39	Mania—Fear of Want.	Married.	Housekeeper.	0	0	1	1	{ Mortification of Foot from Injury.
10	M.	19	Mania—Epilepsy.	Single.	Labourer.	3	8	0	4	Epilepsy.
11	M.	27	Mania—Unknown.	Single.	Weaver.	1	10	0	6	Apoplexy.
12	M.	70	Mania—Epilepsy.	Single.	Labourer.	10	0	0	0	Epilepsy.
13	M.	42	Mania—Fall from a Coach.	Single.	Servant.	0	7	0	0	General Debility.
14	M.	40	Mania—Unknown.	Single.	Labourer.	10	0	0	0	Hepatic Disease.
15	M.	60	Mania—Intemperance.	Single.	Pedlar.	14	7	0	0	{ Malignant Ulceration of Upper Jaw.
16	M.	75	Mania—Hereditary.	Widower.	Farmer.	15	1	2	4	Paralysis.
17	M.	35	Mania, Pecuniary Disappointment.	Married.	Shoemaker.	0	0	1	1	Exhaustion from acute Mania.
18	M.	64	Mania—Intemperance.	Single.	Soldier.	26	3	2	6	General Debility.
19	F.	32	Mania—Hereditary.	Single.	Flowerer.	5	8	3	5	Phthisis Pulmonalis.
20	M.	55	Mania—Religious Excitement.	Married.	Clerk.	2	7	0	0	General Paralysis.
21	F.	30	Mania—Prostitution.	Single.	Servant.	9	6	3	3	Anasarca.
22	F.		Mania—Hereditary.	Married.	Housekeeper.	4	9	0	6	{ General Debility with Scrofu- lous Disease.

GENERAL HEALTH.

No epidemic disease occurred during the year, the average health that prevailed amongst the inmates generally having been remarkably good and satisfactory.

MORTALITY OF THE YEAR.

Twenty-two deaths in all have to be recorded for the past year, which, with an average daily population of 357 nearly, was extremely small, making the percentage only 6.101 ; or, if taken on the total number under treatment during the year, but 4.824.

Two of the deceased were inmates for the short period of eight days each, both having been admitted under circumstances of the most unpromising nature. One of these, a female, having taken advantage of an unguarded moment before her admission, precipitated herself from a window thirty-eight feet from the ground. Most extraordinary to relate, after falling so great a distance, she not only did not sustain any fracture of the bones, large or small, or other visible outward injury—excepting a slight abrasion on the foot—but was able, it appeared, to walk back to her bed without any difficulty, or manifesting any pain. The other, a male, the subject of acute mania, had obstinately refused nourishment of any kind for several days before coming under treatment, which, together with the prostration that ensued from the violence of the mental attack, thus soon led to a fatal termination. A third case, also a male, had to be placed in bed immediately after admission, which he never left all his inmateship of about a month's duration, he being completely shattered in health, and the subject of partial paralysis for some time previously.

One of the deceased males had been an inmate for the prolonged period of twenty-six years, and was always of a very violent and turbulent disposition, frequently turning suddenly upon the nearest to him, and striking or kicking severely without any provocation whatever. Three others of the males were, respectively, in the House twenty-three, fifteen, and fourteen years. The oldest deceased male had reached the advanced age of seventy-five, and, until within a very short period of death, enjoyed vigorous health. A few months before his death,

this patient, who had been an inmate fifteen years, with two short intervals of discharge, was, apparently, so fully restored to mental health, and so extremely well-conducted in every respect, not having had a relapse for upwards of three years, that he was removed home by his family, who were very desirous that he should finish the remainder of his days with them ; but a fortnight had scarcely elapsed when his insanity returned, and with such extreme excitement and turbulence as to be dangerous to all about him, when his re-admission here had to be effected, and, until death supervened, the renewed maniacal condition continued. This is but one of many instances which might be adduced of the large number of the inmates of those Institutions, who, whilst under constant superintendence, behave remarkably well, betraying frequently no evidence whatever of mental disturbance, but let them mix again in ordinary with their fellow-men, and soon a very different state of things results.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

The causes of the deaths which took place during the year were :—General debility, four (three males one female) ; paralysis, four (males) ; epilepsy, three (two males one female) ; exhaustion from maniacal excitement, two (one male one female) ; pulmonary consumption, two (one male one female) ; apoplexy, two (one male one female) ; cancerous ulceration of jaw, two (males) ; injury resulting from precipitation, one (female) ; disease of liver, one (male) ; dropsy, one (female). Of the fifteen males contained in the above, the oldest was seventy-five years, the youngest nineteen, and the average of all forty-four-and-a-half years ; and of the seven females, the oldest and youngest, respectively, were sixty and nineteen years, their average age being in round numbers thirty-nine years.

SUICIDAL CASES.

Though the number of patients admitted during the year, with the suicidal propensity more or less strongly marked, was comparatively large, it has thankfully to be stated that no accident in this or any other way occurred, thus speaking well for the great vigilance of the attendants. Very recently a male patient, under the denomination of a " Dangerous Lunatic," was received

from one of the jails by warrant of the Lord Lieutenant, who, whilst there, required to be constantly watched both day and night during an incarceration of two months, so bent was he on self-destruction, and having on two occasions, prior to his admission into jail, attempted the suicidal act—in the first, by cutting his throat very severely; and, in the second, by throwing himself under a mill wheel, when one of his legs was severely lacerated. Cases like the above are the cause of incessant anxiety in these Institutions, as may well be imagined; the entirely unthought-of and cunningly-devised means on the part of the suicidally disposed to accomplish the one object upon which they are bent, being almost impossible for human means to be always guarded against or to prevent.

RECOVERIES.

The cases discharged recovered during the year amounted to forty-six, being an average of 45.098 per cent. on the new admissions; and the discharges, as relieved, were thirty-two, which was a percentage of 31.372 on the new cases, both being very favourable, considering the embarrassed state of the Institution owing to its crowded condition.

PRESENT STATE OF ACCOMMODATION.

Throughout the past year the wards of the House were, as hitherto, not only always full, but overcrowded—a condition of things which the Governors have been earnestly endeavouring to have rectified, but hitherto without any decided result. Embodied in this Report are their proceedings on that head, which makes it unnecessary to say more on the subject here, but simply to reiterate how pressing the necessity is, that this state of things so adverse to the best interests of the insane, as well as of the community at large, should be rectified with the least possible delay. The cases in ordinary for admission on the books of the Institution just at present are not so numerous as they had been a few months back, efforts having been made, at every inconvenience, to reduce the number, so that there are only five awaiting being received as soon as such can be effected. In the jails, however, there are about twenty five committed as “dangerous lunatics,” and who, of course, must necessarily there re-

main for some indefinite period, so far as taking them in charge here is concerned.

OFFICIAL VISITATION.

The House was officially visited by Doctors Nugent and Hatchell, the Government Inspectors and Commissioners of Control of Asylums, five times during the past year, besides the regular monthly inspections of the Governors themselves, upon all of which occasions minutes were made on the books of the general state and management of the Institution and the treatment of the patients being very satisfactory and creditable.

STEAM-ENGINE FOR PUMPING WATER.

The erection of the above has been one of the greatest additions to the domestic comfort and sanitary condition of the Institution that can well be conceived, the supply of water through its means being always ample, and the more than questionable employment of the patients in so laborious and never-ceasing a process for obtaining the same by a force pump being thus happily rendered altogether unnecessary.

DEATH OF THE CLERK AND STOREKEEPER.

It has to be stated, with the greatest regret, that, within the last month, the Institution has been deprived, suddenly, by death, of the services of Mr. Robert Lamont, its very efficient clerk and storekeeper for upwards of ten years, during which time the performance of the confidential and important duties of his office was most conscientious and unremitting, and his interest in the welfare of the establishment ever of the liveliest kind.

PATIENTS' BAND, &C.

The Musical Band, which was commenced amongst the inmates about two years since, continues to progress with no small credit to their teacher, Mr. Dornan, and to delight, unspeakably, the patients themselves, of all classes, who take the greatest interest and pleasure in this inspiring recreation, and most important adjunct in their daily amusement and moral treatment. Their drill exercises also—which have been referred to in

former Reports—and occasional walks into the country, accompanied by their Band, continue to be regularly practised, and with the happiest results in every respect.

INCREASE OF WAGES, &C.

It only remains for the Resident Physician to express his thankfulness to the Governors for their continued kind appreciation of his labours, and to record their readiness, at all times, to promote, in every possible way, the best interests of the Institution. To his brother officers, he feels much indebted for their valuable professional aid ; and, as regards the attendants and domestics generally, he is enabled to say that their conduct has been most praiseworthy in the fulfilment of their confessedly trying and hazardous duties, and in consideration of which the Board, during the past year, increased their wages, which they so well deserved, and for which the recipients felt duly sensible.

ROBERT STEWART, M.D.,

Resident Physician-Superintendent.

GENERAL TABLES OF STATISTICS.

Table XVIII.—Shewing the Admissions, Discharges, &c., from each County in the District, during the year ended 31st March, 1861.

ADMITTED FROM EACH COUNTY.

	Males	Females	Total
Antrim,	27	35	62
County of the Town of Carrickfergus,	0	0	0
Down,	24	16	40
TOTALS,	51	51	102

DISCHARGED, &c., TO EACH COUNTY.

	Males	Females	Total
Antrim,	28	29	57
County of the Town of Carrickfergus,	0	2	2
Down,	18	23	41
TOTALS,	46	54	100

REMAINING IN THE HOUSE, 31st MARCH, 1861.

	Males	Females	Total
Antrim,	91	93	184
County of the Town of Carrickfergus,	3	3	6
Down,	99	67	166
TOTALS,	193	163	356

Table XIX.—Shewing the Per Centage of Discharges and Deaths, and the Average Per Centage calculated on the Average Number of Patients for Thirteen Years, ended 31st March, 1861.

Years ending 31st March.	Yearly Average Number.	RECOVERED.		RELIEVED.		DIED.	
		No. of Cases.	Rate Per Cent.	No. of Cases.	Rate Per Cent.	No. of Cases.	Rate Per Cent.
1849	271.32	69	25.43	14	5.16	30	11.05
1850	267.51	50	18.68	22	8.22	43	16.07
1851	271.12	81	29.87	29	10.69	29	10.69
1852	275.71	62	22.48	24	8.70	27	9.79
1853	280.01	67	23.92	21	7.49	25	8.92
1854	279.11	47	16.83	20	7.16	19	6.80
1855	266.48	36	13.50	21	7.88	39	14.63
1856	291.96	50	17.12	14	4.79	19	6.50
1857	323.25	66	20.41	15	4.64	39	11.75
1858	342.59	82	23.93	26	7.58	25	7.29
1859	347.20	65	18.17	18	5.18	18	5.18
1860	358.97	75	20.89	22	6.12	25	6.96
1861	356.98	47	13.16	31	8.68	22	6.16

Table XX.—Ages of the 356 Patients remaining in the Hospital on 31st March, 1861.

					Males	Females	Total
Under 20 Years, ...	...	...	...	...	3	2	5
From 20 to 30 Years,	...	...	...	...	36	41	77
“ 30 to 40 “	...	...	...	...	48	38	86
“ 40 to 50 “	...	...	...	...	56	42	98
“ 50 to 60 “	...	...	...	...	39	26	65
“ 60 to 70 “	...	...	...	...	10	12	22
“ 70 to 80 “	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
TOTALS,	...	...	...	...	193	163	356

Table XXI.—Shewing the Duration of Residence in the Hospital of the 356 Patients remaining under Treatment, 31st March, 1861.

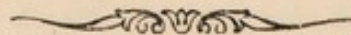
					Males	Females	Total
From 1 to 2 Months,	...	...	...	...	5	3	8
“ 2 to 3 “	...	...	...	...	7	7	14
“ 3 to 6 “	...	...	...	...	5	5	10
“ 6 to 9 “	...	...	...	...	7	12	19
“ 9 Months to one Year,	...	...	...	...	7	5	12
“ 1 Year to 18 Months,	...	...	...	...	14	17	31
“ 18 Months to 2 Years,	...	...	...	...	3	6	9
“ 2 Years to 4 “	...	...	...	...	32	24	56
“ 4 “ to 6 “	...	...	...	...	30	19	49
“ 6 “ to 10 “	...	...	...	...	20	19	39
“ 10 “ to 15 “	...	...	...	...	22	21	43
“ 15 “ to 20 “	...	...	...	...	12	13	25
“ 20 “ to 25 “	...	...	...	...	16	7	23
“ 25 “ to 30 “	...	...	...	...	8	4	12
“ 30 and upwards,	...	...	...	...	5	1	6
TOTALS,	...	...	...	...	193	163	356

Table XXII.—Shewing the Articles Manufactured and made by the Patients during the year ended 31st March, 1861.

2,250 Hanks Linen Yarn.	140 Petticoats,
1,574 Yards Plain Linen,	57 Wrappers,
34 Yards Twilled Linen,	270 Day Caps,
174 Yards Ticken,	17 Night Caps,
592 Yards Plain Calico,	51 Bolsters,
175 Yards Twilled Calico,	60 Bed Ticks,
378 Pairs Stockings and Socks,	11 Gowns,
456 Sheets,	306 Pillow Slips,
187 Shirts,	338 Neck Ties,
157 Shifts,	79 Quilted Blankets,
213 Aprons,	29 Overalls,

Table XXIII.—Shewing the Number of Cases Admitted, Recovered, Relieved, and who Died, in each Quarter and each Month, respectively, during the Year ended 31st March, 1861.

	ADMITTED.			DISCHARGED.						DIED.		
				RECOVERED.			RELIEVED.					
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
April,.....	6	4	10	2	4	6	1	1	2	1	1	2
May,.....	5	6	11	0	1	1	0	2	2	2	1	3
June,.....	5	2	7	1	1	2	0	3	3	0	1	1
			-28			-9			-7			-6
July,.....	3	2	5	0	4	4	0	0	0	1	0	1
August,.....	3	6	9	3	6	9	1	0	1	1	2	3
September,.....	8	6	14	0	3	3	3	5	8	3	0	3
			-28			-16			-9			-7
October,.....	4	3	7	3	2	5	2	1	3	0	0	0
November,.....	3	7	10	2	2	4	0	1	1	2	0	2
December,.....	3	1	4	2	2	4	1	1	2	1	0	1
			-21			-13			-6			-3
January,.....	3	3	6	2	0	2	4	1	5	0	0	0
February,.....	4	7	11	0	4	4	1	1	2	3	1	4
March,.....	4	4	8	3	0	3	1	1	2	0	2	2
			-25			-9			-9			-6
	51	51	102	18	29	47	14	17	31	14	8	22



AN ACCOUNT OF THE RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS OF THE BELFAST DISTRICT HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE, FOR ONE YEAR,

BEING FROM 1ST APRIL, 1860, TO 31ST MARCH, 1861.

THE CHARGE.

Balance of last Account in favour of the public, ..	£324 8 3
Received from the Lords Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury, ..	6,199 4 11
Received for Vegetables and Fruit sold, £18 17 0	
Do. Oats and Wheat sold, ..	47 11 9½
Do. Potatoes sold, ..	17 3 10½
Do. Bones and Rags sold, ..	18 15 3
Do. Hay sold, ..	41 6 6
Do. Grazing, ..	5 10 0
Do. Old Metal, ..	1 2 0
Do. Overcharges on Barley, Candles, and Rice, re-funded in July, ..	3 13 3
Do. Wages charged in error, ..	1 3 4
Do. Amount from Board of Works, for James Cameron, for Erecting Pump, 300 0 0	
Do. Interest, per Bank-Book, 19 15 4	
	<u>£474 18 4</u>
Balance in favour of the public, ..	£6,998 11 6
	<u>£285 8 4</u>

THE DISCHARGE.

Paid for Provisions, ..	£3,172 14 1
Do. Clothing, ..	899 7 4
Do. Bedding, ..	183 14 1
Do. Furniture, ..	51 9 1
Do. Fuel and Light, ..	379 18 8
Do. Soap, Candles, &c., ..	133 10 4
Do. Stationery and Printing, ..	40 3 2
Do. Advertising, ..	2 5 10
Do. Medicines, ..	27 0 8
Do. Repairs and Alterations, ..	532 9 4
Do. Farm and Garden Expenses, ..	65 2 10
Do. Insurance, ..	22 12 6
Do. Incidental Expenses, ..	86 19 4
Do. Salaries and Wages, ..	1,111 16 5
Do. Postage, ..	3 19 6
	<u>£6,713 3 2</u>
To Balance in hand, ..	285 8 4
	<u>£6,998 11 6</u>

**AN ACCOUNT OF THE EXPENDITURE ON AND PRODUCE OF THE LAND OF THE BELFAST DISTRICT HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE, FOR ONE YEAR,
BEING FROM 1ST APRIL, 1860, TO 31ST MARCH, 1861.**

Dr. EXPENDITURE.

To Seeds and Plants,	£20 5 0
" Spades, Hooks, Shovels, &c.,	7 11 0
" Stones and Tiles for Draining,	27 6 3
" Shoeing Market Horse,	2 3 8
" Rent Charge,	6 16 7
" Saddlery Work,	1 0 4
" Balance,	£65 2 10
	<u>307 12 4</u>

Cr. PRODUCE.

By 346 cwt. 2 qrs. 16 lbs. Potatoes used in the Establishment, at 4s per cwt.	£69 6 6
" 160 cwt. 2 qrs. 2 lbs. do., sold at various prices,	17 5 11½
	<u>£86 12 5½</u>
" 91 cwt. Oats used in the Establishment, at 8s 6d per cwt.,	38 13 6
" 21 cwt. 3 qrs. 14 lbs. do., sold at from 7s 9d to 8s 6d per cwt.,	9 14 11
	<u>48 8 5</u>
" 57 cwt. 3 qrs. 18 lbs. Wheat, sold at from 12s 9d to 13s 1d per cwt.,	37 16 10
" 4 cwt. do., used for Seed, at 13s 6d per cwt.,	2 14 0
	<u>40 10 10</u>
" 200 cwt. Hay used in this Establishment, at 3s per cwt.,	30 0 0
" 286 cwt. 3 qrs. 7 lbs. do., sold at various prices,	41 6 6
	<u>71 6 6</u>
" 400 cwt. Straw used in the Establishment, at 2s per cwt.,	40 0 0
" Vegetables and Fruit sold,	18 17 0
" Do. used in the Establishment,	40 0 0
" Manure, valued at	20 0 0
" Osiers, made into Baskets,	1 10 0
" Grazing on Ground at River-side,	5 10 0
	<u>£372 15 2</u>
Total,	£307 12 4

Total, £372 15 2

DIETARY

OF

The Belfast District Hospital for the Insane.

BREAKFAST.

One quart stirabout (made with 8oz. fine or 7oz. coarse meal) and three-fourths of a pint mixed milk, ...	Males.	} Every Morning.
One-and-half pint stirabout and one half pint mixed milk, ... ..			Females.

DINNER.

One half-pound loaf bread (or 3lbs. potatoes), 6oz. solid meat, and one pint soup,	Males & Females.	} 3 days a week.
One half-pound loaf bread (or 3 lbs. potatoes) and one quart soup (made with ox-heads and bones cut out of meat, vegetables, oatmeal, barley, pease, &c.),	Males.	} 3 days a week.
One half-pound loaf bread (or 3lbs. potatoes), and one-and-half pint soup, ... ..			Females.
Three-fourths of a pound loaf bread (or 3½lbs. potatoes) and one pint mixed milk,	Males.	} 1 day a week.
One half-pound loaf bread (or 3lbs. potatoes) and one pint mixed milk,	Females.	

SUPPER.

One half-pound loaf bread and three-fourths of a pint of new milk,	Males.	} Summer 6 months
One half-pound loaf bread and one half-pint new milk, ... ..			Females.
One quart stirabout and three-fourths of a pint new milk,	Males.	} Winter 6 months
One-and-half pint stirabout and one half pint new milk, ... ..			Females.

. Patients who are actively employed are allowed a portion of meat, in addition to the soup, five instead of three days in the week. When the state of the patient's health requires it, the diet is changed accordingly, and any other substituted that may be considered requisite by the Medical Officers.

A P P E N D I X .

Increased Accommodation for the Lunatic Poor.

TO THE FOREMAN AND GRAND JURORS OF THE COUNTIES
OF ANTRIM AND DOWN, AND THE COUNTY OF THE TOWN
OF CARRICKFERGUS.

BOARD ROOM, BELFAST DISTRICT ASYLUM,
4th March, 1861.

GENTLEMEN,

As Governors of the Belfast District Lunatic Asylum, a chief source of our anxiety and regret has long been, insufficient accommodation for the lunatic poor. The subject is one of large and painful interest. In France, there were in Asylums, 10,539 in 1835, and 24,524 in 1854. England and Wales had 16,764 pauper lunatics in 1843, and 30,318 in 1859. In England, Wales, and Scotland, they have nearly doubled in sixteen years. One of every 600 of the population in England and Wales is incapable of self-management; Scotland has 7,878 of the same class; and, of pauper lunatics alone, Ireland has 9,286.

The numbers in Asylums have greatly increased. The first nine Asylums in Ireland, built for 980 inmates, had soon 1,930; and, though six more have been opened, there is nothing yet approaching to sufficient accommodation. This arises from various causes. Advancing science prolongs life, and wise, kind treatment, still more; for the law of kindness, taught in an order of Council for Irish Asylums, is now the law for all: that all the latitude of personal liberty consistent with safety, mildness of manner, and the avoidance of every cause of irritation, be the constant and essential practice observed within them.

The chief cause, as stated in the 9th Report on Asylums in Ireland, is, that they are crowded with incurable patients, so that above 70 per cent. of their inmates give little or no hope

of recovery or improvement, though maintained at an annual cost of above £26 each, while urgent and curable patients seek admission in vain ; hence, gaols, workhouses, and the abodes of the poor themselves, are converted into receptacles for a class whose main chance of recovery depends on an early and appropriate treatment, but who, if neglected, are likely to become dangerous and permanent burdens.

Our Asylum was opened in 1829 for 104, but accommodation for 64 more was soon added ; again for 100, and once more for 130 ; yet our last Report states that never was the want of room more felt than during the past year. The evil has become intolerable, and there must be an immediate remedy. This cannot be by an enlargement of the present building : no one suggests this ; but three plans worthy of respectful attention have been proposed.

The first is the erection in Co. Down of a new District Asylum like our own. Our judgment and feeling are both against this, because the New and Old Asylum, after incurring immense expense, would soon be in the same crowded, helpless state, the evil day being only deferred ; and the Governors representing the two counties have always attended so well, and acted with such cordiality and harmony, that their union on our Board should remain, as a token and earnest of that substantial sameness of interest and aim which should ever unite the two great prosperous counties of Antrim and Down.

The second plan is to assign to workhouses a portion of the lunatic poor.

“We strongly object,” say the Scotch Commissioners in Lunacy, “to lunatic wards in poorhouses, both on the ground of economy and general treatment ; but chiefly, that the primary object of poorhouses is to afford a test for poverty, and to provide for the poor in the most economical manner, being thus directly contrary to the treatment of lunatics, which is, the provision of everything reasonable, to lighten the burden of, perhaps, man’s greatest calamity. Confinement in the poorhouse is not suitable for the poor lunatic, who has to realise there, weary monotony day by day, long confinement to rooms, the clean bareness of which is itself chilling and depressing, the scanty exercise in narrow yards ; and the feeling of injustice

which such treatment often creates in those whose disease has not destroyed reflection. A sad fruit of all this is, that one-sixth of the males in these houses have died within the year."

The chief evil for which a remedy is required, say the Select Committee on Lunatics, in their Report, July 27, 1860, is the detention of a large number of pauper lunatics in workhouses. With regard to those really lunatic, there is a great absence of proper supervision, attendance, and medical treatment. Mechanical restraint is frequently applied, because the imperfect state of the accommodation admits of no better mode of treatment ; in many cases, the medical officers of a union cannot have the special knowledge requisite for the management of the insane ; and it may generally be concluded that the special appliances of a Union Workhouse are not by any means equivalent as to this class of inmates, to those of a Lunatic Asylum.

"It appears to us," say the Irish Commissioners, in their Report for 1858, "that there can be no more unsuitable place for the detention of insane persons than the ordinary lunatic wards of the Union Workhouses. The unfortunate creatures have no one to attend them but some of the other pauper inmates, who are but little capable, or little inclined, to concern themselves with looking to their wants or necessities. The result is, that the condition of these wards and the lunatics detained there is usually most unsatisfactory. In many cases, the bedding is ill attended to, the persons of the lunatics were often most filthy, their clothing bad, and no effort at cleanliness was observable in this apparently condemned division of the Workhouse. Some Workhouses were honourable exceptions as to bodily treatment, but we cannot say that in any of them moral treatment was much studied."

"Generally speaking," say the Irish Commissioners, in their 9th Report (1859), "the demented and idiotic are detained in a distinct part of the Workhouse, where, for the most part, they are better fed than the ordinary paupers, getting three meals a day. But nothing can be more melancholy than the gloomy, ill-ventilated cells allotted to them ; while small yards, overshadowed on all sides by buildings or high walls, constitute the sole places available for recreation or exercise.

"If any class of our fellow-beings requires more than another

the genial influence of sun, light, and air, it is the idiotic : physically malformed, of weak frame, and presenting as it does the saddest victims of scrofula, it should command, in every reasonable manner, the unceasing exercise of our sympathies. Constructed, therefore, as they are, they cannot be regarded as other than most unsuitable abodes for idiots and weak-minded epileptics ; so that neither parsimony on the one hand, nor a gratuitous supposition on the other that they cannot fully appreciate the comforts we would provide for them, should interfere with the practical charity of placing the classes in question in establishments where they can be more humanely and more efficiently attended to."

To such high authorities of practical wisdom and experience it is unnecessary to make any addition. We therefore proceed to the third proposal—one which we strongly recommend—the division of the insane patients of Down and Antrim into two classes, and the erection of a new and separate Asylum for one of these, which can be established at a comparatively moderate cost.

"A vast proportion of those deemed insane," say the Select Committee of Parliament, "are cases, either of natural idiocy or of mental imbecility, arising from age, epilepsy, fits, and other causes, where the maladies may be termed chronic or incurable. With regard to them, little more can be done by any laws, however wise, than to provide the patients with such comforts as their circumstances admit ; but, with regard to others, since 50 or 60, or even 70 per cent. are capable of cure, if taken in time, and carefully treated, it is of primary importance that our legislative provisions be so framed as to promote this desirable object."

A Committee of the House of Lords in 1843 reported against the expediency of appropriating the Union Workhouses as places either for the custody or the treatment of the insane ; and suggested three modes of providing increased accommodation for pauper lunatics ; 1. By an increased number of District Asylums ; 2. An enlargement of them ; 3. The erection of separate establishments, specially appropriated for certain classes of patients, viz. :—epilepsy, idiocy, and chronic disease. The third of these is just what we want.

“The uniform tendency of all asylums,” say Drs. White and Nugent “(unless the evil be strictly guarded against, as at the Bethlem, London), is to degenerate from being hospitals for the treatment of insanity into domiciles for incurable lunatics, to the exclusion and serious detriment of acute diseases, at a period when benefit is to be derived from the early application of medical science, and when the recoveries therefrom may be estimated at fully 60 per cent. Three-fourths of the lunatics at present in the district establishments of the country—and we believe the same observation applies to many in England—are the accumulation of chronic disease, with little or no prospect of recovery.

“It would be an injustice akin to cruelty to discharge unhappy beings circumstanced as the great majority of the above, without first providing an abode, where means of employment and every reasonable comfort adapted to their mental condition would be afforded them. At the same time, it is quite evident that the public are wronged by the appropriation of institutions, constructed and upheld at great expense, to purposes different from those for which they were intended—namely, as curative hospitals—and that the insane themselves not only suffer from the want of early treatment, but, in numerous instances, are thereby rendered perpetual burdens on the country, as exemplified at Clonmel, where recoveries do not exceed 20 per cent. instead of 60, as would be the case among patients admitted in proper time.”

We do not propose to erect an Asylum for Incurables ; it is no province of ours to predict who may recover or who may not ; we simply propose that patients of a certain class or of a certain period of continuance in the present Asylum, shall be placed in another, without any ban or sentence, or even expressed opinion regarding their recovery, and without the remotest intimation which would tend to shut out hope from any mind.

We make no proposal of separating them from a curative system, but, on the contrary, we insist that their dietary, their accommodation, air, exercise, amusement, medical attendance, and whole management, shall not only be such as science and experience have proved to be best ; but, we trust, that, accord-

ing to the great principle of division of labour, Superintendent, Medical Staff, and caretakers, all having their attention and energies concentrated in one sphere, the prospect of recovery among the patients will be more hopeful than ever.

Thus we expect to accomplish what Drs. White and Nugent, in their Report for 1855, call a most desirable object, inasmuch as all the chronic and incurable cases which have been for many years accumulating, and at present take up a great deal of valuable room in the several district Asylums that could otherwise be more beneficially devoted to recent and acute cases, may be removed to this auxiliary building, by which means a twofold advantage would be gained, the provision of proper accommodation for the class in question, without the objectionable title of an Asylum for Incurables, and the disembarrassment of the parent Asylum from all but inmates suffering from recent and acute affections, or those whose malady affords reasonable hope of ultimate recovery, thus leaving it free to exercise its proper and legitimate functions, of an hospital for the cure of insanity, instead of being a mere receptacle for the safe-keeping and maintenance of chronic cases.

The whole subject, as pressing heavily on our feelings and our conscience, can be expressed in a few words. Of cases admitted to Lunatic Asylums in Ireland, there should be recoveries of about 49 per cent., and of improved cases discharged, 13 ; in all, 62 of every 100. But of one-half, at least, in our Asylum, experience gives exceedingly small hope of recovery, and by having these in, others are kept out ; or, in other words the incurable exclude the curable. The Asylum is so filled and overloaded that it cannot do what it was intended to do.

As men of principle and of ordinary feeling, we can endure this no longer ; we cannot bear to see the day of hope wasting away from the poor excluded lunatic, and the fatal period drawing on when his recovery will be all but hopeless ; we cannot bear to look on and be partakers in the folly and sin of perpetuating a ruinous system ; we cannot bear to see the public paying heavily for the support of an Institution which is prevented from making them an adequate return ; and we cannot, and will not, be accountable for the direful ills spread and perpetuated, by leaving dangerous lunatics at large, when the com-

munity is able and willing to give them all the blessings which our noble Institution is so well calculated to bestow.

We do, therefore, most respectfully and earnestly entreat you to aid us in carrying out a plan, which would confer inestimable blessings on our two counties, and which, holding up the light of a high and successful example, would spread a benignant influence wide in the present generation, and transmit it unimpaired to future years.

(Signed on behalf of the Governors)

ROBERT DOWN AND CONNOR AND DROMORE,
Chairman.

DEPUTATION OF GOVERNORS

To the Grand Juries of the District

RESPECTING ADDITIONAL ACCOMMODATION.

THE deputation agreed upon by the Board on the 4th of March, 1861, waited by appointment on the Grand Jury of the County Down, on Friday, 8th March, 1861, to submit the above statement, shewing the necessity there existed for providing increased accommodation for the Insane Poor of the Counties of Antrim and Down and the County of the Town of Carrickfergus. The deputation consisted of—

The MAYOR OF BELFAST (Edward Coey, Esq.)

The LORD BISHOP OF DOWN AND CONNOR AND DROMORE.

RIGHT REV. DR. DENVIR.

REV. DR. MONTGOMERY.

REV. DR. EDGAR.

JOHN CLARKE, Esq.

DR. STEWART, the Resident Physician.

The BISHOP of DOWN having shortly mentioned the object of the deputation and obtained permission of the Foreman that

Dr. Edgar should read the "statement" which had been specially drawn up by the Board of Governors to lay before the Grand Juries of the district, and the same having been read accordingly,

The BISHOP then followed up that document by some appropriate remarks, shewing the absolute necessity of providing immediate additional accommodation either by an auxiliary Asylum or a distinct one for the County Down alone.

Dr. DENVIR, in supporting "the statement" now read, called the Grand Jury's special attention to the location of the auxiliary Asylum being wherever it might be most convenient for the two counties, and to the fact that in the Belfast Union Workhouse there were at present about 130 lunatics; or, in other words, that 10 per cent. of its entire population was of that unhappy class. (Hear.)

Dr. MONTGOMERY entered very largely and particularly into the business now brought before the Grand Jury, observing that in point of fact neither the Grand Juries of the district, nor the Board of Governors, but the Lord Lieutenant and Privy Council of Ireland alone had the power of erecting new Asylums, or otherwise affording an increase of accommodation for the insane poor. Still a representation made by them to the Executive would carry great weight, and materially tend to something conclusive being speedily done to accomplish the humane purpose for which the Governors were deputed to wait upon the Grand Juries. He, in the course of his observations, strongly recommended a subsidiary Institution being attached to the present district Asylum to relieve it of those cases of long standing which were crowding its wards, and preventing the admission of recent cases, which, if enabled to be treated in time, would be restored to society as useful members—(hear)—and suggested the propriety of a conference taking place between the Grand Juries and the Governors to discuss the question in its general bearings as the best and only likely means of arriving at a definite issue. (Hear.)

The MAYOR of BELFAST (Edward Coey, Esq.), as a member of the deputation, fully concurred in all the remarks already made by the gentlemen who had preceded him, and pressed strongly the necessity of the wants of the insane poor being attended to without any further delay.

JOHN CLARKE, Esq., observed that as a member of the Board of Superintendence of the Belfast Prison, he could state that the presence of insane patients there not only was the cause of great embarrassment in the daily conduct and discipline of the jail, but also most prejudicial to the patients themselves, from the absence of any means of that proper and judicious treatment which could alone be practised in a well-ordered Asylum. (Hear.)

The respective members of the deputation, together with Dr. Stewart, having now spoken in support of the "statement," the Foreman, followed by several members of the Grand Jury, entered fully into the question which had been under discussion nearly two hours, when the deputation retired, the Foreman thanking them for all the trouble they had taken and the information they had given, and, subsequently, the following resolution was formally put to, and unanimously adopted by, the Grand Jury :—“That our Secretary be directed to inform his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant of the urgent necessity for increased accommodation for the pauper lunatics of the Counties of Down and Antrim and the County of the Town of Carrickfergus, and that, as a deputation from the Governors of the Belfast District Lunatic Asylum have proposed a meeting with their body, of Committees of the Grand Juries of Counties Down and Antrim, that his Excellency be further requested to arrange for the attendance of one or both of the Inspectors of Lunatic Asylums, at such a meeting, to take place in Belfast, as may be hereafter fixed, to suit the general convenience ; and that Lieutenant-Colonel Fforde, M.P., J.W. Maxwell, R. Heron, F. Filgate, and P. H. Despard, Esqrs., with our Secretary, be appointed a Committee to represent this Grand Jury on that occasion.”

THE same deputation waited, subsequently, upon the Grand Juries of Antrim and the County of the Town of Carrickfergus, when resolutions similar to the above were adopted for holding a conference of Committees of their bodies with the Committee of the Grand Jury of the County Down and the Governors of the Asylum.

PROCEEDINGS

OF

MEETING OF COMMITTEES

APPOINTED BY THE GRAND JURIES OF THE DISTRICT
AND OF GOVERNORS

FOR INCREASED ACCOMMODATION.

On Friday, the 22nd of March, a meeting was held in the Board-room of the Ulster Railway Terminus, in accordance with the following circular :—

“Belfast, 16th March, 1861.

SIR,—You are requested to attend a Joint Meeting of the Committees, respectively, of the Grand Juries of the Counties of Antrim and Down and of the County of the Town of Carrickfergus, together with the Government Inspectors of Asylums and the Governors of the Belfast District Lunatic Asylum, on Friday next, the 22nd instant, at the hour of one o'clock, in the Board-room of the Ulster Railway Terminus, Great Victoria Street, with the view of considering the best means of providing additional accommodation for the insane poor of the district.

(By order)

“ROBERT STEWART, M.D., Convener.”

The Chair was occupied by

EDWARD COEY, Esq., J.P., Mayor of Belfast,

who attended in his capacity as one of the Governors of the Asylum, and amongst the other Governors present were—

LORD BISHOP OF DOWN AND CONNOR AND DROMORE.

REV. DR. MONTGOMERY.

CONWAY B. GRIMSHAW, Esq.

JOHN CLARKE, Esq.

MAJOR CRAWFORD.

ADAM J. M'CRORY, Esq.

THOMAS M'CLURE, Esq.
REV. DR. EDGAR.
SIR ROBERT BATESON, Bart.
RIGHT REV. DR. DENVIR, Roman Catholic Bishop.

Antrim Committee :

COLONEL ADAIR.
C. R. DOBBS, Esq.
MAJOR M'CLINTOCK.
W. COATES, Esq.
JOHN COATES, Esq., the Secretary of the Grand Jury.

Down Committee :

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL FFORDE, M.P.
J. W. MAXWELL, Esq.
R. H. DESPARD, Esq.
R. HERON, Esq.
F. FILGATE, Esq.
ROBERT GORDON, Esq., the Secretary of the Grand Jury.

Carrickfergus Committee :

THOMAS M. BIRNIE, Esq.
JOHN BORTHWICK, Esq.
MARRIOTT R. DALWAY, Esq.

Dr. NUGENT, Government Commissioner of Control and Inspector of Asylums, Dr. STEWART, and Dr. M'CORMAC, the Physicians of the Asylum, were also present.

On the motion of Lieutenant-Colonel FFORDE, M.P., seconded by Mr. J. W. MAXWELL, it was unanimously resolved that extra accommodation for the lunatic poor of the district was required.

The Lord Bishop of DOWN and CONNOR then moved—"That, in our opinion, the increased accommodation can be best supplied by providing an auxiliary building of the least expensive form and character, for such chronic and other cases, which have been for many years accumulating, and thus disembarass the parent house from all but inmates suffering from recent and acute affections." He said that, as he had had an opportunity of expressing his own opinion both to the Grand Jury

of County Down and to the Grand Jury of the County Antrim, he did not think it would become him again to press it on the meeting, but he wished to quote a few words from a public document in support of what he then advanced, and considering the high official position of the gentleman who was the author of it, the ample means he had of procuring information, and the accurate and candid manner in which he had given that information to the public, he thought the opinion was justly deserving of very great weight and very great consideration. He read it with the greater pleasure in the presence of the gentleman who had made the report, Dr. Nugent, and paying at the same time a passing tribute to his high professional character and his philanthropic labours on behalf of the lunatic poor of Ireland. His lordship then quoted the opinion of Dr. Nugent, to the effect that the cost of the proposed alterations would not be so serious as might appear at first sight, as the plan was simply to erect a suitable auxiliary building of the least expensive form and character, with large dormitories, and that plan he strongly recommended. He (the Lord Bishop) would not add one word to that, for anything he could say would only weaken it. He thought it embodied the opinion of the Governors of the Asylum, and of all those who, from their professional position and their official duties, had had an opportunity of inquiring into the subject, or of looking after the management of the lunatic poor in this country.

Major M'CLINTOCK said that in the Hanwell Asylum there were 1,300 patients, and not one of them under restraint. To a certain extent it was self-supporting, for the inmates were employed at different trades, as printers, tailors, and shoemakers.

Mr. MACRORY said that a mammoth establishment could not be attended to as it ought to be. He had it on very high authority—that of Lord Shaftesbury, the Chairman of the Commissioners in Lunacy in England—that they were opposed to any Institution that had a greater number than perhaps 500 or 600 at most. Now, in Hanwell there were 1,300; and they would easily see that one or two medical men would not be able to attend to them with effect. (Hear, hear.) The primary object in all Institutions was to effect a cure, and, if that

object were kept in view, they might afterwards be made to a certain extent self-supporting.

Major M'CLINTOCK said that the Hanwell Asylum was divided into two parts, one for males and another for females.

Mr. MACRORY said that there were only two medical gentlemen in it. These large establishments were not so judicious as those having a more limited number.

The MAYOR reminded the meeting that the motion of the Bishop had not been seconded.

Mr. JOHN CLARKE said that, in order to bring the matter regularly before the meeting, he would second the motion of the Lord Bishop. He had come there quite unprejudiced one way or the other, and he expected that the information they would get that day would enable them to come to a proper conclusion. He agreed with Mr. Macrory that a very extensive establishment, like Hanwell, was not what they required. It was the cure of the unfortunate people admitted into the Asylum that they should look to, no matter what the expense, always taking care that there was no extravagance or useless expense, but only such expense as was suited to the case. (Hear, hear.)

Lieutenant-Colonel FFORDE said that before the motion was put he, on the part of the Grand Jury of the County Down, must inform them upon what grounds they were sent there. He conceived that they could not vote any such resolution as that proposed. They were sent there merely for the purpose of hearing the opinions given as to the best mode of carrying out the improvement which was acknowledged on all sides to be necessary. They had written to the Lord Lieutenant to request that Dr. Nugent, whom he was happy to see there, should attend, and that they should be guided principally by any opinion which he might express, so that, before any resolution such as that proposed could be put, he must take leave to say that the Committee of the County Down Grand Jury could not think of voting on the resolution, nor could they acknowledge themselves pledged in any way by any resolution of that sort passed by the meeting. Their object in coming there was solely to hear the opinions expressed, and to report to the Summer Assizes Grand Jury, and it would then be for their consideration whether the increased accommodation should be by

way of an auxiliary Asylum, or whether they should have a separate establishment in Downpatrick.

Mr. J. W. MAXWELL said he concurred in what Col. Fforde had said, and that their wish was to have an establishment for County Down itself.

The CHAIRMAN—Does any gentleman wish to express his views before the motion is put ?

Lieutenant-Colonel FFORDE—Would it not be well to ask Dr. Nugent to express his opinion in the first instance ? (Hear.) That was the object we had in writing to the Lord Lieutenant in requesting that Dr. Nugent should attend.

Dr. NUGENT commenced by returning thanks to the Lord Bishop of Down and Connor for the complimentary mention he had made of him, as well as to the gentlemen who had already spoken. He felt great pleasure in discussing, with a joint meeting of Grand Jurors and Governors, so highly influential as the present, a subject of great social importance, and it was most agreeable to find that all had one common object in view, no matter how they might differ in the best mode of arriving at it. For himself, he came perfectly unbiassed, and would, irrespective of the feelings entertained on the question in Down or Antrim, candidly express his opinion and give that advice which he conscientiously believed the best. (Hear, hear.) He observed that the statistics of insanity, generally, in the Three Kingdoms, would establish the fact that about one in every seven hundred at large was mentally diseased—the malady being more marked in some cases than in others, and that this would appear to be a recognised fact. Arguing, then, from the general population of the present Belfast district in a census of, in round numbers, 700,000 inhabitants, there must be over 700 insane of all grades; whilst in their local District Asylum there were only 360 beds, and that thus a large mass of lunatics must be unprovided for in the two counties. He then urged the necessity of increased accommodation, no matter how the provision was to be obtained. He expressed it as his opinion, candidly and unreservedly, that each county in Ireland (unless under peculiar circumstances) ought to have an Institution of its own for its insane, managed by local, unconnected with other authorities; that the Asylum ought to be central, so as to be accessible to

the friends and relatives of parties under treatment in it; that a conviction of the utility of separate Asylums was fast gaining ground was practically illustrated in the very Province of Ulster, when the Armagh Board and Grand Jury determined to retain the District Asylum there for Armagh alone—when the Monaghan Grand Jury had memorialized for a separate Asylum, which was actually ordered; and when Donegal is having its own Asylum. Dr. Nugent then referred to various other counties having, or about to have, their own Asylums—to Clare, with 214,000 inhabitants and 827,000 acres; to Kilkenny, with 158,000 inhabitants and 500,000 acres; to Waterford, with a population of 165,000 and 400,000 acres; to Monaghan, with only 142,000 inhabitants and 410,000 acres; and lastly, among others, to Armagh, with 196,000 inhabitants and under 400,000 acres. What was the relative position of Down and Antrim? The population of Down was 328,000; and of Antrim, 352,000—the area in acres respectively being 612,000 and 745,000. No doubt the present Asylum was central as regarded both counties—that is, geographically speaking—but for practical purposes it was not so. For example, a circle drawn ten miles around it, would contain, perhaps, 150,000 of the Antrim population, or more than a third, and not 6,000, or a 50th belonging to Down. He bore testimony to the great impartiality of the Board in affording, as far as in it lay, ample justice to the claims of Down. He said he did not come there to use any undue influence—he felt, indeed, he could not. It was, however, his duty to place the subject-matter before them as plainly and clearly as he was capable of doing; but his own conviction was that a regularly-constituted Asylum was the most advisable one, in which all classes were under the direct supervision of the same competent medical authorities, and when, by drafting off from one Institution to another, the parties deemed chronic and tranquil by one physician would be regarded as violent and dangerous by the superintendent of the so-called incurable depot, for such it would be. (Hear.) Dr. Nugent here entered upon his views and experience of the mode in which chronic patients should be treated, and stated that a misconception existed abroad in this respect; he could assure the gentlemen present that, though the majority were tranquil and

amenable under proper supervision, let them relax that supervision, and they became dangerous and violent. (Hear, hear.)

Rev. Dr. MONTGOMERY said he thought the argument of Dr. Nugent was not the question before them.

Colonel FFORDE said he had refused to let the motion be put to the meeting, and had called upon Dr. Nugent to give them an explanation of the entire matter. (Hear.)

The CHAIRMAN said they were anxious to have the fullest information on the subject. (Hear.)

Rev. Dr. MONTGOMERY said it was not acting according to the rules of any society not to stick to the questions before them.

Colonel FFORDE said his amendment was the question before the meeting, and he hoped Dr. Nugent would continue his explanation.

Rev. Dr. MONTGOMERY said he had heard no amendment proposed.

Dr. NUGENT then proceeded to say—I now come to a substantial question—that is, one for the ratepayers—viz., the cost entailed, or likely to be entailed, by the separation of the two counties—that is, if Down is determined on a divorce. The past expenditure on the District Asylum at Belfast may be best regarded under three heads—that for building, that for land, and that for furniture. I get rid of the last *in limine*—let it go for wear and tear. The Asylum, in regard to building, has had three epochs—first, the structure cost £22,000 say thirty years ago. Now, Down, for this period, has had the use of it, consequently must, under an Act passed three sessions ago, make due allowance for its long connexion, according to the provisions of the 7th Geo. IV. When one county separates from the parent Asylum it can claim the full amount it has laid out, and the remaining county has to refund that sum. Thus, according to that Act, Antrim would have to repay £11,000. But suppose—and I apprehend I make a very proximate calculation—about one half of the whole be given, it leaves Antrim a debtor, say £5,500. Again, in 1836 additions were made, and in 1857, £17,000, on which a valuation will be established. The last addition will probably be all at the expense of Antrim. If, then, in round numbers, £14,000 be re-

cognised to Down, and Down be repaid, as Down will repay the Government, which has, I must observe, been most liberal in its advances to Ireland for the erection of Lunatic Asylums—not charging interest, and allowing fourteen years for the liquidation of debt so incurred—it will be at the rate of £1,000 a year on Grand Jury valuation of £490,000, or be a fraction less than a halfpenny in the pound. If the Asylum in Down for 300 patients were erected on a fairly liberal scale, it would cost £30,000 ; Down will have to make up £16,000 in addition to a sum payable in fourteen years, and that on its valuation of £450,000, or nearly £200,000 less than the Poor Law valuation, would be one halfpenny and not quite half a farthing in the pound for the same number of years. He trusted he had clearly expressed himself to the meeting, and hoped he had not intruded too much upon their time.

Colonel ADAIR said that the great advantage of the resolution was, that it would elicit opinion, and he thought that that was very important. (Hear.) The subject was one of serious interest to that great community, and, therefore, he was anxious rather to look upon the meeting as assembled to discuss the conditions under which they could benefit the lunatic poor. (Hear.) With regard to the question of area, and the accessibility of the Asylum, there was no portion of the County Down or the County Antrim more than a day's journey from Belfast, and although that distance might be an objection if the case were a surgical one, the same objection did not apply to cases of insanity. (Hear.)

Dr. NUGENT said that it was important the both classes of the inmates of an Asylum should be subject to the same control, so that a patient would only have to be transferred from one department to another in the same building ; and, besides that, the resident physician in an Asylum was, from his position, better able to say which was a chronic case and which was a curable case. (Hear, hear.)

Colonel ADAIR said that the question they were met to discuss was a momentous one. They were told that lunacy was increasing. If they adopted Dr. Nugent's view, and formed a separate establishment, they would require every available source to be drawn upon, and he put it to the gentry, whether they were prepared, except under an overpowering conviction of the

improved result, which would be obtained by a separate system, to withdraw £14,000 in one county and £16,000 in another, from the fund that should go to meet the increasing evil. Even when they had arrived at that point, it would be problematical whether the result which they desired would be obtained. He believed that the advantages derivable from a separate system would not be in proportion to the sacrifices to be made. The process of separation would withdraw a large sum from the available resources which they had to assist them in their contest with the evil; and, on that ground, it was a matter for great hesitation whether the separation should take place. (Hear.)

Dr. NUGENT said that the additional expense would only be the difference in the cost of erecting an Asylum for chronic cases and a separate Asylum; and he did not believe that the difference would be more than 25 per cent.

Mr. THOS. M'CLURE said that there were 268 lunatics in workhouses in the two counties, and 116 were known to be at large. They had in the Asylum at present between 300 and 400 more, and even if the two separate Asylums were erected, they would still be over-crowded, and the patients in the incipient stages of the disease would be kept out until they became permanent burthens. (Hear.) They might lay out the £30,000, and they would then have to meet and re-consider the subject. The proposal for a separate Asylum in Down would not, in his opinion, meet the evil. His feeling was, that they ought to have a chronic hospital, with a large extent of ground, probably a hundred acres, and accommodation for 400 inmates capable of being extended to 500 or 600. With such an arrangement the patients could all be sent at first to the present Asylum, and afterwards to the other, and they could then meet the wants of the two counties. (Hear.)

Rev. Dr. EDGAR said they were not to take it for granted that it had ever been suggested that there should be less attention paid than formerly to chronic cases; on the contrary, in the statement put before the Grand Juries by the Governors, it was expressly declared that they would not in the slightest degree diminish the care and attention paid to patients in the new Asylum. (Hear.) They believed, on many accounts, that there would be more attention paid to them, and a greater cause to expect

a cure than formerly. The question, so far as the Governors were concerned, was not one between a site in County Down and a site in County Antrim ; but whether there should be a classification of the inmates, and whether for one of these classes they should erect an Asylum. They had never stated where it should be. (Hear.) It had never been proposed that there should be any increased accommodation within their present grounds ; but, so far as he knew, the Governors were of one mind that, provided there should be a classification of the inmates, and a new Asylum built for one of these classes, if the gentry of County Down had any wish that that building should be erected in their county, by all means let it be so. There was, therefore, no opposition between the two counties so far as the sites were concerned. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. FILGATE said he apprehended there was no difference of opinion as to the necessity for increased accommodation, and the question then was, whether it should be provided for by the erection of a house for incurables, or by a separate Asylum in County Down. If the expense of the proposed auxiliary Asylum were less than the present one, he apprehended that it must be by having inferior and under-paid officers, and probably fewer of them, and by worse food and clothing, and if these changes were not made, the expense of the one would not be less than that of the other. But there was a stronger objection. No matter by what name they called the auxiliary Asylum, the unfortunate people would soon come to know what sort of a place they were drafted into, and hope—one of the greatest aids to recovery—would be entirely taken away from them. (Hear.) There was also great difficulty in deciding whether a person was curable or not. (Hear.) If they made no distinction, where would be the improvement, and the erection of a house for incurables was open to serious objection, while there would be no saving to the ratepayers. If they were to build a new house, where were they to build it? The Commissioners of Lunacy in England had given it as their opinion that Asylums should not be in manufacturing towns, but removed from the smoke and noise of such places ; yet the Belfast Asylum would soon be surrounded in such a way that they would not select it as a site for the Asylum if the choice were again to be

made. The main question was the well-being of the lunatic patients, and after the best consideration he had been able to give it, he had come to the conclusion that it would be more desirable for them to have a Lunatic Asylum in the County of Down.

Sir ROBERT BATESON said that, as one of the oldest Governors of the Asylum, he had come to that meeting to see if he could learn something as to the best building, the best site, and everything for the advantage of that noble and ably managed Institution. (Hear.) There was one suggestion he wished to offer—that no matter where the new building should be erected, there should be a plan for the reception of the more wealthy people whose friends were able to pay for their maintenance. That had long been the practice in England, and he knew that it had answered admirably. The Quakers' Retreat, near York, was carried on upon this principle, and was self-supporting. He believed that, in the erection of a new Asylum, they should not go to great expense for ornaments. There was the greatest propensity to extravagance in Ireland, and a great many persons looked upon the public money as if they believed that, the deeper they could get their hand into the barrel containing the gold, the better it was. (A laugh.) Jobbing had been the curse of Ireland. He said these things as a farmer and a ratepayer, and he thought the ratepayers ought to be considered as well as the first nobleman in the land.

Dr. MONTGOMERY then expressed his views. There were two points on which they were agreed, although there was evidently a great diversity of opinion on others. (Hear.) They had already concurred in a resolution that more accommodation was required for the lunatic poor. He believed they were even agreed on another point—that that accommodation should be the best kind to be obtained for the purpose. (Hear.) He did not consider the question of statistics introduced before them as in the least bearing on the point; nor did he consider that what the County Antrim would likely have to pay to the County of Down had anything at present to do with it. He thought the main question for their consideration was, what arrangement could be made that would be effectual for the care of those unfortunate persons in the first instance; for their safe-keeping and comfort, in the

second, if they be incurable. (Hear, hear.) He thought there was a third question that had come before them, that they should do all this at the least possible burden to the community. He took some exceptions to the statement of Dr. Nugent, as he understood it, that 9 per cent of lunatics were incurable.

Dr. NUGENT explained that he had said only 9 per cent. in Lunatic Asylums.

Dr. MONTGOMERY proceeded. He found in the Belfast Asylum there were 74 curables, and the incurables 256. He held that it was absolutely necessary that they should have a separate place to which they could draft as many as advisable of the 256 to an Asylum for incurables. They had been endeavouring, as far as possible, to produce classification in their Institution, and he believed the simple question before them was whether they could not bless the unfortunate lunatics by establishing an Asylum into which they could draft, from time to time, those who might be considered for the time incurable, by keeping over them the same superintendence, the same care, the same comfort as to food, clothing, and management, that they gave to all the inmates. The Belfast Asylum had been erected at the one end of the County of Antrim that it might be close to the County of Down, and they had purchased land from time to time, because the Asylum was connected with the two counties. There were in connexion with that Asylum upwards of fifty acres of land. In other words, they could give twenty-five acres of land or more to a new Asylum, and leave twenty-five acres for the old Asylum ; and, when they had done that, they would have given to each of them a portion of the land that had cost £4,500 ; but Dr. Nugent seemed determined they should pay for the whole of the land. He concluded by recommending that they should have an Asylum erected that would suit both counties, reminding the meeting that the Lords Commissioners had reported for, and specially advocated, the separation of the different classes of lunatics in Asylums, and expressing his perfect concurrence in the remarks of Sir Robert Bateson as to the making of some arrangement for the reception of a class of inmates above paupers in the social scale, whose friends would be able to pay for them.

Dr. NUGENT said that when he referred to auxiliary buildings,

he invariably referred to building in juxta-position with the present Institution. If they had a separate Asylum for chronic cases, they might have to send a patient five, six, or seven miles from one to another. He was strongly in favour of a separate Asylum for each county, and there could be a room in each for chronic cases. (Hear.)

Dr. M'CORMAC said he had great opportunities of watching lunatic cases, and that there could be no doubt as to the necessity for increased accommodation. He agreed with Dr. Nugent in his statement that the accommodation to be provided should be similar to that which was now afforded by the Belfast Asylum. He thought an increase in the recovery patients might, if they had the necessary increased accommodation, be anticipated, when moral treatment would be brought more extensively into operation. They might ask him why was that not done now? His answer to that was, that the treatment of the insane was a progressive thing. He conceived that if they isolated the chronic cases, the moral treatment would be in a great measure interfered with, and the prospective improvement in the treatment of the insane would not be realised to the extent which he anticipated. The cures he stated in recent cases were 70 per cent.

The LORD BISHOP said it was desirable to know what really were the views of the meeting on the subject. (Hear, hear.)

Sir R. BATESON suggested that the meeting should adjourn until some day before the next Assizes.

Colonel FFORDE said that the gentlemen of the County Down were in the position of not being able to act in the matter until they would communicate with the next Grand Jury at the Assizes.

The LORD BISHOP said, if his motion embarrassed them he would withdraw it at once.

Colonel FFORDE said it was unnecessary to withdraw the resolution, as he intended moving an amendment.

Mr. MACRORY said he was delighted to see their friends of the County Down present to discuss that question, because after all it would result in the point as to what was best to be done for the two counties. (Hear.) They were most anxious to carry out a certain system, and one of the primary objects of that system was

the introduction of pay patients, and if both counties united they could carry that on successfully. If they separated it would be weakness ; if they united it would be strength. It was highly desirable that the classification system should be established, inasmuch as it would greatly conduce to the cure of patients. (Hear.)

Mr. MAXWELL said the Grand Jury of the County Down had already come to a resolution that it was imperative on them to have an Institution of their own.

Mr. C. R. DOBBS said he hoped the County Down deputation would bear in mind that the County Antrim Grand Jury, with the Board of Governors, were in favor of non-separation.

Mr. BIRNIE said the Carrickfergus Grand Jury were also in favor of non-separation.

Colonel FFORDE then moved the following amendment :—
“Resolved—That from the able opinion given to this meeting by the Government Inspector, Dr. Nugent, as to the advantages of having separate Institutions for the Counties of Down and Antrim, and which opinion has been endorsed and put in practice by almost every county in Ireland, we are of opinion that the first resolution will be more effectually carried out by having separate Asylums, in which all proper classification can be made, for the Counties of Down and Antrim.”

Mr. DESPARD seconded the amendment.

The LORD BISHOP modified his resolution, by inserting after the words auxiliary building “without expressing any opinion of the locality where such should be placed.”

Lieutenant-Colonel FFORDE still expressed himself dissatisfied with it.

The amendment was then put, but only the deputation from the County Down Grand Jury, six in number, voted in favor of it, while seventeen voted against it. The original motion was then put and carried.

The LORD BISHOP was then called to the second chair, and a vote of thanks having been passed to the Mayor, the meeting separated.

LIST OF ANNUAL REPORTS, &c.,

RECEIVED FROM 1st APRIL, 1860, TO 31st MARCH, 1861.

Irish.

1. *Armagh District Hospital for the Insane*, annual report to 31st March, 1860, pp. 12. By Robert M'Kinstry, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
2. *Carlow Do.*, pp. 22. By M. E. White, A.M., M.D., J.P., Physician-Superintendent.
3. *Clonmel Do.*, report to 31st March, 1860, pp. 15. By James Flynn, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
4. *Limerick Do.*, annual report to 31st March, 1860, pp. 14. By Robert Fitzgerald, M.R.C.S., Medical-Superintendent.
5. *Maryborough Do.*, 25th annual sheet report to 31st March, 1860. By Thomas C. Burton, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
6. Observations on the offices of Resident and Visiting Physicians of Asylums, pp. 48. By Joseph Lalor, M.D., Resident-Physician, Richmond District Asylum, Dublin.
7. *Omagh District Hospital for the Insane*, seventh annual report to 31st March, 1860, pp. 36. By Francis John West, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
8. *Waterford Do.*, half-yearly sheet report from May, 1859, till May, 1860. By John Dobbs, Manager.

English.

9. *Abington Abbey Retreat (at Northampton)*, report of cases at, during 1859, pp. 35. By Thomas Prichard, M.D., Resident-Physician.
10. *Bethlem Hospital*, report for 1857, pp. 74. By W. C. Hood, M.D., Resident-Physician.
11. *Bucks County Asylum (at Stone)*, seventh annual report for 1859, pp. 33. John Humphry, M.R.C.S., Eng., Medical Superintendent.
12. *Devon County Lunatic Asylum*, fourteenth annual report for 1859, pp. 16. By John C. Bucknill, M.D., Lond., Physician-Superintendent.
13. *Durham Do.*, first annual report for the year 1859, pp. 14. Robert Smith, M.D., Medical Superintendent.
14. *Granada Leper Hospital, Notes of a visit to.* By John Webster, M.D., pp. 13. 1860.
15. *Idiot Asylum at Earlswood, Red Hill, Surrey*, annual report for 1859, pp. 20; also, report of Visit to, by the Rev. Edwin Sidney, A.M., pp. 26. J. L. Down, M.D., Lond., Resident Superintendent-Physician.

16. *Kent Do. (at Barming-Heath, Maidstone)*, annual report, to 4th July, 1860, pp. 16. By J. E. Huxley, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
17. *Manchester Royal Lunatic Hospital*, annual report to June, 1860, pp. 40. By Henry Maudsley, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
18. *Metropolitan Commissioners in Lunacy*, fourteenth report of, to March, 1860, pp. 157.
19. *Middlesex County Lunatic Asylum (at Colney Hatch)*, annual report for 1859, pp. 159. D. F. Tyerman, M.R.C.S., and W. G. Marshall, M.R.C.S., Medical Superintendents.
20. *Do. (at Hanwell)*, annual reports from 1854 till 1859, inclusive. W. C. Begley, M.D., and W. H. O. Sankey, M.D., Lond., Physician-Superintendents.
21. *Monmouth Joint Counties Asylum (at Abergavenny)*, annual report for 1860, pp. 14. By David Moore M'Cullough, M.D., Physician-Superintendent. Also, report for 1859.
22. *Northampton General Lunatic Asylum*, annual report for 1859, pp. 51. Edwin Wing, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
23. *Nottingham County and Borough United Do.*, fifth annual report for 1860, pp. 29. By W. P. Stiff, M.B., Physician-Superintendent.
24. *Nottingham County and Town Lunatic Hospital*, fifth annual report for the year 1860, pp. 32. W. B. Tate, M.D., Physician-Superintendent. Also, report for the year 1859.
25. *Oxford and Berks Do. (at Littlemore)*, annual report for 1860, pp. 34. By William Ley, M.R.C.S., Medical Superintendent.
26. *Somerset County Asylum*, twelfth annual report for 1859, pp. 72. Robert Boyd, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
27. *Stafford County Asylum*, forty-second annual report for 1860, pp. 36. Mark Noble Bower, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
28. *Suffolk Do. (at Melton, Woodbridge)*, annual report for 1860, pp. 38. By J. Kirkman, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
29. *Surrey Do. (at Tooting, S.)*, eighteenth annual report for 1859, pp. 111. John Meyer, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
30. *Warwick Do.*, annual report for 1859 (also for 1858), pp. 11. W. H. Parsey, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
31. *Wilts Do. (at Devizes)*, ninth annual report for 1859, pp. 49. By John Thurnam, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
32. *Worcester Do.*, seventh annual report for 1859, pp. 82. By James Sherlock, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
33. *York, Friends' Retreat at*, 64th annual report to June, 1860, pp. 35. By John Kitching, M.R.C.S., Medical Superintendent.
34. *Yorkshire (N. & E. Ridings) Do.*, annual report for 1859, pp. 29. By Samuel Hill, M.R.C.S., Medical Superintendent.

Scotch.

35. *Aberdeen Royal Asylum for the Insane*, annual report to 31st Dec., 1859, pp. 29. By Robert Jamieson, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
36. *Commissioners in Lunacy for Scotland*, second annual report of, to December, 1859, pp. 225.
37. *Crichton Royal Institution for the Insane (at Dumfries)*, nineteenth annual report till November, 1858, pp. 28. James Gilchrist, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
38. *Dundee Do.*, fortieth annual report till June, 1860, pp. 32. James Rorie, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
39. *Glasgow Do.*, forty-sixth annual report for 1859, pp. 55. By Alex. Mackintosh, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
40. *Montrose Do.*, annual report to June, 1860, pp. 27. By James C. Howden, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
41. "Morningside Mirror," in monthly numbers. Conducted by the inmates of the Royal Edinburgh Asylum.
42. *Perth (James Murray's) Royal Asylum for the Insane*, thirty-third annual report to June, 1860, pp. 104. By William Lauder Lindsay, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.

American.

43. *Eastern Asylum, Williamsburg (Virginia)*, biennial reports for 1855-6 and 1856-7, pp. 43. J. M. Galt, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
44. *Hartford (Conn.), Retreat at*, thirty-sixth annual report, till April, 1860, pp. 39. J. S. Butler, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
45. *Illinois State Do. (at Jacksonville)*, fourth, fifth, and sixth biennial reports, 1854, 1856, 1858, pp. 140. Andrew M'Farland, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
46. *Kentucky Western Do.*, report for the years 1858 and 1859, pp. 63, F. G. Montgomery, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
47. *Kentucky Eastern Hospital for the Insane*, report for the year 1860, pp. 15. By W. S. Chipley, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
48. *Massachusetts' School for Idiotic and feeble-minded youth (at Boston)*, twelfth annual report, till October, 1859, pp. 32. S. G. Howe, President.
49. *New Jersey State Hospital for the Insane (at Trenton)*, annual report for the year 1859, pp. 31. H. A. Buttolph, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.

50. *Northampton State Do.*, fourth annual report, till October, 1859, pp. 26. William H. Prince, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
51. *Pensylvania Do. (at Philadelphia)*, annual report for 1858, pp. 62. Also, reports for 1855, 6, and 7. By T. S. Kirkbride, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
52. *Toronto Provincial (Western Canada) Do.*, annual report, to 31st December, 1859, pp. 41. By Joseph Workman, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
53. *Worcester State Do.*, twenty-sixth annual report, till October, 1858, pp. 80. Merrick Bemis, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.