Fourth annual report of the managers of the State Lunatic Asylum : made to the Legislature February 2, 1847 / New York State Lunatic Asylum at Utica.

Contributors

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FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MANAGERS

OF THE

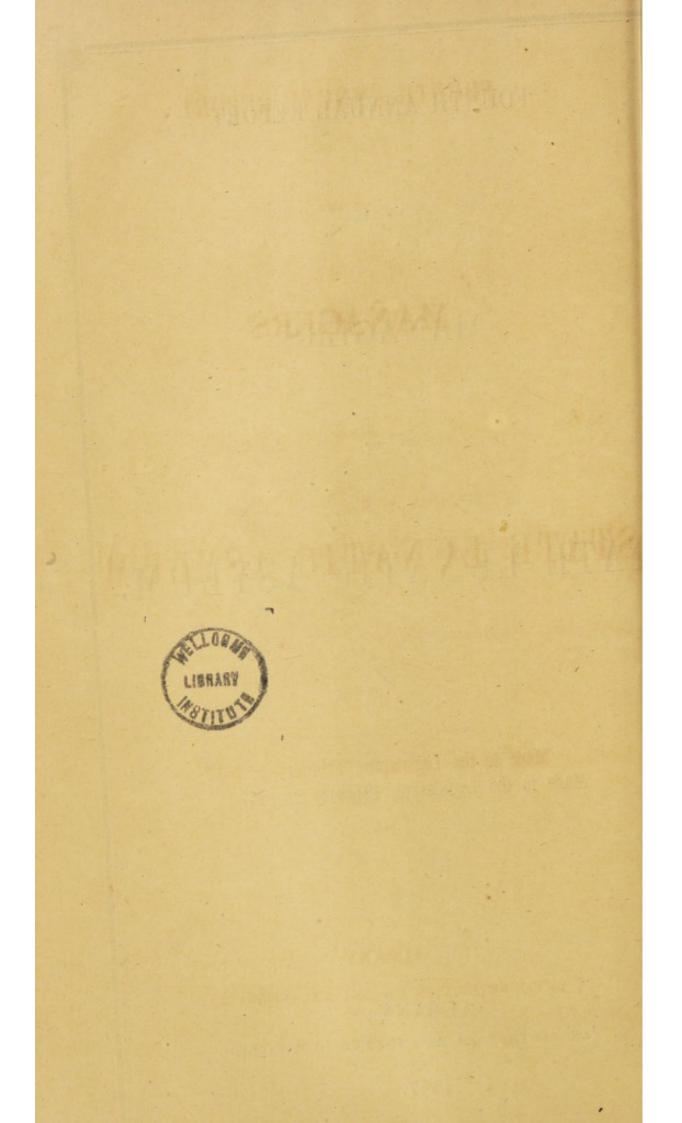
STATE LUNATIC ASYLUM.

Made to the Legislature, February 2, 1847.

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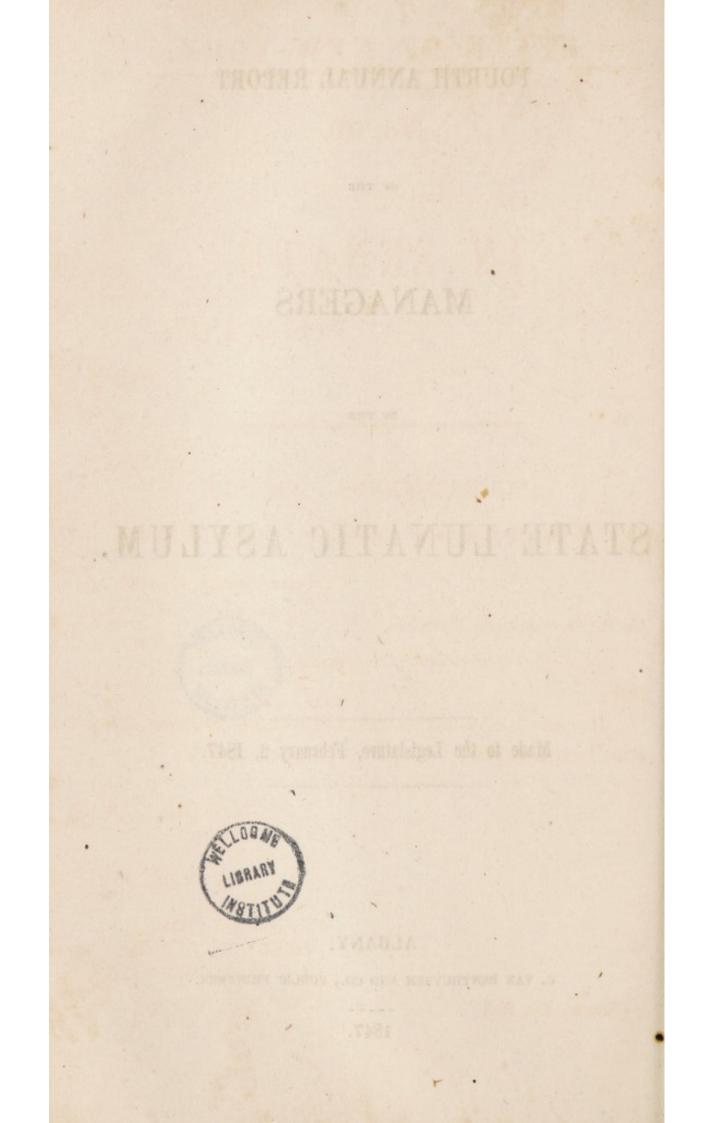
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1847.



STATE OF NEW-YORK.

No. 30.

IN SENATE, Feb. 2, 1847.

FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT

Of the Managers of the State Lunatic Asylum.

Ulica, January 30, 1847.

To the Hon. ADDISON GARDINER,

President of the Senate :

SIR :

Herewith is submitted the annual report of the Managers of the State Lunatic Asylum,

Respectfully yours,

T. H. HUBBARD, C. A. MANN, A. MUNSON, SILAS D. CHILDS, N. DEVEREUX, T. ROMEYN BECK, DAVID BUEL, Junior, J. S. WADSWORTH.

[Senate, No. 30.]

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Benate, No. 30.]

OFFICERS OF THE ASYLUM.

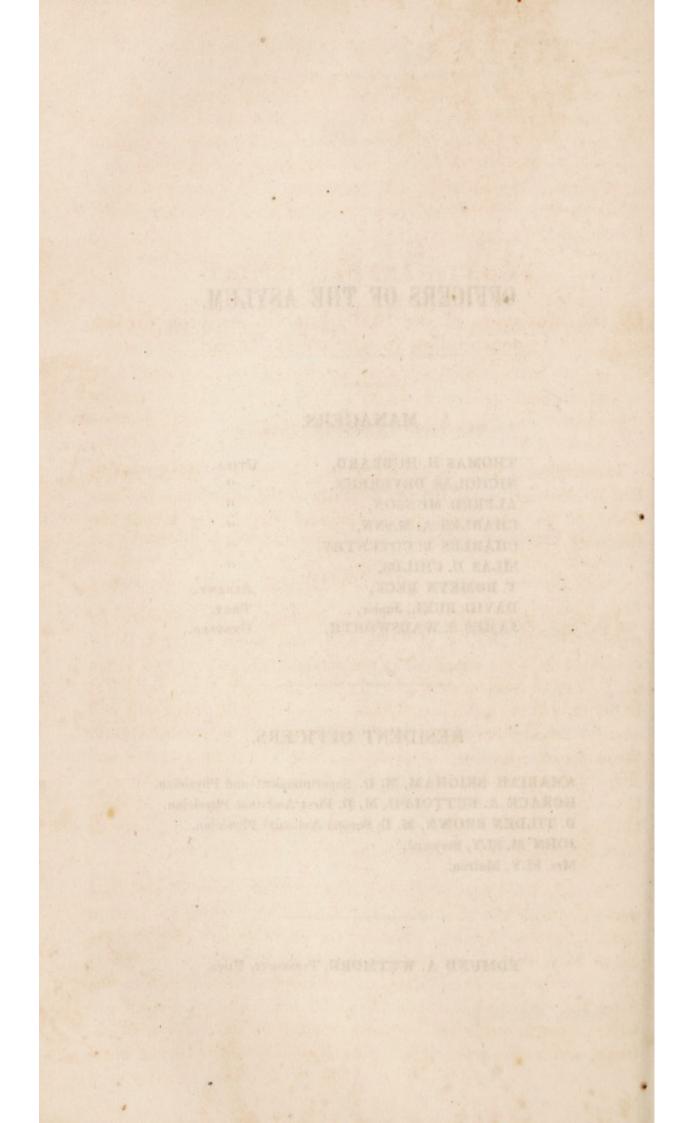
MANAGERS.

THOMAS H. HUBBARD,	UTICA.
NICHOLAS DEVEREUX,	**
ALFRED MUNSON,	**
CHARLES A. MANN,	66
CHARLES B. COVENTRY,	c :
SILAS D. CHILDS,	**
T. ROMEYN BECK,	ALBANY.
DAVID BUEL, Junior,	TROY.
JAMES S. WADSWORTH,	GENESEO.

RESIDENT OFFICERS.

AMARIAH BRIGHAM, M. D. Superintendent and Physician. HORACE A. BUTTOLPH, M. D. First Assistant Physician. D. TILDEN BROWN, M. D. Second Assistant Physician. JOHN M. SLY, Steward. Mrs. SLY, Matron.

EDMUND A. WETMORE, Treasurer, Utica.



FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT

Of the Managers of the State Lunatic Asylum, for the year ending November ,30 1846.

TO THE LEGISLATURE :

In compliance with the act organizing the Asylum, which requires that the Managers should report annually to the Legislature the condition of the Institution, the undersigned respectfully submit the following

REPORT.

By an act passed May 7, 1844, the Managers were authorized to contract for the erection of "two additional wings of brick, to be connected with the wings of the present building; each of said wings not to exceed two hundred and fifty feet in length, thirty-eight feet in width, and three stories in height, exclusive of the basement; and also for the erection of two buildings of brick, to be connected with the said new wings, for hospitals, washing and ironing rooms, and shops for the use of said asylum." Under and in accordance with the requirements of this act, we commenced the erection of these buildings in 1844. They are now nearly completed, and patients were first admitted into them on the first of September last.

The main building, first erected, was originally intended only as a part of a more extended plan, and was not adapted or intended to form a complete Asylum. Without the additions authorised by the act of May, 1844, it must have remained an imperfect and inconvenient Institution. There were no rooms properly adapted to the noisy and violent class of patients ; who were, consequently, obliged to be placed in rooms not originally intended for the reception of patients, which were warmed with difficulty, badly ventilated, and where the other patients were disturbed by their noise. No provision was made for a hospital to which the sick could be removed. The absolute necessity of removing the wash rooms and bakery from the main building was becoming every day more apparent, whilst work shops were essential to furnish suitable occupation for the patients. All these difficulties are happily removed by the new erections, whilst at the same time the capacity of the institution is more than doubled at a comparatively small expense.

The arrangements for warming, the kitchen ranges, the fixtures for bathing, &c., in the new buildings, are constructed in the most perfect and substantial manner, embracing all the recent improvements. The Institution can now accommodate about six hundred patients, as great a number as it is ever advisable to collect together in one Asylum. It is in every way adapted to the benevolent purpose for which it was intended, and it is believed that it will not suffer in comparison with any similar Institution in this country or Europe.

One of the first and most embarassing difficulties encountered by the Managers in first preparing the Asylum for the reception of patients, was the obtaining an adequate supply of water. It was at first obtained from a large well, from which the water was elevated by a pump operated by horse power to the attic of the building ; but it was soon found that at certain periods, both in summer and winter, the quantity that could be procured from the well was insufficient for the use of the Institution, and that it would be wholly inadequate to supply the increased number of patients, which the new buildings would accommodate.

By an act passed April 22, 1846, the Managers were authorized to use the surplus water discharged around the fifth lock of the Chenango canal, to operate a pump to supply the Asylum with water from said canal or Nail creek, and \$5,000 was appropriated for the construction of the necessary works, which were erected during the last summer. The water is conveyed about half a mile in an iron pipe of 3 inch bore, and elevated ninety-six feet to a reservoir in the attic of the building. This is effected by means of a forcing pump, operated by a water-wheel propelled by the surplus water discharged round the fifth lock on the Chenango canal.

This method of furnishing an adequate supply of water has thus far been perfectly successful, and the Institution is now furnished with a steady and abundant supply which is distributed through the

whole establishment. The whole expense will not exceed the appropriation made for the purpose by the Legislature.

By reference to the treasurer's report, which is herewith submitted, it will be seen that the whole amount paid during the year ending 30th November, on account of the erection of the new buildings, is \$21,607.64; the sum paid for furniture, fixtures, and furnaces for the new buildings, is \$3,661.02; for supply of water, \$4,016.13; and for improving and enclosing the grounds, \$441.27. For this expenditure we are required by law to render vouchers and account to the Comptroller. It will also be seen that the current receipts for the support of patients at the prices charged, have been adequate to defray the current expenses of the Institution. The price charged for the board of patients supported by counties or towns, is \$2 per week, and for patients supported by their friends or their own property, from \$2.50 to \$4 per week.

In anticipation of the increased number of patients which can be accommodated in the new buildings, the managers, by an act passed April 22, 1846, were authorised on the nomination of the superintendent, to appoint a second assistant physician, whose salary was to be fixed and paid in the same manner as the other resident officers of the Institution. Under the authority thus given, Doct. D. Tilden Brown has been appointed second assistant physician, and his salary fixed at \$500.

On the first of April last, the former steward, Cyrus Chatfield, and the former matron, Mrs. Chatfield, resigned their places, and John M. Sly was then appointed steward, and Mrs. Sly, matron; who have discharged their respective duties to the satisfaction of the managers and superintendent.

By the 4th section of the act, chap. 135, Laws of 1842, organizing the Asylum, the Managers were authorized to determine the annual salaries and allowances of the treasurer and resident officers of the Asylum, subject to the approval of the Governor, Secretary of State, Comptroller, and Attorney-General, and it was provided by said act that the said salaries should be paid quarterly out of the State Treasury, and that the aggregate amount should not exceed \$5,500 in any one year. Pursuant to the provisions of this act, the salary of the superintendent was fixed at \$2,000; of the first assistant physician at \$700; of the treasurer at \$500; of the steward at \$500; of the matron at \$200; and of the second assistant physician at \$500: amounting in the aggregate to \$4,400. The Managers believe that these salaries are no more than a fair and reasonable compensation for the talent and the great responsibility and labor required in the performance of their respective duties. As under the new Constitution, no money can be drawn from the Treasury, pursuant to the act of 1842, for the payment of these salaries, a specific appropriation for their payment will be required.

Those who framed and passed the law for the organization of this Asylum, deemed it for the best interests of the Institution that the salaries of the resident officers should be paid directly from the State Treasury. We think this was a wise provision, as it renders those who have the actual management of the Institution, not dependent for their support on the income derived from patients, and wholly exempts them from any temptation by improper means, to increase the revenues of the Asylum, by diminishing the comforts of those committed to their care.

By the act, chap. 324, Laws of 1846, insane convicts in State prisons, are directed to be removed to this Asylum, and retained therein so long as they continue insane, at the expense of the State. Some provision should be made for the payment of the expenses of supporting this class of patients.

We refer to the annual report of the superintendent, which is herewith submitted for a full and particular account of the condition and operations of the Institution during the past year.

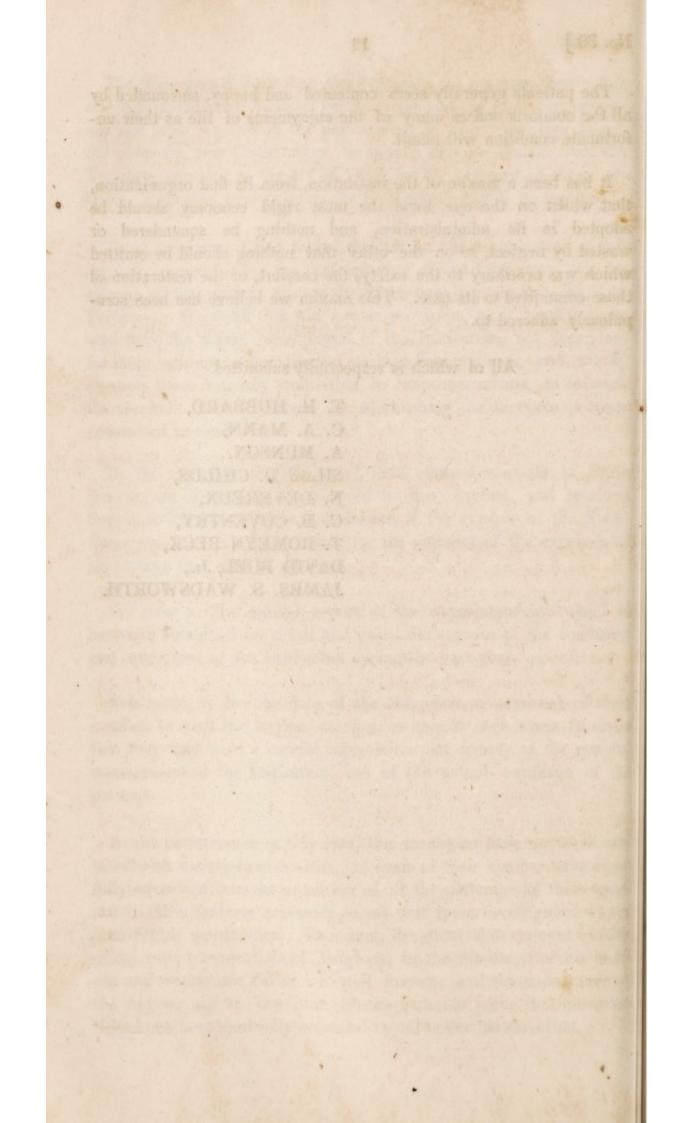
It is made by law the duty of the Managers, or some one of their number, to visit the Asylum as often as once in each week, in order that they may have a careful supervision not merely of the general management of the Institution, but of the actual condition of the patients.

In the performance of this duty, the managers have not been satisfied with merely formal visits, but some of their number have carefully examined into the condition of all the patients and their treatment. It is scarcely necessary to say that these investigations have been highly satisfactory. The zeal, devotion, and eminent ability, of the superintendent, Doct. Brigham, in the discharge of his ard ous and responsible duties are well known; and the appearance of the Asylum and the condition of the patients prove that his exertions have been faithfully seconded by all under his direction. The patients generally seem contented and happy, surrounded by all the comforts and as many of the enjoyments of life as their unfortunate condition will admit.

It has been a maxim of the institution, from its first organization, that whilst on the one hand the most rigid economy should be adopted in its administration, and nothing be squandered or wasted by neglect, so on the other that nothing should be omitted which was necessary to the safety, the comfort, or the restoration of those committed to its care. This maxim we believe has been scrupulously adhered to.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

T. H. HUBBARD, C. A. MANN, A. MUNSON, SILAS D. CHILDS, N. DEVEREUX, C. B. COVENTRY, T. ROMEYN BECK, DAVID BUEL, Jr., JAMES. S. WADSWORTH.



TREASURERS' REPORT.

To the Managers of the State Lunatic Asylum :

The undersigned, Treasurer of said Asylum, respectfully submits the following condensed report of the receipts and payments, during the year ending 30th November, 1846, on account of the Asylum, exclusive of monies appropriated by the Legislature for the erection of new buildings and for fixtures, furniture, &c., for the new buildings, and for furnishing supply of water.

RECEIPTS.

Balance in the Treasury November 30th, 1845,	\$8,287 24
Received from the State Treasurer for salaries of offi-	
cers,	3,850 00
Received from counties and towns for support of pa-	
tients,	21,740 85
Received from sundry pay patients,	11,277 28
" for steam engine sold,	429 41
" from miscellaneous sources,	32 37
_N. 15 FO. an account of the building has been as	100 100 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10

\$45,617 15

PAYMENTS.

For alterations and repairs of buildings,	\$1,641 42
" furniture,	2,007 67
" salaries of officers,	3,850 00
" advances for clothing of patients,	2,275 91
Refunded to sundry patients on leaving the Asylum,	198 95
For attendants, assistants, and labor, \$7,217 88	
" fuel and lights, 2,735 83	WIT A . W
" medical supplies and instruments, 467 16	
Carried forward,	

\$

-

\$

Brought forward, \$	\$
 books and stationery, 280 09 provisions, household stores and all 	
other current expenses, 15,488 19	-
	26,189 15
Balance in Treasury at this date,	9,454 05

\$45,617 15

E. A. WETMORE, Treasurer.

Utica, December 1, 1846.

Treasurer's Report.

Funds appropriated for erection and for fixtures and furniture of new buildings.

To the Managers of the State Lunatic Asylum :

The undersigned Treasurer of said Asylum, respectfully submits the following statement of the payments made during the year ending November 30, 1846, on account of the buildings &c., authorized to be erected by act of May 7, 1844.

FOR BUILDINGS:

Paie	d Scranton & Nye for lumber,	\$2,402	38
66	" on contract for carpenters and		
	joiners work,	800	00
"	Wm. Jones, on contract for plasterers and mason work,	5,189	41
"	Walker & Cozzens, for lumber,	51	24
46 .	Wood & Herbage, for painting,	124	50
"	C. Churchill, for lumber,	487	64
**	A. Landgraff & sons, for glass,	495	00
**	S. Farwell, for lumber,	4	27
	Churned forward,		

Carried forward,-----

\$

1.

	Brought forward, \$	
Pai	d E. Henry, for plumbers work,	96 13
"	L. Lawrence, for lumber and plaining,	74 28
"	K. Devereux, for labor,	6 75
"	Regan & Healy, for mason work,	454 87
"	Porter & Brady, for. do	479 95
"	R. Northway, for advertising,	4 88
**	C. Palmer, for carpenters' work,	31 69
66	J. & D. Leland, for brick,	1,151 33
"	O. O'Neil & Co., on contract for tin roofs, cop-	
	per gutters, &c.,	2,673 49
"	Sayre & House, for nails, spikes &c.,	340 82
**	A. Munson, for travelling expenses buying lumber,	9 63
**	John Felt, for flooring,	1,445 98
"	E. Lee, for stone,	20 00
"	White, Hide & Co., for lumber,	53 80
"	D. Wall, for cutting stone,	31 13
"	Bailey, Wheeler & Co., for cast iron window guards,	
"	Peter Green, for windows,	51 37
66	Dana, Son & Co., for locks,	475 00
"	D. Reed, for measuring lumber,	19 76
"	M. Hart & Son, for transportation and wire cloth,	103 09
"	W. Beebe, expenses from New-York,	25 00
"	Tatham & Brothers, for lead and lead pipe,	1,685 60
"	N. C. Newell, for paints and oil,	
**	D. Wood, for painting,	899 25
"	J. Hungerford, for charcoal,	6 40
"	P. Mc Cool, for labor,	43 75
"	N. Downer & Son, for lumber,	
	V. V. Livingston, for freight,	20 79
	McQuade & Clark, for lumber,	27 77
"	L. R. Darrow, for freight,	13 85
"	1. v. henogg, for white lead dec.,	53 48
"	E. Avery & Co., for transportation,	12 53
Lin	G. O. Bussy, for superintendence,	170 25

\$21,607 64

For Furniture, Fixtures and Furnaces.

Paid	A. Munson, for bedticking purchased by him,	\$139	06
66	G. Johnson, for curled hair,	873	51
**	E. D. Paine, for bedsteads,	7	50
"	Ontario steam and packet boat Co. for prints,	169	90
"	M. Hart & Son, for transportation,	2	43
**	Read & Co., for ticking,	92	39
46	W. D. Hughs, for carpenters' work,	112	49
"	Evan Lewis, for do	97	87
66	A. Munson, for blankets he purchased,	269	31
**	W. B. Munroe, for mattrasses,	.27	37
"	J. Read, for cotton for mattrasses,	56	75
**	N. White, for fire brick,	. 46	00
**	G. Fox & Co., for furnaces, ranges, &c.,	849	56
"	Jordan L. Mott, for bath tubs,	220	56
	W. Jones, for mason work and materials,	667	19
•••	Dows & Kissam, for freight,	10	00
"	Watson, Ellis & Co., for keelers,	19	13

\$3,661 02

For Supply of Water.

Paie	I A. S. Pond, on contract for constructing water		
	works,	\$3,790	34
"	Tatham & Brothers, for cocks and stops,	221	81
"	W. H. Adams for transportation,	1	48
**	L. M. Taylor, engineer,	2	50

\$4,016 13

For Enclosing Grounds.

Paid T. Hopper, for labor of men and teams,----- \$441 27

E. A. WETMORE, Treasurer.

Utica, Dec. 1, 1846.

FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT

Of the Superintendent of the New-York State Lunatic Asylum at Utica, for the year ending November 30th, 1846.

TO THE MANAGERS OF THE ASYLUM:

GENTLEMEN-At the beginning of the year, the number of patients at the Asylum was

		Men.	Women.
they . His year, may part and share and a state	285	143	142
Admitted during the year,	337	163	174
Total number in the course of the year,	622	306	316

Of this number there have been-

		Men.	Women.
Discharged, recovered,	133	65	68
" improved,	60	26	34
" unimproved,	33	15	18
" died,	22	13	9
Total discharges during the year,	248	119	129
Remaining in the Asylum, Nov. 20th, 1846,	374	187	187

In addition to the recoveries of patients, mentioned in the foregoing table, there are now above thirty in the Asylum who are well. Some are waiting for their friends, who have already been notified to come for them, and others remain with us awhile, for fear of be-

[Senate, No. 30.]

coming again unwell if they return to their homes, where they will be too soon exposed to the exciting causes of the disease from which they have just recovered,

This number of restored patients, is not however larger than generally remain here, and who contribute very much to the good order, comfort and welfare of the other patients. We have found among the advantages of a large number of patients at one Institution, is that of always having many who are nearly or quite well, and who constitute a most useful class of assistants. They do us great good by taking an active part in labor, schools, exhibitions and other amusements that engage the attention, and benefit many of the insane, but which cannot be conducted in an interesting manner without the aid of a considerable number of those that are rational.

A complaint made at most of the Institutions for the cure of the insane, that patients are removed too soon, we have very rarely had occasion to make. This we suppose is mainly to be attributed to the law of this State respecting this Asylum, that "no patient shall be admitted for a shorter period than six months." That is, patients shall not be removed in less than six months contrary to the advice of the officers of the Asylum, who not having any interest whatever in patients remaining at the Institution longer than for their good, will advise to their timely removal. For the good of the insane, we believe such a regulation should be adopted in other Institutions, and that patients should not be received on trial, merely for three months as is often the case. According to our experience, recent and curable cases do not generally recover in three months, but a majority do in four or five months. Consequently if patients are removed at the end of one quarter, when beginning to convalesce, they are very liable to relapse, while if they could be permitted to remain but a month or two longer, permanent recovery might be secured.

The law of this State is a wise regulation in other respects. Not unfrequently the guardians of insane persons are forced by public opinion, and contrary to their own wishes to place those under their charge at an Asylum for the insane. But they are sometimes not disposed to give them a fair trial of curative treatment, and frequently will not, unless there is such a regulation as we have referred to, consequently patients thus removed in a short time are not materially improved; the benefits and utility of Institutions for the cure of the insane are decried and the worst effect is, to deter other patients

that might be restored, from being sent to them. But as we have said, we have no complaint to make in this respect, as our patients are generally permitted to remain until they have had a good trial of curative means.

We always, however, discharge patients as soon as we think it for their good, and safe to do so. But the exact time when it is best for patients who appear to have recovered, to leave an Asylum and return to their homes, is often exceedingly difficult to determine. Sometimes, no doubt, a patient is kept a little longer than is absolutely necessary, but most frequently mistakes are the other way, and patients are permitted to leave too soon; not perhaps, before they are rational, but before the condition of the brain and nervous system has become such as to enable them to engage in business and take an active part in society without injury. Such very frequently relapse, and having failed to recover permanently in a few weeks at a Lunatic Asylum, they are ever after kept at home, usually confined, and soon become incurable maniacs.

We deem it of great importance that the public should have correct views on this subject, and fully understand the necessity of enabling every person affected by insanity to have a *full trial of curative means in the early stage of the disease*, as generally such cases, if properly treat d, are restored. Whenever the community realise this, there will be a great diminution of the numbers of the incurable insane of the country.

We do not, however, intend to urge the immediate removal to a Lunatic Asylum of every one that becomes deranged in mind. Some few may be cured at home, and in some the mental disorder is but delirium attendant upon acute or other disease. In all cases a judicious physician should be consulted, and no measure adopted in regard to the removal of the patient, but by his advice. Owing to neglect of this, we, in common with other similar institutions, occasionally have patients brought to us who are affected by fever or inflammation of the brain, or some other disease that is aggravated by journeying. Two of the deaths that have occurred this year at this Asylum were of this kind.

The number of deaths (22) is small, considering the large number of patients (622) that have been under our care the past year. Two died of inflammatory affections of the lungs, seven of marasmus, five of consumption, two of convulsions, two of diseases of the heart, one by effusion on the brain, one by suicide, one by paralysis, and one by apoplexy. We have been remarkably exempt from sickness. No fever, or any contagious or epidemic complaint has ever prevailed here. And we may add, as remarkable facts, calling for devout gratitude to the Preserver of all mankind, that in addition to the numberless blessings he has bestowed upon this institution, no one employed here since its organization, has been seriously indisposed — that this great structure, requiring the labor of hundreds of men for several years, has been completed without loss of life, and without any one being seriously injured.

TABLE 1.

Statistics of the Asylum from its opening, January 16th, 1843, to December 1, 1846.

	nber of patients admitted,	1,181
Discharged	l,	807
66	Recovered,	453
"	Improved,	199
"	Unimproved,	. 89
"	Died,	66

TABLE 2.

Monthly admissions for four years.

Months.	Men.	Women.	Total.
December,	42	36	78
January,	41	43	84
February,	45	38	83
March,	45	38	83
April,	49	41	90
May,	73	52	125
June,	49	55	104
July,	47	62	109
August,	49	48	97
September,	46	63	109
October,	58	52	110
November,	50	59	109
		() ·······	
	594	587	1,181
			Second State

The foregoing table is probably valueless as indicating the seasons of the year when persons are most liable to attacks of insanity. The large number received in May, is the consequence of the opening of the canals, affording facilities not enjoyed in winter, of bringing patients to the Asylum, and the increased numbers in September, October and November, arose from additional buildings having been completed last fall, enabling us to admit many that had applied several months before, and been refused for want of room. The following table is more important:

TABLE 3.

Showing the season of the year when patients were supposed to have become insane.

January,	82
February,	70
March,	109
April,	86
May,	113
June,	100
July,	86
August,	82
September,	97
October,	113
November,	83
December,	76
Unknown,	84

1181

This table is as correct as we are able to make it, but we presume it contains many errors. If any thing is to be inferred from it, it is that attacks of insanity are a little more frequent in the variable weather of spring and autumn, than in mid-summer and in winter.

TABLE 4.

Showing the number from each county for four years, and how supported at the Asylum.

	Supported by	Supported by
COUNTIES.	county or town	friends.
Albany,	48	14
Allegany,	6	3
Broome,	8	0
Cattaraugus,	3	4
Cayuga,	20	11
Chautauque,	23	6
Chemung,	6	2
Chenango,	32	17
Clinton,	2	0
Columbia,	7	2
Cortland,	4	8
Delaware,	2	3
Dutchess,	4	9
Erie,	10	10
Essex,	2	1
Franklin,	2	0
Fulton,	5	4
Genesee,	10	6
Greene,	13	4
Hamilton,	1	0
Herkimer,	22	13
Jefferson,	29	17
Kings;	1	2
Lewis,	8	3
Livingston,	10	2
Madison,	17	34
Monroe,	• 26	20
Montgomery,	14	9
New-York,		7
Niagara,	11	6
Oneida,	70	64
Onondaga,	36	23
Ontario,	16	7
Orange,	16	1
Orleans,	8	1

COUNTER

COUNTIES.	Supported by county or town.	Supported by triends.
Oswego,	16	4
Otsego,	20	21
Putnam,	1	0
Queens,	1	1
Rensselaer,	35	12
Richmond,	1	0
St. Lawrence,	10	9
Saratoga,	11	8
Schenectady,	14	7
Schoharie,	10	1
Sencca,	5	4
Steuben,	16	2
Suffolk,	7	0
Sullivan,	1	0
Tioga,	10	3
Tompkins,	7	8
Ulster,	13	0
Warren,	8	2
Washington,	11	6
Wayne,	9	10
Westchester,	0	1
Wyoming,	4	5
Yates,	3	9
From the State Prisons,	12	0
From out of the State,	0	38
· Of the second se		ALL STORES
Total,	717	464

Patients have been received from every county in the State with the exception of Rockland county. Twelve have been received from the State Prisons agreeably to the law passed at the last session of the Legislature, viz: three from Clinton, six from Mount-Pleasant, and three from Auburn.

TABLE 5.

Ages when insanity commenced.

Unde	r 20	years	of age,-			123
From	20	to 25	years of	age	,	241
"	25	" 30	"	**		198
"	30	" 35	"	**		151
**	35	" 40	"	.66		148
**	40	" 45	"	**		108
"	45	" 50	"	• ••		78
"	50	" 55	"	**		46
"	55	" 60		**		40
"	60	" 65	"	66		30
"	65	" 70	**	66		14
"	70	" 75	**	66		3
Over	80	years	of age, -			1

1,181

TABLE 6.

Occupations.

Men.

Farmers,	255
Laborers,	87
Merchants,	36
Scholars,	26
Clerks,	23
Joiners,	20
Shoemakers,	14
Attorneys,	14
Physicians,	10
Saddlers,	8
Teachers,	9
School boys,	7
Inn keepers,	6
Clergymen,	6
Blacksmiths,	5
Carriage makers,	5
Stone cutters,	3
Surveyors,	3

Cabinet makers,	4
Manufacturers,	8
Coopers,	6
Clothiers,	4
Butchers,	2
Tinners,	2
Horse Farriers,	2
Tanners and curriers,	2
Tobacconists,	2
Speculators,	2
Seamen,	2
Boatmen,	2
Tailors,	2
Portrait painters,	2
Gunsmith,	1
Painter,	1
Barber,	1
Glass cutter,	1
Hatter,	1
Engraver,	1
Miller,	1
Printer,	1
Millwright,	1
Pilot,	1
Dentist,	1
Stage Proprietor,	1
Miner,	1
Banker,	1
Military officer,	1
the second	

594

Women.

Housework,	501
Housework,	33
Tailoresses,	17
Instructresses,	14
Milliners,	10
Mantuamakers,	9
Factory girls,	2
Music Teacher,	1

587

25

Under the head of housework are included all the women who have had no special employment, most of whom are accustomed to some kinds of housework.

TABLE 7.

Civil condition.

Married,	545
Single,	564
Widows,	.48
Widowers,	24

1,181

Previous to the past year we received more married than single; now it will be seen the reverse is the case.

TABLE 8.

Nalivity.

State of New-York,	782
Ireland,	84
Connecticut,	67
Massachusetts,	52
England,	38
Vermont,	29
New-Hampshire,	. 22
Canada,	20
Scotland,	17
Rhode-Island,	12
Germany,	12
Maine,	10
New-Jersey,	10
Wales,	8
France,	5
Pennsylvanin,	5
South-Carolina,	3
Denmark,	2
Jamaica, (West Indies,)	1
Florida,	1
Africa,	1

TABLE 9.

SUPPOSED CAUSES.	MEN.	WOMEN.	TOTAL.
Unknown,		100	228
Ill health,		138	219
Doubtful,	71	56	127
Religious anxiety,	62	60	122
Loss of property,	44	16	60
Puerperal,		52	52
Death of kindred,	12	31	43
Excessive study,	31	5	36
Intemperance,	33	2	35
"Millerism,"	12	18	30
Disappointment in love,	16	11	27
Perplexity of business,	16	10	26
Abuse of husband,		20	20
Blows on the head,	14	4	18
Fright,	8	8	16
Epilepsy,	7	5	12
Anxiety about absent friends,		6	10
Jealousy,		4	9
Illness of friends,		7	. 8
Excessive labor,		3	8
Political excitement,			6
Disappointed ambition,		2	6
Masturbation,		2	6
Malformation of head,		2	5
Infidelity of wife,		0.01877	4
Excessive pain,		ani adT to o	4
Seduction,		3	3
Remorse,		3	3
Bad conduct of children		3	3
Exposure to excessive heat,		1	3
Irregular decay of faculties from old	-	1	2
Want of occupation,		2	2
Excitement of sca voyage,		2	2 2
Opium eating,	. 1	1	2
False accusation,		2	2
Domestic trouble,		1	22
Ill treatment of parents,		1	2
Violent temper,	2		1
Going into cold water,	1		-

SENATE

MEN.	WOMEN.	TOTAL.
1		1
1		1
1		1
1		1
1		1
	1	1
	1	1
	1	1
1		1
1	lebais	1
		1
1		1
	1	1
1	more - in love)	1
1	eminie - 10	1
-		
594	587	1181
	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$

We do not attach much value to the foregoing table; it is merely a record of what we have been informed by the friends of patients was the exciting cause of the attack of insanity. They, no doubt, are often mistaken: besides in many cases the predisposition to insanity is such, that any exciting cause, as ill health or anxiety of mind, is sufficient to develop it.

ON THE FREQUENCY OF THE PULSE OF THE INSANE.

Our observations commenced at the Retreat for the Insane at Hartford, Conn., in 1840, and continued at this Asylum, on the frequency of the pulse of the insane, have furnished us the following results :

Pulse of the Insane.

From	40	to	50	in	8
""	50	**	60	"	22
"	60	"	70	"	183
"	70	**	80	"	233
	80	"	90	"	466
"	90.	"	100	. 66	144
"	100	"	110	"	124
"	110	"	120	. 66	54
					alany
					1234

28

Pul	se	of	the	Sane.
		~ /	****	N. 10100.

From	60	to	70	in	6
"	70	46	80	66	47
. "	80	"	90	"	23
					76

These observations were made when the individuals, both sane and insane, were calm and in a sitting posture. Age seems not to have much influence upon the rapidity of the pulse, as a few of the most aged were found to have a rapid pulse. Those who have recently become insane, most generally have a frequent pulse, above 80 in a minute, though there are exceptions to this, as in some such cases the pulse is remarkably slow.

ON THE SIZE AND SHAPE OF THE HEAD.

We have carefully measured the heads of 1163 insane persons; 604 men, and 559 women; and also the heads of 45 sane men, and 37 sane women. They were measured in three different directions: 1st, around the head, its largest circumference. 2d, from the opening in one ear, over the head, to the other. 3d, from the root of the nose, or lower part of the forehead, to the nape of the neck, or occipital protuberance. The points from which we measured were the same in all, and we carefully guarded against any difference from the varying quantity of hair, &c. We found that the two last measurements—that over the head from ear to ear, and that from the forehead to the nape of the neck, in the same individuals, were nearly alike. We also found, with but tew exceptions, that those whose heads were the largest in one direction, were also in the others.

It will be seen that the size of the heads of the insane does not differ materially from that of the sane.

Size of the heads of the Insane.

In 8	insane men, the large	est circumference				
	a state a service a s		rections from	$14\frac{1}{2}$	to	151.
34	do	do	$23\frac{1}{2}$	14	to	$15\frac{1}{2}$
89	do	do	23	14	to	$15\frac{1}{2}$
191	do	do	221	14	to	15
157	do	do	22	131	to	$14\frac{1}{2}$
110	do	do	211	13	to	14
15	do	do	21	13	to	131

604

[SENATE

In 50 i	insane women, the	largest circum	ference	was 22	1 inches	; 0	ther
	1		direc	ctions f	rom 14	to	141
159	do	do	22	do	131	to	141
200	do	do	$21\frac{1}{2}$	do	13	to	14
116	do	do	21	do	13	to	131
34	do	do	$20\frac{1}{2}$	do	13	to	131
559							

Size of the heads of the sane.

In 5 sa	ne men, th	e largest ci	rcumfere	ence was	s $23\frac{1}{2}$ in	ches; other di-
-				Г	ection fro	om $14\frac{1}{2}$ to $15\frac{1}{2}$
5	do	do	do	23	do	14 to 151
17	do	do	do	221	do	14 to 15
10	do	do	do	22	do	131 to 141
7	do	do	do	211	do	13 to 14
1	do	do	do	21	do	131 to 14
						baz abde Page
45						
				10.1		
In 1 sat	ne woman,	the largest	circum	ference	was 221	inches; other
		SALE PAR		dire	ctions fro	om 14 to 141
17	do	ob	do	22	do .	131 to 141
13	do	do	do	211	do	13 to 14
6	do	do	do	21	do	13 to 131
			to ? hund			
37						
						and it is and mil

WEIGHT OF 1007 ADULT INSANE PERSONS ON ADMIS-SION TO THE ASYLUM, AND THEIR HEIGHT, &c.

Men-Weight on admission.

From	80	to	100	pounds,		10
**	100	to	120	**		51
66	120	to	130	"		74
**	130	to	140	66	1	21
**	140	to	150	**		87
**	150	to	160	66		91
"	160	to	180	**		59
**	180	to	200	**		8
Over	200			**	;	2

Women-Weight on admission.

From 60 to	70	pounds,		2
" 70 to	90	"		44
" 90 to	100	"		85
" 100 to	110	**		121
" 110 to	120	65		110
" 120 to		**		62
" 130 to	140	"		41
" 140 to	150	"		19
" 150 to		**		13
" 170 to	200	**		5
Over 200		**	••••••	2

504

We have practiced weighing each patient on admission and occasionally afterwards, and think we have derived considerable advantage from this custom. It is sometimes a valuable guide in prognosis, and often affords amusement and encouragement to the insane themselves when they find, contrary to their strong convictions, that instead of losing they are increasing in flesh.

A majority of the insane when committed to our care are less fleshy than natural. They have become more or less emaciated by disease, or by their imaginary troubles. Usually they regain flesh when they begin to recover, and frequently weigh more after complete restoration than at any other period of their lives. Some in the course of a few months have gained from thirty to forty pounds.

In recent cases of insanity we usually predict recovery when patients begin to increase in flesh, especially if at the same time there is some improvement of the mind. On the contrary, where the digestion and sle p and appetite are natural, and the patient increases in flesh without any diminution of insanity, there is little hope of recovery; also if the appetite continues good and emaciation increases there is reason to fear an unfavorable result.

Height of Patients.

The height of patients that have been in this Asylum, varies among the men from five feet two inches to six feet five inches, and among the women from four feet ten inches to five feet nine inches. The difference in the color of the hair, eyes and complexion is about the same as among the other citizens of the state.

FARM, SHOPS AND LABOR.

The farm continues productive, and together with our large gardens has been cultivated to a great extent by the patients. In addition to pasturing for sixteen cows, they have produced as follows:

50	tons ha	y
220	bushels	oats.
70	"	green corn in the ear.
40	¢¢	Indian corn.
600	**	potatoes.
1200	"	carrots.
40	**	parsnips.
250	"	beets.
80	66	onions.
2000	heads c	abbage.
6000		ettuce,
400	" c	elery.
50	bushels	cucumbers.
8	barrels	do pickeled.
25	bushels	summer squash.
12	waggon	loads winter squash.
150	bushels	tomatoes.
75	"	green peas in the pod.
20	"	shelled peas.
20	66	shelled beans.
40	"	green in the pod.
14	**	Lima do.
10	"	salsify.

In addition to the labor performed by the men patients in cultivating the farm and garden, they have aided us still more in improving our grounds, making roads, fences, sawing wood, picking hair, making mattrasses and assisting in the joiners' shops. Heretofore we have not had as many shops and employments as we deem necessary in so large an institution, but our additional buildings will enable us hereafter to fully remedy this deficiency, and we hope to be able to make all the clothing used at the establishment and most of the furniture. We also expect to have a printing press in the course of the coming year.

The women patients have greatly assisted us during the past year. In addition to much household labor, they have manufactured the following articles:

Straw ticks,	181
Mattrass ticks,	104
Bolster ticks,	109
Pillow ticks,	105
Sheets,	655
Pillow cases,	551
Comfortables,	69
Bed quilts,	21
Table cloths,	43
Towels,	396
Window curtains,	57
Shirts,	183
Wrappers,	102
Drawers,	65
Socks,	219
Strong dresses,	68
Chemises,	119
Night gowns,	31
Skirts,	61
Stockings,	120
Caps,	62
Womens' dresses,	183
Pocket handkerchiefs,	35
Toilet table covers,	7
Cravats,	46

Our annual fair was held as usual on the Anniversary of the opening of the Asylum. A large number of articles manufactured by the patients, were disposed of, enabling us from the profits to make valuable additions to our library, green-house, musical instruments, and to purchase maps, pictures and other ornaments for the halls.

RELIGIOUS WORSHIP.

Religious services have been continued throughout the year. All the patients who wish to attend, and can conduct with propriety, assemble every Sunday in the Chapel, together with the officers, attendants and assistants that can be spared from other duties. The services last about one hour. Rarely any disturbance occurs. The

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3

patients are generally attentive, and several assist in singing. We are of the opinion that much good results to our patients from thus religiously observing the Sabbath. The Rev. Chauncey E. Goodrich, who resides in the immediate vicinity of the Asylum, officiates acceptably as Chaplain.

Our monthly concerts or monthly meetings of the Chaplain with the officers, attendants and assistants have been continued with advantage. In addition to religious services, the occasion is often embraced to instruct those in the employ of the Institution respecting the nature of insanity, and in their duties towards the insane.

Recently we have added to our Chapel, a new and valuable organ, it has been purchased with a portion of the avails of our last annual fair, and those anticipated from the next. It is usually played by a patient, and we consider it a valuable addition to our music.

SCHOOLS AND AMUSEMENTS.

Schools have been continued as heretofore, during the winter season, and our confidence in their usefulness in Institutions for the insane, increases with every years' experience. Schools with occasional exhibitions, the acting of original plays, and other literary exercises, together with labor, constitute our best, and in fact nearly our only amusements. Card playing and other games in which there is no exercise of the body, we are inclined to discourage. We think cards are often objectionable. They become too engrossing, and we fear may sometimes have a bad influence upon young persons after their recovery.

But as yet we have discovered no objection to schools, on the contrary, we daily see their advantages, and occasionally some striking cures apparently effected by the mental exertion they induce. It is the voluntary mental effort of the patient himself, that in numerous cases, is most essential to recovery. Talking to patients and lecturing, reading and preaching to them, are very well, no doubt, and often serviceable, but in our opinion less effective as a means of restoring the disorded mind. Patients who come to us in an irritable or melancholy state of mind, brooding over their suffering and delusions, not unfrequently have their attention arrested and awakened by our schools and exhibitions, and soon feel disposed to take part themselves. They then become more contented and cheerful, and thus the way is prepared for their recovery. Recently, we have had at the Asylum, several theatrical performances, embracing tableaux, the acting of short original plays, declamation, music, &c., which has not only interested the patients themselves, but elicited the applause of visitors and strangers who were present.

In addition to the good influence of schools in promoting the recovery and contributing to the enjoyment of curable cases, we witness with great satisfaction their good effects in improving the incurable and the demented, and keeping them from sinking into a more hopeless or idiotic condition. They also improve the minds of all, for there are few persons, however well educated, that are not benefitted by renewing, as they here have an opportunity in our schools, their knowledge of history, geography, &c. Among our patients are seven, who are graduates of colleges. Several of these take an active part in our schools and exhibitions, and some assist as instructors.

Among the men, a debating society has existed for several winters. Their meetings are in the evenings, once a week, and their discussions are conducted with decorum and ability, and to the enjoyment and edification of those who do not take part in speaking. Patients, whose minds become thus aroused by their own voluntary efforts, soon acquire a taste for reading, and they then read with attention and for a valuable purpose, that of acquiring information *for use*. We have a good library, and in addition, as will be seen by our list of periodical literature at the end of this report, we are supplied with the most valuable reviews and magazines in the country, and about sixty different newspapers, some daily, and some weekly, amounting in all to above one hundred a week.

Under the head of amusements, we ought, perhaps, to mention a variety of animals that are kept at the Asylum, to interest and amuse the patients, among which are deer, two large warrens of rabbits, tame raccoons, canary birds, peacocks, &c. &c. Also a green-house, containing above one thousand plants.

HEREDITARY PREDISPOSITION TO INSANITY.

There is nothing in connection with the study of insanity, more deserving of attention than the tendency of this disease to be transmitted from parents to their offspring. The fact is most unquestionable, and we are of opinion that it has more influence in producing that disease, than all other causes combined. It does not of itself excite the disease, but when it strongly exists a trivial cause will develope it. Thus most of the supposed exciting causes in the foregoing table, would, of themselves, be inoperative, if there was not an inherited constitutional tendency to insanity.

Sometimes the children of an insane parent are however exempt from the disease, while it appears in the grand-children. Contrary to the opinion of many, we have found this inherited form of insanity as curable as any other, though the subjects of it are very liable to relapse, and from slight and various causes. Sometimes a little sickness, a slight fever, or severe cold, and at others a little mental disturbance, such as the loss of relatives, or property, or religious anxiety, excite it. We have known individuals thus predisposed to insanity, have repeated attacks, and each time from a different exciting cause.

Of 1181 patients who have been at this Asylum, viz: 594 men, and 587 women, 315 were known to have insane relatives. That many of the others were thus predisposed we do not doubt, but we were not able to learn anything respecting their relatives. 175 were known to have insane parents, viz: 79 men, and 96 women.

It would appear from our inquiries, and they have been very carefully conducted, that insanity is a little more likely to be transmitted by the mother than by the father, and that mothers are considerably more likely to transmit it to daughters than to sons; while the fathers most frequently transmit it to sons. Thus, out of 79 men, 42 had insane fathers and 35 insane mothers, and in two instances both parents were deranged; while of 96 women, 37 had insane fathers and 56 insane mothers, and three inherited a predisposition to insanity from both parents.

Sometimes the children of an insane parent do not inherit any tendency to insanity. In such instances the exemption appears to be in consequence of inheriting the constitution and temperament of the parent not insane. When however the children resemble in personal appearance the insane parent, and manifest the same peculiarities of feelings and temper, there is reason to apprehend they will be more or less disposed to the disorders of the parent they resemble.

These facts cannot fail to arrest the attention, not only of those who have relatives and friends that are insane, but of every philanthropist; and be taken into consideration in forming matrimonial alliances, and be duly regarded in the physical and moral education of those thus liable by inheritance to insanity.

The early education of all such requires much attention. Great pains should be taken to form a character not subject to strong emotions, to passion and caprice. Among the most frequent causes of insanity in those not predisposed to it, is the over-indulgence of the appetites and passions in early life; and to those who inherit a tendency to this disease, such a course is highly pernicious.

The utmost attention should be given to securing a good bodily constitution. Such children should be confined but little at school; they should be encouraged to run about the fields and to take much exercise in the open air, and thus ensure the equal and proper development of all the organs of the body. They should not have the intellect unduly tasked. Very early cultivation of the mind, and the excitement of the feelings by the strife for the praise and the honor awarded to great efforts of mind and memory, is injurious to all children, and to those who inherit a tendency to nervous diseases or insanity, most pernicious.

SUICIDAL FORM OF INSANITY.

The suicidial variety of insanity is the one most dreaded by the officers of Lunatic Asylums, and the one that gives them the most intense anxiety. Usually there are a considerable number belonging to this class in every large Asylum.

Thus of 1181 patients received into this Asylum, 156, viz: 63 men and 93 women, were disposed to suicide.

It is however a consoling fact, that this alarming variety of insanity is quite often a curable one. Among the most complete and permatent recoveries from insanity we have ever known, are a considerable number, who, for several months were very strongly inclined to self-destruction.

In asylums, such persons are for the most part so carefully guarded, that but few instances of suicide occur; while no one can fail to notice in the public journals, that suicide from insanity is very frequent out of asylums.

For two years past we have kept a register of all the suicides of which we have heard, that have occurred in the State of New-York, We have had access, not only to several of the newspapers published in New-York and Albany, but to those published in various parts of the State, and think our list mainly correct. It is as follows:

38

	1845.	1846.
New-York,	21	21
Oneida,	7	3
Kings,	4	1
Erie,	4	3
Rensselaer,	- 4	3
Onondaga,	3	3
Ulster,	3	1
Madison,	2	1
Cortland,	2	2
Clinton,	2	0
St. Lawrence,	2	0
Chenango,	2	1
Delaware,	1	1
Albany,	1	3
Livingston,	1	1
Otsego,	1	1
Ontario,	1	2
Sullivan,	1	0
Cayuga,	1	3
Oswego,		0
Genesee,		0
Richmond,		2
Tompkins,		1
Chautauque,		2
Washington,	1	0
Monroe,	1	2
Orange,		0
Putnam,		0
Jefferson,		0
Westchester,		3
Queens,		1
Dutchess,		1
Montgomery,		1
Orleans,		1

74

64

Most of those included in the foregoing list, are reported to have been insane. We presume this is correct, and that many of them might have been saved had their friends adopted early and judicious precautions.

HOMICIDAL INSANITY.

We have seen a large number of cases of this, the most deplorable of all the forms of mental alienation. Some have been sent to us by courts, having been acquitted of the heinous crime of killing a fellow being, on the ground of insanity; others having killed those most dear to them in a paroxysm of insanity, have been committed to our care without any formal trial, the circumstances attending the homicide being such, that the propriety of this course was not questioned by the community.

But in addition to the number who have actually committed a homicide, we have still a larger number who have threatened or attempted to kill their relatives or neighbors, and scarcely a day passes in an establishment containing as many deranged persons as this, without threats or attempts to take life; and were it not for constant vigilance, no doubt death or serious injury would not unfrequently result from the violence of those thus disposed to assault others. Fortunately, as yet no accident of the kind has occurred here.

According to our observation, the *homicidal insane* may be arranged with propriety in six classes; those belonging to one class appear to be actuated by motives or feelings different from the others, or the circumstances accompanying the act, indicate a difference in their mental condition.

I. Those who take life in a paroxysm of insane passion or fury.

II. Those who commit a homicide from delusion, who are deceived and misled by their hallucinations, illusions, or disordered imaginations.

III. Those who kill indiscriminately and apparently from a love of . taking life, from a diseased propensity and conscious desire to destroy others, against which act neither reason or conscience remonstrates. IV. Those who kill without any apparent motive, from a sudden impulse, but of which they are not conscious, and who retain no recollection of anything that prompted them to the act.

V. Those disposed to commit the same crime, and without motive, from an irresistable impulse of which, however, they are conscious, and against which reason often remonstrates.

VI. Those who kill from imitation, or from an insane love of notoriety.

Instances of each variety above mentioned we have seen and had under our care, and there may be other forms of this diseased propensity that we have not seen, though all we now recollect in books, may, we think, be classed as above.

I. Those belonging to the *first class*, who are disposed to assault and kill others from a sudden or violent burst of insane passion or fury, are to be met with in every Lunatic Asylum. Insanity frequently causes extreme irritability. Many of the insane cannot bear opposition or denial, and having lost the power of self-control, they give way to their excited feelings, and suddenly strike, when offended, with any instrument they find, and thus sometimes destroy life.

One insane person nearly killed another because the latter unconsciously stood before him so as to keep the sun from shining upon him. Without requesting the other to move he violently assaulted him. Another threatened and attempted to take the life of one who had spilled some water upon his coat. A lunatic on Blackwell's Island killed another with a shovel because the latter "bothered him by asking for tobacco."

To this class belong most of those cases we occasionally see in the newspapers, of insane persons who are at large, killing their neighbors or relatives in a moment of fury. One for instance, killed a neighbor, severing the head entirely from the body with an axe, because he did not immediately give him some cider when requested. In such cases the existence of insanity is generally known previons to the homicide, and the offender is not considered a subject for punishment. Occasionally, however, some very doubtful cases arise, in which it is difficult to determine whether the act is the result of insanity which has deprived the person of self-control, or whether it is the mere result of depravity and violent passion.

Usually, however, in these somewhat doubtful cases, it will be found that those who ought not to be considered responsible for their actions, by reason of insanity, have suffered from some severe illness or from some great mental disturbance, since which time their temper and disposition have undergone a marked change. When no such facts are found to exist, nor any other evidence of mental disorder, we think the act itself committed during violent passion, is not proof of insanity, though it may have been committed under such aggravated provocation as to render it in public opinion, justifiable homicide.

II. In the Second Class we have placed those insane persons who take life from delusion, deceived and misled by their hallucinations, illusions or disordered imaginations. Probably more homicides are committed by insane persons laboring under this form of insanity than any other.

Thus the mother of four children became melancholy and wished to die; but considering suicide to be a heinous crime, for which she could not be pardoned, concluded to kill one of her own children, aged sixteen months, who being innocent would be happier in another world, and she would then be hung for the crime, and thus accomplish the puspose she had at heart.

She killed the child by cutting its throat with a razor, and was soon after placed under our care. She remained very gloomy for six months, apparently much bewildered in mind, and wondering why she was not arrested, tried, and executed. She finally recovered, and has been well for two years, and had the charge of her family. This excellent lady was naturally of an amiable disposition, and at the time of killing her child had a full knowledge that it was considered a heinous crime, for which death was the punishment.

A well educated and highly esteemed single lady, aged 42, who lived with, and had the care of her aged parents, was noticed to be rather gloomy and excentric, and at times a little deranged, in the spring of 1845. A few weeks after this she requested her mother to walk to one of the neighbors, and urged her to do so for her health. Soon after her mother was gone, she killed her father, aged 76, with an axe, as he was sitting shaving himself. She cut his head open with two blows of the axe, then the back of his neck with the same instrument, and finally his throat with his razor. She then put the room in order, and went and called her mother home, exhibited to her what she had done, saying, "I have killed father, and will now kill you, and then myself, as it is time we were in heaven." She then seized her mother, whose screams attracted the attention of persons passing by, who rushed in and rescued her.

Soon after this the daughter was brought to this Asylum, which then being too full to admit her, she was taken to Bloomingdale Asylum, where she remained about three months, when a vacancy occurring here, she was brought back to this place in July.

She was quiet and industrious, and though extremely melancholy was much of the time rational. Sometimes, however, she had insane delusions, and was at times manifestly deranged in mind, and strongly disposed to suicide. She was much inclined to talk about the tragic scene we have just related, and said that " at first she thought only of killing herself, but reflecting that her parents, now aged and dependent on her for supervision and care, would be uncomfortable without her, she concluded that it would be best to kill them first, and as they were all pious persons, they would go to heaven together."

She remained with us until Dec. 30th, 1845, when, relying more than we ought on her expressed conviction that she should be able to overcome her occasional disposition to self-destruction, we permitted her to lodge in a room by herself, where, after a few weeks, she hung herself during the night. This is the case of suicide we have already mentioned as having occurred this year. She left a letter expressive of thanks for the kindness with which she had been treated, and making known her wishes in case, as she expressed it, she " should again be overcome by her evil temptations."

As remarked, she was a considerable part of the time entirely rational, and there seemed to be nothing to prevent her complete recovery, except her sad and distressing thoughts. She often said, that when she awaked in the morning, she felt as well as ever in her life, until thoughts of the past came over her. Her mind seemed constantly to dwell upon the act we have mentioned, and for which she could assign no cause except the "instigations of the evil one." In fact this was her decided opinion when she appeared sane.

In this deplorable case of homicide there was no malice; on the contrary, we have no doubt this most unfortunate woman was actuated by kind and benevolent motives.

Cases of a similar character, in which under the influence of delusions, the insane commit homicide, are numerous in books, but we think it best to refer for the most part to those that have fallen under our own observation, and although we have seen several others, the foregoing will be sufficient for our purpose.

III. In the *Third Class* we have placed those who destroy others indiscriminately, and apparently from a love of taking life, from a diseased propensity, an intense and conscious desire to kill, and against which act neither reason or conscience remonstrate.

Some insane persons appear to be almost constantly desirous of injuring or killing others. There is a patient now at this Asylum who often says to us "Give me a knife — let us go and kill somebody you know you promised me we should go and kill folks, &c." Once having obtained a knife, he endeavored to cut the throat of a demented patient near him. He appears to be almost constantly desirous of killing, and expresses a wish to do so, and has attempted it whenever he has had a good opportunity. Yet he is almost uniformly pleasant and smiling, and passes several hours of each day on his knees in prayer, and appears not to have any feelings of malice towards any one, and does not manifest any passion.

This man committed a homicide before he came to the Asylum, and his history is briefly as follows:

When a young man his character was considered good, but about the year 1835, when he was 25 years of age, he became deranged, in consequence, it was said, of disappointment in love, and subsequent ill health. For several years he was permitted to be at large most of the time, though known to be dangercus, as he would often arm himself with a scythe or pitchfork, and was several times put in jail for breach of the peace. Early in 1843, while living with his brotherin-law, he was left by him in the barn with a young man about fifteen years of age. Towards evening his brother-in-law returned, and enquired of him where the young man was. He replied he did not know; and when more earnestly inquired of, he said, "that he expected he had stolen some money and run off." Search was made, and the body of the young man was found burried very carefully under the barn, pierced through more than twenty times with the pitchfork, besides several deep wounds made with a knife. The insane man was charged with having done this, but denied it then, (and has ever since,) and soon after took a horse and rode off, and was not overtaken until he had rode thirty miles, and then not without a severe struggle, in which one of those who attempted to arrest him was severely wounded.

Considerable design and cunning was shown by him in concealing the body and making the barn look as if nothing had occurred, by conveying the bloody straw to a swamp and concealing it, and wiping the shovel and floor very clean. In this case there might have been some trivial motive for the act; but as he had heretofore manifested a disposition to injure others, and ever since to a very marked extent, we believe we have very properly classified him with those who have a diseased propensity, — an intense and conscious desire to kill.

Another instance of this same propensity is as follows:

S., a young man, after having been in college three years, became deranged from excessive study, as it was supposed, and was soon after committed to our care. His mind seemed at first much shattered, talking constantly in a rambling and incoherent manner, chiefly in relation to his past studies - Latin, Greek, History, &c. After a few months he suddenly exhibited a propensity, and expressed a strong desire to fight, and would attack any one that came near him, though he did not appear to have any malice, and was habitually pleasant. One day when he was sitting at the dinner table he took a knife and attempted to cut the throat of the person that was near him; and for several months after this, expressed the most urgent desire to kill some one, he did not care who. When locked into his room, he would stand for hours watching with a most anxious countenance for the door to open, that he might have an opportunity to attack any one that opened it. Yet he was ever pleasant, and exhibited neither malice or passion, and apparently acted without any motive.

We might refer to many other cases of a like kind, but we believe the foregoing will suffice to fully establish the fact that some insane persons have a propensity and desire, of which they are conscious, to kill others, without malice, motive, or passion.

IV. In the Fourth Class belong those who kill without any apparent motive, from a sudden impulse, but of which they are not conscious, and who retain no recollection of any thing that prompted them to the act.

Those belonging to the third class, have an intense desire to kill, of which they are conscious, and are usually evidently insane in other

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respects but those belonging to the fourth class, kill from a sudden impulse, without any desire or conscious feeling relating to the act, and not unfrequently the act itself is the first noticeable evidence of their mental derangement.

Mrs. — an amiable lady, and the affectionate mother of three children was noticed by her husband to be more low spirited than usual; but her manner was not such as to attract the attention of other members of the family who ate at the same table with her. Suddenly she killed one of her children by repeated blows with a hatchet. Soon after the act, she attempted to kill herself, and was placed under our care, a wretched maniac. For several weeks she remained without much change, rather stupid as if she had no recollection of the past. She however recovered after various changes in her mental condition, and has now been well for several years, and had the care of her family as usual. She has often informed us since her recovery that she could recollect no motive whatever that induced her, to commit the act, and is confident she never thought of it until she saw the hatchet and child together, and then she instantly accomplished it, without any feeling of which she was conscious.

An accomplished and well educated young lady at this Asylum, who most of the time appears entirely rational, is occasionally seized with a sudden impulse to attack others and to destroy things. On one occasion, about the dawn of day, when entirely alone, she suddenly broke the mirror in her room, the toilet table and twenty-three panes of glass. When interrogated on the subject, either at the time of her paroxysms, or subsequently when perfectly sane, she can give no reason for her conduct, nor assign any cause for what she has done. Sometimes she threatens the lives of others, and suddenly attacks them without any provocation.

V. In the *fifth class* we have placed those who are disposed to commit the same crime without motive, from an irresistable impulse, of which, however, they are conscious, and against which reason often remonstrates.

We have been twice consulted by different individuals who appear to be entirely sane, but who felt at times, an almost irresistable propensity to kill others, especially their dearest friends and relatives.

Mr. — an intelligent and respectable gentleman in an adjoining county, has repeatedly asked our advice in his own case. At times

he experiences a sudden and intense desire to kill his wife and children to whom he is very strongly attached. He is also at times disposed to suicide. He can assign no cause whatever for this dreadful propensity. He is a man of property, of good reputation, and knows of nothing to disturb his mind. On one occasion his intelligent lady accompanied him, and confirmed all he said of the agony of his mind, in consequence of the sudden, dangerous and unaccountable feelings which we have described. By change of occupation, which keeps him much of the time travelling, he is of late less tormented with this unnatural propensity.

A young lady in this Institution, who much of the time is rational and industrious, once in a few weeks experiences a strong desire to tear her clothes and to break things, or to injure herself or others. When these attacks are coming on she begs to be confined. Of the origin or cause of such feelings she has no knowledge, and none are apparent to others.

Many cases of a similar character have been published, but we deem it unnecessary to quote them. They may be found in works on insanity.

VI. To the *sixth class* belongs those who kill from imitation or from an insane love of notoriety.

Some belonging to this class are partially idiotic, or from faulty organization of the brain appear to have no moral sense or feeling. Thus a young man whose head is unnaturally small, from early childhood manifested a total indifference to the sufferings of others. When a child, he would strike and wound other children without any obvious motive or passion. When he became older and larger, he would assault and sometimes kill the domestic animals that came near him, and on one occasion killed a cow by cutting into her with an axe, with the apparent indifference that he would cut a stick of wood. He was under our care for some time, and was often amiable and obliging, and had a good memory, but as we have said, he seemed destitute of moral sense or feeling.

Another young man, of good education, set on fire at different times, several buildings, and once poisoned with arsenic a friend to whom he was much attached. In each instance he immediately gave notice of what he had done. He was arrested and adjudged insane

by a jury, and sent to our care, and from much attention to his case, we believe him mentally deranged, and that he is properly classed with those, who, partly from an insane love of notoriety, and partly from imitation, commit crimes and confess them. He says that hearing and reading of large fires, where several people were burned to death, made him first think of burning buildings himself; and that an intense love of excitement and being talked about, together with an indiscribable confusion of mind, lead him on to commit the crimes we have mentioned. He is an amiable and intelligent young man, and at times exhibits strong religious feelings.

The following is from the great work of "Marc on insanity, considered in its relations to Medico-Legal questions:"

"An individual of a melancholy turn of mind, witnessed the execution of a criminal. This sight induced such violent exertion, that he was seized with a most vehement desire to kill some one, while at the same time he retained the most vivid fear of committing it. He stated his miserable condition in great anguish, beat his head, wrung his hands, and cried to his friends to save him. It would seem that in this instance, the sight of blood produced a result similar to the impulse which actuates the insane in their periodical attacks of fury.

"A child about seven years old strangled its younger brother. His parents caught him in the act. They asked him the cause. He replied weeping, that he was only imitating the devil whom he had seen strangling Punch.

"After the double murder (of children unknown to him) by Papavoine, a female of high rank visiting the place where the homicide had been committed, was seized on the instant with a desire to commit murder. The influence of printing an account of acts of this discription in propogating this frightful instinct, is well known. Many instances occurred after the murder committed by Henrietta Cornier. Many mothers declared themselves impelled to destroy their children, and asked for aid to prevent the crime. At Amiens, a mother recently confined, having heard of that person, was thus seized. She struggled against the impulse as long as possible, until at last fearing the result, she confessed her condition to her husband, who caused her to be secluded. In another instance, ten days after Cornier was sentenced, a mother strangled her child by pressing her arm around its neck." We have thus given very briefly, an account of the various forms of homicidal insanity that have fallen under our observation. The subject is one of vast importance, and in its legal relations a very embarrassing one.

The Revised Statutes of this State, declare that "no act done by a person in a state of insanity can be punished as an offence, and no insane person can be tried, or sentenced to any punishment, or punished for any crime or offence while he continues in that state."

This wise provision of law, was unquestionably intended to exempt from punishment every person, who, acting under the influence of insanity, commits a crime; and at first thought, this law would seem to be of easy application. Such, however, is not the case. On the contrary, cases not unfrequently arise in relation to insanity in connexion with crime, that are among the most difficult of any that ever become the subjects of legal consideration.

We appprehend, however, that there would be far less difficulty, and far less danger of doing injustice to the accused or to the State, if in cases brought to the consideration of courts and juries, the statute was taken for a guide and the question for the jury to decide be, whether the evidence establishes the insanity of the accused, and that he was acting under its influence when he committed the crime?

The great difficulties and mistakes that have occurred on this subject, have arisen we believe, from courts attempting to define, what cannot be correctly defined, viz: insanity, and to establish what does not exist, a certain test of insanity by which the existence of this disease can be recognized.

This statement, we think, is fully confirmed by a brief history of the attempts of courts to define insanity, and to furnish juries a rule to guide them in determining the question of responsibility.

At one time the possession of as much understanding as a child fourteen years old, the ability to count twenty, to recite the multiplication table, or the evidence of design, cunning or memory, were considered proof of sufficient mind to render a person responsible. In 1723, in the trial of Arnold for shooting at Lord Onslow, Mr. Justice Tracey observed, "that it is not every kind of frantic humor, or something unaccountable in a man's actions, that points him out to be such a madman, as is exempted from punishment: it must be a man, that is totally deprived of his understanding and memory, and doth not know what he is doing no more than an infant, than a brute, or wild beast, such a one is never the object of punishment."

The doctrine of Lord Coke and Lord Hale was, as Mr. Erskine admitted on the trial of Hadfield in 1800, for shooting at the King, "that to protect a man from criminal responsibility there must be a total deprivation of memory and understanding."

This was then, in 1800, considered the law, but at that very trial it was not adhered to at all, and "Delusion, was established as the true character of insanity." Hadfield had exhibited memory, much intelligence, forethought and design, but he was laboring under delusion, and was acquitted, Lord Kenyon and three other judges presiding at the Court of Kings Bench.

Ten years after this we find the test of insanity or of responsibility, to be "ability on the part of the accused to distinguish right from wrong." Sir Vicary Gibbs, the Attorney-General of England, when trying Bellingham for the murder of the Hon. Spencer Percival, remarked as follows: "I say upon the authority of the first sages in this country, and upon the authority of the established law in all times, which law has never been questioned, that although a man be incapable of conducting his own affairs, he may still be answerable for his criminal acts, *if he possesses a mind capable of distinguishing right from wrong.*" Chief Justice Mansfield in his charge to the jury in this case declared this to be the law, and consequently Bellingham, now generally believed to have been insane, was arrested, tried, convicted, sentenced, hung, and his body dissected, within one week after the commission of the crime.

Had the Judge in this case declared "Delusion to be the true character of insanity," as it had been successfully maintained in the case of Hadfield only ten years before, Bellingham would undoubtedly have been acquitted, and he would have been, we think, if the Judge had instructed the jury as did Lord Lyndhurst in the case of the King vs. Oxford, where he directed them to acquit the prisoner, if satisfied "that he did not know when he committed the act, what the effect of it, if fatal, would be, with reference to the crime of murder."

Since then the law, that is the decisions of the higher courts of England have been loose and fluctuating. Generally however the [Senate, No. 30.] 4 ability to distinguish right from wrong has been insisted upon more or less strongly. Not unfrequently however it has been partially or entirely abandoned, as it must have been in the trial of McNaughton for killing Mr. Drummond in 1843. In this case it was proved that the prisoner had good memory and understanding, and was capable of transacting business correctly, and there was no evidence that he did not understand the distinction between right and wrong at the time he committed the act for which he was tried and justly acquitted.

Within a few years the English House of Lords have endeavored to obtain from the Judges of the Law Courts their views of the law relating to insanity, or rather a legal definition of insanity, which should henceforth furnish a rule for the guidance of courts and juries whenever in criminal cases the plea of insanity might be set up. The answer of the Judges to the questions propounded to them, must be regarded as a signal failure in this respect. Their answer in fact was but the repitition of the dictum we have mentioned, that a man is responsible if he is capable of knowing right from wrong.

As was predicted at the time, it was disregarded in England immediately after, as it had been in McNaughton's case just before. It was not at the time satisfactory to some of the most enlightened members of the House of Lords. Lord Brougham complained that the test was vague and unsatisfactory, and doubted whether the juries before whom the question is tried, really comprehended what is meant by it.

It has been disregarded in England in numerous instances since. Quite recently we have seen the acquittal of Eliza Clark for killing her children by throwing them off Battersea Bridge. In this case, there was no evidence of any kind of insanity except furnished by the act itself, while there was much to show that on all ordinary subjects, she was capable of exercising reason up to the time the act was committed, and even but a few hours before, had written a connected and circumstantial letter, announcing her intention. This letter she left at her uncle's on the way to the bridge, and he testified that she then appeared "very well in mind." She was no doubt very justly acquitted, but she could not have been without a total disregard of the law, as lately declared by the law judges of England.

Let us now look to some of the declarations of the judges of courts having the highest authority and "reputation in this country, upon the subject of the responsibility of the insane in criminal cases.

Chief Justice Shaw, of Massachusetts, in the trial of Rogers for killing the warden of the State prison in 1843, in his charge to the jury, after remarking that "the mental disease relied upon to excuse the accused in this case, is partial insanity, consisting of melancholy, accompanied by delusion," told the jury that the important question for them to consider was, " are the facts of such a character, taken in connection with the professional witnesses, as to induce the jury to believe that the accused had been laboring for several days under monomania, attended with delusion; and did this indicate such a diseased state of the mind that the act of killing the warden was to be considered as an outbreak or paroxysm of the disease, which for the time being, overwhelmed or suspended reason and judgment, so that the accused was not an accountable agent?" If such was the case, the accused was entitled to an acquittal. In reply to a question by the jury, he added, "that if the preponderance of the evidence were in favor of his insanity-if its bearing and leaning as a whole, inclined that way, they would be authorized to find him insane."

The jury acquitted the prisoner on the ground of insanity, although it was proved that until within a few days of the homicide he had conducted as well as others, and on the morning of the day of the homicide, was seen by the physician of the prison who then thought him well, and even up to the moment of the act he was at work as usual. He was however at times subject to hallucinations and consequent delusions, and was, we think, rightfully acquitted. In this case, the doctrine of *delusion* and partial insanity, were distinctly recognised as forming an excuse for crime.

Chief Justice Williams of Connecticut, on the trial of Woodford for the murder of his wife in 1845, instructed the jury, "that if they found the facts alledged to be true, yet if in their opinion the prisoner was so far insane when he committed the act, either from general insanity, or from partial delusion only, as to have been unconscious, either of the act itself, or of its criminal character, they must wholly acquit him." To this he added, "that if the jury found that although the prisoner was at the time, either partially or generally insane; but yet not to such a degree as to be unable *clearly* to distinguish between right and wrong; or to impair in any essential degree his force of conscience, or his knowledge as to the full guilt of the transaction; in such case, his insanity would not excuse his act, and the law would hold him responsible for it. But that if the jury found him either partially or generally so far insane, as that in their judgment, the provocation in this case, operating upon his mind, would be equal to such provocation as operating upon a man of perfectly sound mind, would reduce a homicide from murder to manslaughter, then they had a right to take that partial insanity into their consideration, and to find the prisoner guilty of manslaughter only." He concluded as follows: "The law presumed every man in the commission of an act, to be sane; and that the burden of proving his insanity rested upon the prisoner. And although he was not bound to prove the fact beyond a reasonable doubt; yet he was bound to furnish such evidence of it, as would not only effectually rebut the legal presumption against it, but would furnish to the minds of the jury, a reasonable ground for believing that insanity existed."

The jury returned a verdict of "Not guilty of murder, but guilty of manslaughter," and he was sent to the State prison.

In this case, the insanity of the prisoner was not, in our opinion, at all well established by the evidence. He was an intemperate man, and on the day of the homicide had drank freely of cider.

But it will be observed, that in this case the doctrine of ability to distinguish right from wrong at the time of committing the act, was but feebly enforced, and then with qualifications; while that of partial insanity and delusion would appear to be sufficient to annul responsibility.

Chief Justice Hornblower of New-Jersey, on the trial of Spencer for shooting his wife in 1846, told the jury, (we quote from a corrected copy of his charge,) that "the simple question for them to decide was, whether the accused at the time of doing the act was conscious that it was an act which he ought not to do;" adding, "if in your opinion he was unconscious at the time of committing the act that he ought not to do it, or in other words incapable of distinguishing right from wrong in a moral point of view, then they had nothing farther to do than to render a verdict of acquittal on the score of insanity." Fortunately for the prisoner, the chief justice afterwards in the course of his charge, told the jury, "that in his judgment the true question to be put to the jury is, whether the prisoner was insane at the time of committing the act."

Now it was well established by the evidence, that Spencer had been considered insane at times, previous to the homicide, and probably was so when he committed the act; but we very much doubt whether it was proved to the satisfaction of the jury that he was incapable of distinguishing right from wrong, for on all subjects disconnected with suspicions of the infidelity of his wife, he appeared rational and intelligent to the time he committed the act.

The jury returned a verdict of acquittal, as they were able to say they believed him insane at the time of the homicide; but we apprehend that the far more difficult question, whether he was able to distinguish right from wrong at that time, was not taken into consideration, for although judges appear to think this an easy question for the jury to decide, we are of opinion that there are few more difficult.

Separate from the fact that no being short of Omnipotence always knows right from wrong, and that what is right in one age or nation is considered wrong in another, *how* are the jury to decide that at the precise moment of committing a homicide, a man can or cannot distinguish right from wrong? What kind of evidence establishes this? The legal presumption is, that a man does know; but in case he does not, how is this to be proved? We certainly do not know, and believe with Lord Brougham that "juries do not really comprehend what is meant by the question."

From this brief review of the law, as expounded by distinguished judges in England and in this country in relation to the plea of insanity in criminal cases, it must be evident to all, that there is but little stability or uniformity in their decisions; that the efforts of judges to enlighten and to aid the jury by endeavoring to define insanity, and to furnish a test by which it can be recognized, have been not only unsuccessful, but have tended to confuse their minds, and we fear in some instances to lead them to render a verdict which has been interpreted by the court differently from what they intended.

A striking instance of this occurred in one of the courts of this State during the past year. On a preliminary plea to determine whether a person accused of a homicide was then, at the time of trial, insane, the jury would not return a verdict in the language of the statute, that the man was *sane*, bur that they considered him "sufficiently sane in mind and memory to distinguish between right and wrong." This the court decided to be the same thing as saying the prisoner was sane. But that the jury did not so intend is certain, for one of them was afterwards drawn as a juror on the subsequent trial for the homicide, and was challenged by the counsel for the people for partiality to the prisoner, and the challenge was sustained by the court, for although he agreed to the verdict we have mentioned, he declared that "he would sit until he died before he would find the prisoner guilty, as he did not believe him responsible in the sight of God."

We are therefore of the opinion, that for all the ends of justice the statute should be the only guide, and the jury be told as they were by Chief Justice Hornblower, "that the true question for them to decide, is, whether the prisoner was insane at the time of committing the act." They would not then become confused by metaphysical distinctions between good and evil, right and wrong, partial and general insanity, and other difficult questions.

It may be said that as our statute laws are founded on the common law of England, that we must look to the latter for the true meaning of the former. But will it be seriously contended that on such a subject as this, we are to be guided by the opinions of men who had no practical knowledge of insanity, and who lived two centuries since, when but very little was known by any one relating to this disease. Is no regard to be paid to the progress of science, and to the vast number of facts accumulated on this subject ?

We have endeavored at various times to ascertain from the insane themselves their ability to distinguish right from wrong, and for this purpose have questioned on this subject in various ways several hundreds, and we cannot better exhibit its inapplicability as a test of their responsibility, than to say what the truth enables us to say, that a large proportion of the insane now at this Asylum appear to understand its distinctions as well as persons in the community at large.

We also believe this to be true of most of the insane we have seen elsewhere; and we confidently assert that this will be found to be the opinion of every person who has had charge of an Institution for the insane, and seen many deranged persons.

But the cases we have already mentioned, show the utter worthlessness of this as a test of the responsibility of the insane. One of the women mentioned, killed her own child for the purpose of procuring her own death by execution. She certainly knew she was

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doing a wrong act, and one for which she expected to be punished. Others commit homicide from a sudden impulse, who have not previouzly exhibited any wrong conduct or intellectual aberration. A mother kills her only child, or a man his wife and family, to whom he is known to be ardently attached; or a child a parent, as in the instance we have mentioned. To such cases none of these tests of insanity apply, and yet they are among the most palpable and unquestionable cases of that kind of mental disease which should be an excuse for criminal acts. When the lunatic Martin was asked "if he was not aware that he was doing wrong when he set fire to the York Minster, and liable to be hanged for it," he answered, "yes, according to the law of man I know I was; but as I had the command of God to do so, He will protect me if he pleases; and if it be his pleasure that I should die, I am ready to comply with the Divine will."

One of the patients in this Asylum, when recently asked if he thought it wrong to steal, murder, &c., replied, "yes, certainly it would be wrong for you or others, but not for me, for I am God, and have a right to do as I please."

Notwithstanding the great improvement within the last fifty years, that has been made in the treatment of the insane, owing to an increase of knowledge relating to insanity, it is still a fact that some of the most deplorable forms of this disease are not even now allowed to annul responsibility.

Although it is the law of this and every civilized country, that it is the reason of man which makes him accountable for his actions ; and that the deprivation of reason acquits him of crime ; yet, it is a lamentable fact that at the present time, courts of justice do not acknowledge the existence of some of the worst forms of mental alienation, and which in the opinion of those practically acquainted with the insane are as well established as any other. In the words of an enlightened Judge of this State, " the law on the subject of insanity, in its slow and cautious progress still lags far behind the advance of true knowledge."

But this, as history shows, has been the case at various times before. At one time to render a person irresponsible for his acts, it was necessary to prove a total overthrow of the intellect, and that the accused knew no more *than a brute*; at another, that he could not count twenty. As science and a knowledge of insanity advanced, it was found that many insane persons were wrongfully excluded by these rules, and others were adopted more in conformity with the then existing knowledge of mental diseases. In 1800 the doctrine of *Delusion*, as we have mentioned, was established, which was a great and good advance, and at that time, was in accordance with all that was known or that had beeen published on this subject. It is a fact highly creditable to Mr. Erskine, that he established a doctrine that brought up the practice of the court to the full extent of the science of insanity at his time.

At that period nothing was known or had been published of a form of disease that disordered the propensities, affections and sentiments, without manifestly deranging the intellect and reasoning powers. But that such a form does exist, is as unquestionable a fact as any other relating to insanity. Instances of it may be seen in every Lunatic Asylum, and are well known to every one who has had opportunities of seeing many insane persons and studying their peculiarities. Numerous cases illustrative of the fact are to be found in all modern works on insanity.

But as we have said, such a variety of insanity had not been described in 1800, when Erskine asserted that *delusion* was the true test of insanity.

In 1801, the illustrious Pinel, of France, first directed attention to this form of insanity which he called "Mania without delirium," or "reasoning insanity," and to which Esquirol, who described the same, gave the name of "affective monomania," or the derangement of the affections and feelings by disease, without noticeable disturbance of the reasoning powers.

Since the time of Pinel, every practical observer and writer on insanity has acknowledged the existence of this form of insanity, but which as I have said is still frowned upon by courts of justice.

It has been most fully described by Prichard in his Treatise on Insanity, who, unfortunately, perhaps, gave to it the name of "*Moral Insanity*," a very appropriate name, but which seems to have alarmed many excellent persons, who feared it was but a name for *moral depravity*, while nothing is further from the truth, as every one will see who carefully studies the authors who have witten upon this subject, and the cases they have adduced to illustrate it.

But notwithstanding this variety of insanity has not yet been reeognised bycourts of justice, as we believe it ought, we have not the least doubt that it will be, and that within a few years. Not unfrequently the wisest and best of men for a while resist change and reform, for fear of evil results, but finally yield to the force of truth; — thus some of the most worthy of the English judges failed to recognise the monstrous injustice of punishing pretended witchcraft with death, until long after it had been demonstrated to the satisfaction of others, and so late as 1743 the repeal of the penal laws against witchcraft was denounced by the presbytery of Edinburg as a national sin.

That those who are opposed to giving due weight to the plea of insanity are actuated by good motives we have not the least doubt. They say that this defence is now too frequently made; that by it many vicious, but not deranged, persons are improperly acquitted. But is there any proof of this? We have made many inquiries upon this subject, so far as regards this State and New England, and have not been able to learn when and where such instances have occurred. We do not believe that a solitary instance can be adduced, either in this State or in either of the New England States, where a homicide has been committed and the plea of insanity interposed and supported by the evidence of a physician well acquainted with insanity, and been acquitted on that ground, that time has not shown the defence and acquittal to have been correct.

We hope, if this assertion cannot be contradicted by facts, and that it cannot we are confident, that it will tend to quiet the alarm of those who are fearful that the defence of insanity is too frequently successful. But can it be said on the other side that the plea of insanity has never been improperly rejected? We apprehend not. Many instances occur to our minds of persons having been condemned to the gallows in this country, for crimes committed when, according to the present general opinion, they were insane. We need but refer to Goss, who was executed in Connecticut, Prescott, in New Hampshire, Cook, in Schenectady, Baker, in Kentucky; to which we may add Cornell, of Chautauque county, and Wilcox, of Saratoga, in this state, who were condemned to be hung, but the evidence of their insanity was such as to induce the Governor of the State to commute their sentences into imprisonment for life in the State prison. Cornell's sentence was thus commuted by Governor Bouck, and he is now in Auburn prison. The physician of the prison, who has seen much of him, informed us the last summer, that in his opinion Cornell is insane, and we came to the same conclusion on seeing and conversing with him. Wilcox, whose sentence was commuted by Governor Wright, is at Clinton prison, and of his mental condition now we know nothing, but judging from the evidence adduced on the trial, as published, we think there cannot be much doubt but that he was insane when he committed the homicide.

But we have already extended our remarks on this subject farther than we intended, and farther perhaps than we ought. If so our excuse must be found in the fact that we speak in behalf of those whose rights we consider it our duty to protect, and who cannot plead for themselves. Far from us is any desire to screen the guilty by the plea of insanity, and no one can regret more than ourselves to see this plea improperly set up, as it must tend to jeopardize it when justly made. But we cannot resist the conviction that by the different constructions given by courts to the law of insanity, that the rights both of the insane and of the community may be in danger. That in one case when popular feeling is much excited against the accused, the strictest rules of law and the severest tests of insanity known to the common law of England are enforced, and notwithstanding strong proof of insanity, conviction follows, while in another case, with little proof of insanity, but with popular sentiment in favor of the prisoner, other constructions are given to the law, and he is acquitted.

In conclusion, we wish to express the hope that this important subject will receive the earnest attention of those whose duty it will be under the new Constitution " to reduce into a written and systematic code the whole body of the law of this State," and that the result will be, on the one hand, fully to protect the community against the plea of insanity being improperly sustained, and on the other, to prevent courts and juries from ignorantly adding to one of the greatest afflictions of Heaven that of an unjust and ignominious death.

HISTORY OF THE NEW-YORK STATE LUNATIC ASYLUM.

As this institution is now nearly completed, it seems proper to embody in this report, a brief historical account of its origin and progress.

In January, 1830, acting Governor Throop, in his annual message, called the attention of the Legislature to the condition and wants of the insane poor of the State in the following language.

" By the census of 1825, it was ascertained that there were at that time, eight hundred and nineteen insane persons in this State. Of these, two hundred and sixty-three were of sufficient ability to pay for their own support, two hundred and eighty were in jail or supported by charity, leaving three hundred and forty eight insane paupers at large, a terror to others, and suffering in addition to mental derangement all the privations attending penury and want. The condition of those under poor-house regulations, or confined in jails is, if possible, worse. No person of sensibility can look upon those sufferers, in their small cells, surrounded by a bad atmosphere, sometimes chained to the walls, and witness their dejected or wild despairing looks or frantic madness, without a feeling of horror. No restoration can be hoped for under such circumstances; indeed the instances are not rare, of persons slightly deranged becoming incurable maniacs by these injudicious means. The contrast of their condition with those in the Lunatic Asylum in New-York, is very striking. In the latter place, every thing is spacious, cleanly and pleasant to the eye; the inmates are suffered to be at liberty and range in the open air in an enclosed yard, they are treated with kindness, and their innocent whims indulged; the consequence is, that many who are placed there, are restored to reason and discharged after a short period, to enjoy the society of their friends. It speaks much in favor of the ability of the keepers, attendants and superintendants of that interesting institution, that during my visit there last summer, but one out of sixty or seventy then under their care was in close confinement.

But that institution is not designed for general charity, it receives those only who are able to pay for their support, and such paupers as are sent by the authorities of the several towns, and paid for out of the poor funds, at a certain price stipulated by law. I submit to your consideration, the propriety of establishing an Asylum for the gratuitous care and recovery of that most destitute class of the human family who are suffering from a darkened understanding and the evils of poverty at the same time. While roaming at large, they are dangerous to the personal safety of the citizens, and many crimes of the deepest die, have been excused on the plea of mental alienation. The ties of natural affection frequently impel relatives who are struggling with poverty themselves, to afford that relief which is a public rather than a private duty."

January 29th of the same session, Mr. Weed of Monroe, moved, "that the standing committee on charitable institutions, do inquire into the propriety of making further provision for ameliorating the condition of the insane poor." This was subsequently referred by resolution of the House to the select committee on so much of the acting Governor's message as relates to charitable institutions.

April 17, Mr. Russell of Washington county, chairman of the committee, made a valuable report, in which, after referring to the large number of the insane in the State, and the small number that were accommodated at the Bloomingdale Asylum, says "that the general expediency and indeed the necessity of another Asylum seem manifest from a bare examination of the facts."

This report we believe accomplished much good, as it lead to inquiry, and finally to the establishment of this Asylum. Some of the suggestions contained in it, respecting the management of the Bloomingdale Asylum, were useful and timely, especially that of having the responsible Physician to the institution reside in the building, and of publishing annual reports. These suggestions were soon after acted upon and complied with.

The report concluded by recommending that a "committee be appointed for the purpose of investigating the manner in which the Hospital in the city of New-York, and the Asylum connected therewith, have disbursed the funds which they have received from the State; and that said committee inquire particularly into the management, affairs and prospects of said establishment; the receipts and disbursements and the propriety of making a different distribution of the funds now applied to their use, or of increasing such funds; and that they digest a system for the general and more economical distribution of such public charity: also, the propriety or necessity of erecting new establishments, more extensively to distribute such charities; the proper site for such new erection, if any should be found necessary, with a plan of the same, and an estimate of the probable expense: also, the propriety of requiring the physicians of said Asylum to be appointed by the Governor and Senate; and that they report the result of their doings to the next Legislature.

This committee, of which the Hon. A. C. Paige was chairman, during the recess of the Legislature, visited various Lunatic Asylums, and devoted much attention to the subject of insanity and hospitals for their comfort and cure, and in March, 1831, presented to the Legislature one of the most elaborate and valuable reports on those subjects that ever emanated from a legislative body. It was accompanied by engraved plans of various lunatic Asylums with estimates of expenses of erecting them. This report will ever be considered a valuable document for the vast amount of information it contains upon subjects but little understood by the public. The committee concluded by recommending " that public establishments for the reception and cure of the insane poor, are both necessary and proper, and they, therefore, submit to the Legislature the expediency of providing for the erection, of at least one spacious and commodious hospital, sufficient to accommodate, at least, 350 of the insane poor. If an establishment of this extent should prove inadequate, its accommodations may hereafter be enlarged, or other hospitals erected of sufficient dimensions and number to accommodate all the insane poor in the State."

At the same session of 1831, another select committee, of which Mr. Potter was chairman, was appointed to examine and report on the same subjects. The report of this committee, accompanied by a bill, was made on the 4th of April, in the same year ; yet no efficient legislative action was had on the subject to which they related, and the matter was permitted to rest until the session of 1832, when another select committee, of which Mr. J. C. Kemble was chairman, was appointed to investigate the subject and to report thereon. The report of this committee (accompanied by a bill) was made on the 28th day of February, 1832 ; no legislative action was had on the bill reported by this committee, and the matter was again permitted to rest.

At the session of 1843, no Legislative action was had upon the subject of the insane poor, but in January, 1834, Governor Marcy, in his annual message, recommended the subject to the consideration of the Legislature in the following language :---

"We should be deaf to the most powerful appeal of suffering humanity, and wanting in gratitude to God, who has endowed us with the faculty of reason, and blessed us with abundant means of administering to the wants of others, if we did not use both, for the comfort, and, to every practicable extent, for the cure of those who are deprived of these gifts. If, indeed, the diseases of the mind lay beyond the reach of human agency, it would still be our duty to afford these sufferers all the comfort and consolation which could be enjoyed in such a forlorn condition ; but recent experience has proved that in a few cases only is their doom irreversible. Medical science and mental philosophy have finally obtained an almost entire dominion over these maladies. There is, however, this peculiarity in the cases of insanity, that little hope of affecting a cure can be indulged, without the conveniences of proper institutions. The Asylum at Bloomingdale, under the management of the governors of the New-York hospital, is the only establishment affording accommodations for insane patients, which has received any assistance from the public treasury. The State has already paid, for founding and supporting it, one hundred and seventy thousand dollars, and has made provision for an annual payment towards its support, of ten thousand dollars, until the year eighteen hundred and fifty-seven. It is, however, inadequate to the public wants; besides, this institution is, in effect, closed to that class of insane patients presenting the strongest claims for your bounty,---to those who are unable to contribute to their own maintenance.

"Poverty is sometimes the cause, and oftener the consequence, of mental derangement. For those who labor under this double affliction, nothing has been done specifically by the Legislature. By the census of 1825, it appears that there were then in this State, eight hundred and nineteen lunatics; and if the number has increased proportionably with the population, it cannot be less at this time, than one thousand. Of these, seven hundred, at least, are paupers, and most of them utterly beyond all reasonable hope of recovery without legislative aid.

"If anything were wanting to urge you to vigorous action on this subject, and call forth your patronage in behalf of these sufferers, it will be found in the well authenticated fact, that of recent cases, under the treatment of the best regulated Asylums, eighty, and sometimes ninety patients in a hundred, have been restored; and even those who have been long neglected and cruelly misused, are not in a hopeless state. If the victims of disordered intellects had not been deprived of the usual means of exciting public compassion, or if they could have come forth from the places of their confinement, to exhibit their deplorable condition to the public eye, I cannot believe that a provision for their relief would have been delayed to this late day, If the claims of humanity, in this respect, have been disregarded, you have now the power, and, I doubt not, will feel the disposition to satisfy them."

A select committee, of which A. J. Parker was chairman, was appointed to examine the subject and to report thereon. This committee, in concurrence with their predecessors, made a favorable report, accompanied with a bill to carry into effect the proposed measure; but owing as is supposed to the unusually great number of bills on the general orders, the one in question could not be reached, and no legislative action was had thereon.

At the session of 1835, Mr. Hertell, of New-York, from the committee appointed on this subject, after referring to the past history of legislative action on the subject of a State Asylum for the insane poor, says, "that your committee beg leave to remark, that in their opinion, enough, and more than enough reports have been made on the subject, and that they are decidedly of the opinion that such an Asylum ought to be established without further unnecessary delay." They reported a bill for that purpose, which passed the House and was read in the Senate and discussed, and May 4th, referred to a select committee; but the Senate adjourned on the 11th without any further action on the subject.

Early in 1846, the attention of the Legislature was again called to it, and especially by a petition from the medical society of the county of Oneida, which was drawn up and presented by Dr. C. B. Coventry (now one of the Managers of the Asylum), at the semiannual meeting of the society, January, 1846. At the same meeting of the society, a resolution was passed instructing their delegate to the State Medical Society, Dr. John McCall, to unite the co-operation of that body. In accordance with his instructions, Dr. McCall offered a resolution to appoint a committee on the subject, which committee, through its chairman, reported the following "memorial from the members of the State Medical Society," and which was presented to the Legislature, February 4th, 1836.

"The undersigned, members of the State Medical Society, beg leave to solicit the attention of your honorable body, to the condition of that portion of your fellow citizens who are suffering under the severest of all human afflictions, insanity; and who from their indigent circumstances, are subjects of public bounty and support. It is believed that the whole number of insane persons, including idiots, in our State, is about 3,000; and that not more than one third of this number have sufficient means for their support, leaving 2,000 to be supported at the public expense. We have in the State only one incorporated lunatic Asylum, and that capable of accommodating only about 150 patients; one private Asylum, with accommodations for about sixty patients; both of these institutions are merely for patients who pay, and it will be perceived that they cannot accommodate one-half of the number who are supposed to be able to pay for their support. For the 2,000 pauper lunatics, it may truly be said there is no provision; they are permitted to roam at large, a nuisance to community; are confined in their own dwellings, or consigned to all the horrors of the county poor-house, and in either case no provision is made for their comfort or restoration to reason, and they continue, while life remains, to be a burden upon society, except, perhaps, in a very few instances, where the towns have defrayed the expense of sending them to an Asylum.

"The recovery of an insane patient, under the present mode of supporting our pauper lunatics is a very rare occurrence, while by a different course, and by the establishment of a pauper asylum four-fifths of the recent cases may be restored to soundness and usefulness. In the report of the directors of the Connecticut Retreat for the Insane, for 1834, it is stated that more than nine-tenths of the recent cases were cured ; it is confidently believed that an individual can be supported cheaper and much more comfortably in a properly conducted Asylum than by the present mode.

"But when we consider that a large portion would, from recovery, soon cease to be subjects of public bounty, the economy of the measure would present strong claims for your consideration.

"In the language of a committee appointed by a former legislative body of our State, 'the time has arrived when we are called upon to discharge the uncancelled obligations of religious, moral, and social duty to that portion of our fellow citizens, whose appeal to our sympathies, justice, and humanity, is the strongest which can under any circumstances be made by any portion of our population."

"Your memorialists would therefore respectfully request that your honorable body would make such adequate provision for their support and medical treatment (by the erection of a proper asylum) as in your wisdom you may deem best calculated to restore that unfor-

tunate portion of our population to reason, their friends and the community.

John McCall,	Richard Pennell,
T. Romeyn Beck,	David Ayres,
A. G. Benedict,	Simeon Snead,
John H. Steel,	H. Maxwell,
James McNaughton,	Jona. Eights,
Joel A. Wing,	William Bay,
John James,	John F. Gray,
Robert G. Frary, ·	A. Willard,
James M. Gardiner,	E. B. Burroughs,
Samuel White,	L. I. Tefft,
Hiram Corliss,	John P. Higgins,
Samuel P. Bishop,	D. H. Bissell,
A. Coleman,	C. W. Smith,
Samuel McClellan,	Ferris Jacobs.

March 30, 1836, "An Act to authorize the establishment of the New-York State Lunatic Asylum," was passed. This act empowered the Governor, with the consent of the Senate, to appoint during the session of the Legislature, three Commissioners to select a suitable site for such an institution, and authorized the Treasurer, on the warrant of the Comptroller, to pay for the same, agreeably to the contract of the Commissioners, a sum not exceeding ten thousand dollars. 'It also provided that within three months after the site shall be selected, that the Governor, Secretary of State, and Comptroller shall appoint three commissioners to contract for the erection of said Asylum, on such plan and on such terms as they may deem just and proper, provided the said plan and the terms of said contract shall be approved by the Governor. The Treasurer was also directed to pay to said Commissioners, on the warrant of the Comptroller, such sums of money as they may require for the building of said Asylum, not exceeding in the whole fifty thousand dollars.

Messrs. N. Dayton, C. McVean and R. Withers were appointed Commissioners to select a site for the Asylum, but in their report to the Legislature, February 25, 1837, stated that they had not been able to select and secure one, though they had at one time bargained for a farm situated in Watervliet, but felt obliged to relinquish it in consequence of the unwillingness of the gentleman with whom they had contracted, to comply with the terms first agreed upon.

[Senate, No. 30.]

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This caused considerable delay, and a site was not selected until the summer of 1837, when the present one was determined upon, and purchased for \$16.300, the State paying ten' thousand dollars, and the citizens of Utica six thousand three hundred.

In the latter part of the summer of the same year, Wm. Clarke, Elam Lynds, and F. E. Spinner, were appointed Commissioners to superintend the erection of the Asylum. In their report to the Legislature, Jan. 24, 1839, they say, "that soon after their appointments, they visited various other Institutions of a similar character, with a view of obtaining information; and on their return, digested and drew plans for the Asylum which received the official approval of the Governor."

The plans, drawn by the chairman of the Commissioners, Mr. Clarke, were also "submitted to most of the State officers and to the committee of the Legislature having the subject in charge, and the whole subject was extensively discussed, and the views of the Commissioners explained at large, as they believed to the satisfaction of all."

The plan thus proposed and adopted, consisted of four buildings, the size of the present front building, each 550 feet long, to be located at right angles, facing outward, and to be connected at the angles by verandahs of open lattice work, the whole inclosing an octagonal area of above thirteen acres, not including above two and a half acres covered by the buildings. The estimated expense, if built of brick, was \$431.636, no estimate of the expense of hammered stone, of which the main building was finally constructed was given. The Commissioners further state, that they had already built the centre foundation of the outer walls of the four buildings, and that the a half of one, and three-fourths of another were ready to recive the water table, and that they had expended \$46,881.79 of the \$50,000 appropriated for the Asylum. But the site of the Asylum, plan of the buildings and the proceedings of the Commissioners, are best described by Governor Seward, in his annual message, January, 1839.

"The site of the Lunatic Asylum," says Governor S., "was well chosen. It is an elevated plain, susceptible of that ornamental cultivation which is wonderfully auxiliary in the treatment of the insane. The vicinity of the flourishing central city of Utica, affords many facilities for its construction, and promises those moral and social aids which such a public charity requires. A plan submitted

by the Comissioners, received the approbation of my predecessor The plan contemplates four edifices, consisting of a basement and three stories, except the main building of the principal front, which will have an additional story. The four edifices are to be located at right angles to each other, fronting outward; and to be connected at the angles by verandahs of open lattice, the whole inclosing an octagonal area of about thirteen acres. The buildings are to be constructed of grey lime-stone from Trenton and Little Falls, and in the Doric order. It is designed to furnish the necessary accommodations for the care and treatment of one thousand lunatics. Its east front will command a view of the city, and the north will enjoy a prospect of the canal, the valley of the Mohawk and the long range of hills in the distance which divides the waters flowing into Lake Ontario, from the tributaries of the Hudson. The principal part of the basement has been constructed, with an expenditure of forty-six thousand dollars, exclusive of the cost of the site. Thus you will perceive the foundation has been laid of a charitable Institution, commensurate with the exigencies of the State, not unworthy of its growing wealth, and justly designed to endure as a monument of the taste and munificence of this age. It is right to award both the honor and responsibilities to those who have hitherto been charged with the execution of the trust. The law declared that on the selection of the site, the Commissioners should be authorized to contract for the erection of the Asylum upon such plan and on such terms as they should deem proper, provided that the plan and the terms should be approved by the Governor, and the Commissioners should superintend the erection of the building. No contract for the construction of the Asylum was made either before or after its commencement. The document furnished by the Commissioners, and herewith submitted to you, states the probable cost at \$431,636. It is obvious there is no security that the expenditure will not exceed that sum. Whether these proceedings have conformed to the intention of the Legislature, is a question which I shall not be expected to discuss. I cheerfully express my approbation of the undertaking. Nations are seldom impoverished by their charities. The number of the insane in the State is not exaggerated; and I am not prepared to say that any erection less extensive would afford the space, light tranquility and cheerfulness indispensable to this interesting department of the healing art. Among all His blessings none calls so loudly for gratitude to God, as the preservation of our reason. Of all the inequalities in the social condition, there is none so affecting as its privation. He sees fit to cast upon our benevolent care, those whom he visits with that fearful affliction, it would be alike unfeeling and ungrateful to withwhold it. Let then this noble charity be carried forward, with what measure of munificence it remains with you to determine."

The Commissioners asked for an appropriation of \$100,000 to carry forward all of the buildings, but a committee of the Senate, of which the Hon. A. C. Paige was chairman, reported Feburary 16th, that "although they warmly approve of the undertaking, they nevertheless entertain some doubts whether the wants of the insane poor require an immediate completion of all the proposed buildings:" and an act was introduced, and, after much discussion, finally passed, May 1st, 1839, directing the Treasurer "to pay to the Commissioners \$75,000, which sum shall be appropriated to the finishing of the main building occupying the principal front, and levelling and covering, for protection, the foundations now laid of the other buildings."

The passage of this act was opposed by some of the Senators, and strenuously by the Commissioners, on the ground that one building would not afford sufficient and suitable accommodations.

F. E. Spinner, Esq., one of the Commissioners, addressed a letter dated February 21, 1839, to the Hon. A. C. Paige on this subject, in which he urges the completion of the entire whole, stating that "one of the buildings was intended for the furious and noisy, and another for the sick, and that these two classes must be far removed from the others; that great space, and no confinement, were necessary for the inmates of such an establishment, hence all of the thirteen acres inclosed by the buildings will be needed for their comfort and safety. He added, if the present plan is not adhered to an entire new arrangement will become necessary to carry out the proper classification of patients."

But, as we have said, the act finally passed, limiting the appropriation to \$75,000, and this to be expended in completing the present main building.

May 14th, 1840, \$75,000 were appropriated for a like purpose, and a similar sum April 17th, 1841; and January 6th, 1842, the Commissioners reported "that the main building is now nearly ready for occupation, and that nothing now remains to put it in operation but the passage of the necessary laws for its organization, and an appropriation to furnish the building."

Some changes were made in the Board of Commissioners during the erection of the building. Messrs. Lynds and Spinner were replaced by W. H. Shearman and Anson Dart, subsequently Messrs. Clarke and Dart were replaced by James Platt of Oswego, and Theodore S. Faxton of Utica.

May 26th, 1841, David Russell, W. H. Shearman, N. Devereux, Charles B. Coventry and T. S. Faxton, were appointed Trustees of the State Lunatic Asylum by an Act of the Legislature, and were thereby required "by such committee of their number as they shall appoint, to visit institutions for the keeping and management of lunatics in this and other States, and inquire into their government, organization and internal arrangements, and submit to the Legislature a system for the government, discipline and management of the State Lunatic Asylum; and regulations for the admission of patients, so as to secure its benefits equally to all the counties of the State."

In compliance with these requirements, a committee of the Trustees visited fourteen of the twenty institutions for the insane in the United States, and addressed a circular letter to each, asking for information respecting their organization and management. January 12th, 1842, the Trustees presented to the Legislature a report drawn up by Mr. Russell, the chairman, containing many valuable remarks and suggestions relating to the treatment and classification of the insane, to which are annexed a *System of Rules and Regulations*, proposed for the New-York State Lunatic Asylum, and an account of most of the other institutions for the insane in this country.

This report is a highly valuable document, and embodies in it more information relating to the various Lunatic Asylums of the United States than is to be found in any other work. The System of Rules and Regulations have been mainly adopted and found to be practically useful.

April 7th, 1842, "An act was passed to organize the State Lunatic Asylum, and more effectually to provide for the care, maintenance and recovery of the insane."

By this act, Nicholas Devereux, Jacob Sutherland, Charles A. Mann, Alfred Munson, Charles B. Coventry, Abraham V. Williams, Thomas H. Hubbard, T. Romeyn Beck and David Buel, were appointed Managers—the first three to hold their offices for one year, the three next for two years, and the three last for three years ; their successors to be appointed for three years by the Senate, on the nomination of the Governor.

To this board of Managers, a majority of whom are to reside within five miles of the Asylum, the government of the institution was entrusted by the Legislature. To them was confided the duty of appointing a Superintendent, who shall be a well educated physician, and other resident officers, a Treasurer, " and to establish such by-laws as they may deem necessary and expedient for regulating the appointment and duties of officers, attendants, and assistants, for fixing the conditions of admission, support and discharge of patients, and for conducting in a proper manner the business of the institution ; also, to ordain and enforce a suitable system of rules and regulations for the internal government, discipline and management of the Asylum."

By the same act sixteen thousand dollars were appropriated to provide furniture, stock, books, and fixtures for the Asylum ; eight thousand dollars to purchase food, fuel and medicines, and to defray the contingent expenses of said Asylum, and two thousand to enclose and improve the grounds.

The gentlemen named in the act organized as a board the 19th of April, 1842, and the 9th of September appointed the writer of this report Superintendent, Edmund A. Wetmore, Treasurer, H. A. Buttolph, M. D., assistant physician, Cyrus Chatfield, Steward, and Mrs. Chatfield, Matron. These persons accepted of their appointments, and soon after entered upon the discharge of their duties, and the 16th of January, 1843, the Asylum was opened for the admissiou of patients.

Although the impression seemed to have gone abroad that when the Board of Managers took charge of the Asylum, that it was complete and ready for the admission of patients, as soon as the necessary furniture could be obtained, yet such was not the fact.

The Managers found that the building was not provided with a supply of water, that a long and expensive drain to the Erie canal, a distance of 140 rods, was indispensable, that the hot air furnaces that had been provided to warm the building were inadequate for the purpose and that other ones must be obtained and new chimnies constructed, the verandahs enclosed, and rooms for the furious and noisy patients provided ; that a barn and out buildings were necessary, and numerous alterations required in various parts of the establishment before it could be opened for the reception of patients.

They immediately commenced these various undertakings. A large stone drain was constructed in a durable manner, a well was dug 16 feet in diameter in the clear for the first 24 feet, and 8 feet in diameter for the residue to the depth of thirty-four feet. From this the water was forced by a pump moved by horse power through an iron pipe of 2 inch bore 450 feet to a cistern in the attic of the centre building, from whence it was distributed to all parts of the house. The earth was removed from around the basement of the whole building to the depth of the floors inside, and to the distance of seven feet from the wall, and the area thus formed paved with brick. This rendered the basement story free from dampness, and portions of the extreme end of each were subsequently fitted up for the accommodation of the most violent and noisy patients. Four large and one small furnace, a kitchen range, steam boiler and other necessary apparatus for warming, cooking and washing were provided. Most of this was done in the fall and winter of 1842 - 3, and a considerable part after the admission of patients. To defray the expenses thus incurred, and to make additional improvements, the Managers asked for and obtained from the Legislature in 1843, an appropriation of \$16,000. The next season the verandahs were enclosed and a stone barn, 100 by 46 feet, with vegetable cellar, vaults for manure, carriage room, stables, &c., were erected. It was built on the middle of the north foundation of one of the four Asylum buildings already mentioned, and of the stone taken from other portions of the same foundations; various other improvements were also made during this season.

The first year after the asylum was opened, two hundred and seventy-six patients were admitted, and the managers became early convinced that one building would soon prove entirely inadequate to meet the wants of the insane poor of the State. They therefore submitted to the Legislature of 1844, the propriety of enlarging the asylum, and advised the abandonment of the original plan of four buildings, and the erection instead of two additional wings of brick, at right angles with the wings of the front buildings, each 240 feet long and 38 wide, with day-rooms at each end; and buildings in the rear for hospitals for the sick, work-shops, washing and ironing rooms, &c. They estimated the expense of these structures at \$80,000. The Legislature approved of this plan of enlarging the institution, and appropriated \$60,000 to complete it, and at the same session, that of 1844, appropriated the further sum of twelve hundred dollars to purchase between three and four acres of land adjoining the grounds in front of the asylum, and two thousand dollars to purchase furniture, and eight hundred dollars for improving and fencing the grounds. A considerable portion of the previous appropriations for the two last purposes having been expended in preparing the building for the accommodations of patients. This purchase of land increased the farm to 133 acres.

The sum of \$60,000, appropriated by the Legislature for the erection of the additional buildings, was found insufficient for the purpose, and at the session of 1846, a further sum of \$17,000 was given to complete them, and \$5,000 to procure a suitable supply of water, and \$15,000 to purchase furniture, fixtures and furnaces, and \$3,000 to erect wood-sheds, ice-house, and to enclose the grounds in front of the asylum with a suitable fence.

Already an abundant supply of water has been obtained. It is brought from the Chenango canal, distant above half a mile from the asylum, from whence it is elevated ninety-five feet to a reservoir in the attic of the rear wings, and from thence distributed to all parts of the establishment. It is forced this distance and height by two pumps, each of five inch bore, driven by the waste water of lock No. 5, through an iron pipe three inches in diameter. The supply is about thirty gallons a minute, which is not only abundant for all ordinary purposes, but will enable us to have several ornamental fountains, one of which is already in operation, throwing a jet over thirty feet.

The buildings are now nearly finished, and may be briefly described as follows. The whole structure, seperate from that part of the centre building assigned for offices, parlors, and accommodations for the president, officers, and those engaged in the domestic employments of the asylum, consists of 380 single rooms for patients, 24 for their attendants, 20 associated dormitories of different sizes, that will accommodate from 5 to 12 patients each; sixteen parlors or day-rooms for their use, and 8 enclosed verandahs or balconies that answer well for parlors and day-rooms; twelve rooms for dining, 24 for bathing, and as many for clothes, and the same number for water closets; two large hospital rooms for the sick, with bedrooms adjoining for nurses; a chapel that will accommodate 500 persons,

Various shops for shoemakers, tailors, dressmakers, cabinet makers, &c.; a large room for washing, and another for ironing, and a separate one for drying by steam; three kitchens, numerous storerooms, a bakery and plumbers shop; these are all connected, and may be visited without going out of doors. The establishment though large, and covering much ground, is conveniently arranged and not difficult of inspection; for although a walk through the entire establishment in order to visit each patient exceeds one mile, yet any one part of it may be visited from the superintendent's office in the centre building, in two minutes.

But little more remains to be done to render the establishment complete. The safety and comfort of its inmates would be better secured by having the Asylum lighted by gas, and we are well convinced, after making many inquiries on the subject, that this can be well done for two-thirds what it will cost for oil; after suitable apparatus for making the gas and fixtures are provided; all of which can be obtained for a sum not exceeding five thousand dollars.

Apartments are also much wanted for *places of safety*, for patients who are sent here from the State prisons. The welfare of the community requires that such should be carefully guarded, and their escape from here prevented if possible, but we have not any apartments properly adapted for such, as the law requiring this class of persons to be sent here, was not passed until the last session of the Legislature, after the buildings were erected. No suitable arrangements for the purpose mentioned can now be made, without a considerable expenditure, and which the current income of the Asylum will not be able to meet. These subjects are strongly commended to the attention of the Managers.

At present we have in the employ of the Asylum seventy-two attendants and assistants, including a gardner, farmer, plumber, joiner, carriage driver, a watchman, and two night attendants. Our whole family now consists of 460 persons. With a considerable increase in the number of patients, we should require but few more attendants and assistants, though we shall probably always need about one attendant for ten patients.

Since the organization of the Institution, a few changes have occurred in the officers. In 1844, James S. Wadsworth was appointed Manager in the place of Abraham V. Williams; and in 1846, Silas D. Childs in place of Hon. Jacob Sutherland, deceased. On the resignation of Mr. and Mrs. Chatfield on the first of April last, John M. Sly was appointed stewart, and Mrs. Sly, matron. D. Tilden Brown, M. D., was appointed second assistant physician the first day of July last.

CONCLUSION.

I cannot close this report without expressing my gratitude to all those associated with me in the care of the institution. The assistant Physicians, Drs. Buttolph and Brown, are men of ability, who have had much experience in the treatment of the insane. They have given me the most efficient aid in the care of those committed to our charge. J. Edwards Lee, M. D., a well educated physician has also been associated with us the past year, and his devotedness to the interests of the institution and the duties assigned him, has given us valuable assistance. The Steward and Matron are active and intelligent officers, and have discharged their responsible duties with ability and zeal.

To the numerous attendants and assistants we are greatly indebted for the prosperity of the Asylum the past year. Their labors have been unusually arduous consequent upon the crowded condition of the building, its incomplete arrangements, and the great number of new cases admitted in a short time, amounting in some periods to fifty in one month; no where we apprehend, are to be found a class of attendants and assistants more intelligent and faithful, more selfsacrificing and kind, than are in the employ of this institution.

To the Board of Managers I am under increased obligations for their kindness and indulgence. I have ever found them ready to assist me by their labor and counsel, though calls upon the time of those living in this vicinity have been frequent, as must be evident to all who read the brief account I have given of their labors since the Asylum has been under their care.

From various sources we have received during the past year numerous favors, for which we wish to express our gratitude. To the ladies of Trinity Church, Utica, we are under obligation for a valuable donation, consisting of fifty small sized Common Prayer Books, twelve of a larger size and print, and an elegant quarto one for the chapel. We had formerly received from the Rev. Dr. Proal of Utica, one dozen Common Prayer Books. To the American Bible Society, and the Oneida county Bible Society, we have been repeatedly indebted for Bibles for the use of patients. We also feel grateful to B. and W. Endicott of the city of New-York for a large collection of lithographic prints presented by them to the Asylum, and to Dr. A. Sidney Doane of New-York, for books and pictures.

Our warmest thanks are also due to the Editors and Proprietors of newspapers, and to other individuals, who have had the kindness to supply us with these valuable periodicals the past year. We have had a large supply, among which are the following:

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Daily Commercial Advertiser, New-York.

- " New-York Sun,
- " Albany Argus, Albany.
- " Albany Evening Journal, Albany.
- " Auburn Advertiser, Auburn.
- " Daily Gazette, 2 copies, Utica.
- " Evening Transcript, Boston, Mass.
- " Troy Budget, part of the year, Troy.

Tri-weekly. National Intelligencer, from Hon: E. Bacon. Semi-weekly. The Corrector, Sag-Harbor, L. I. Weekly. Black River Journal, Watertown.

- " Utica Observer, Utica.
- " Troy Whig, Troy.
- " Ballston Spa Gazette, Ballston.
- " Herkimer Freeman, Little Falls.
- " Northern Christian Advocate, Auburn.
- " Spirit of the Times, Batavia.
- " True American, part of the year, Lexington, Ky.
- " Oswego County Whig, Oswego.
- " Cayuga Patriot, Auburn.
- " Dansville Whig, Dansville.
- " Massachusetts Cataract, Worcester, Mass.
- " Sandy Hill Herald, Sandy Hill.
- " New-York Baptist Register, Utica.
- " Attica Democrat, Attica.
- " Ontario Repository, Canandaigua.
- " Gospel Messenger, Utica.
- " Frontier Sentinel, Ogdensburgh.
- " New-York Evangelist, New-York.
- " Liberty Press, Utica.
- " The Radii, Fort Plain.
- " Camden Gazette, Camden.
- " Long Island Farmer, Jamaica, L. I.

Weekly. Onondaga Democrat, Syracuse, N. Y.

- " Liberator, Boston, Mass.
- " Wayne County Whig, Lyons, N. Y.
- " Perry Democrat, Perry.
- " Washington County Post, Salem, N. Y.
- " Journal and Eagle, Poughkeepsie.
- " · New-York Organ, New-York.
- " Christian Messenger, New-York.
- " Young America, New-York.
- " West-port Patriot, West-port.
- " Freemans' Journal, New-York.
- " Jeffersonian, Watertown.
- " Hartford Times, Hartford, Conn.
- " Northern Journal, Lowville.
- " Olive Branch, Boston, Mass.
- " Utica Democrat, Utica.
- " Delaware Express, Delhi.
- " Leroy Gazette, Leroy.
- " Jefferson County Democrat, Adams.
- " L. I. Democrat, Jamaica, L. I.
- " Ithaca Chronicle, Ithaca.
- " Glens Falls Republican, Glens Falls.
- " Montgomery Phœnix, Montgomery.
- " Teachers' Advocate, Syracuse, N. Y.
- " Neals Saturday Gazette, Philadelphia.

We have also been supplied with many of the most valuable reviews and magazines. Some have been purchased with the avails of the last annual fair, and some have been sent to us in exchange for the American Journal of Insanity, which we publish. They are as follows:

> London Quarterly Review, Edinburgh Review, Westminster Review, Foreign Quarterly Review, North British Review, Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine, Knickerbocker Magazine, Columbian Magazine, Southern and Western Literary Messenger, Biblical Repository, The Cultivator, Albany,

Missionary Herald, American Phrenological Journal, Journal of Health, Boston, Mass.

To all those who have thus contributed to the enjoyment and weland commending this great Charity to the continued care and paterfare of the inmates of this Institution, I return most sincere thanks; nal kindness of the government, and to the protection and guidance of Divine Providence, I respectfully submit this report to the Board of Managers.

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AMARIAH BRIGHAM.

NEW-YORK STATE LUNATIC ASYLUM, Utica, November, 30th, 1846.

APPENDIX.

Names of those in the regular employ of the Asylum at the close of the year.

Thomas D. Roberts, steward's assistant, Eleanor Roberts, matron's assistant. Thomas Byrnes, gardner. Orlow Budlong, farmer. Edward Henry, plumber. Geo. W. Burbank, joiner. Charles Hall, carriage driver. Joseph Butler, baker, Alonzo Whitney, assistant baker. William Kemp, watchman. George N. Wadsworth, night attendant. Mary Bradley, do do Alonzo B. Ayres, in centre kitchen. Mrs. Ayres, do do Henry Smith, in south rear kitchen. Mrs. Smith, do do Geo. W. Lintner, north do Mrs. Lintner, do do Thomas Stapleton, in wash room. Mary Stapleton, do Å Henry K. Bidwell, attendant. Hugh C. Jones, do do Joseph Brothers, John W. Cook, do Ransom Phillips, do do Ambrose Dunn, do Benjamin Crofoot, do John G. Morgan,

No. 03.]

Francis Cole, at	tendant.	
John Allen,	do	
Alexander Stevens,	do	
James Crawford,	do	
Thomas Johnson,	do	
Warren A. Potter,	do	
William H. Morgan,	do	
John Nichols,	do	
Mrs. Frances M. Cook	, do	
Sarah E. Wadsworth,	do	
Margaret Thompson,	do	
Mary Taber,	do	
Frances I. Johnson,	do	
Deborah L. Johnson,	do	
Maria C. Dickens,	do	
Emily Sayles,	do	
Frances Sayles,	do	
Maria Batley,	do	
Eliza Batley,	do	
Esther M. Hempsted,	do	
Margaret Gosson,	do	
Joannah Hempsted,	do	
Mrs. Parkhurst,	do	
Harriet Wadsworth,	do	
Eliza A. Tuttle,	do	
Minerva Wadsworth,		
Mrs. Rhoda Kemp,	do	
Matilda Roe, dress-ma		
Mrs. Elizabeth Bidwe		
Elizabeth Dunn,	do	
Jane Morgan, in cent		
Elizabeth Hughes,		
Maria Hughes,	do	
Ann Shanly, in south		
Henry F. Moore, in c		
Frederick Bates,	do	
Mrs. Martin,	do	
Elizabeth Brothers,	do	
Bridget Bradley,	do	
Rosanna Myers,	do	
Mary Riley, in wash-room.		
Julia Riley,	do	
Eliza Myers,	do	
Catharine McNama,	do	
Summer morning		

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