

seizing sound discriminating judgement, firmness, sweetness of temper, conciliatory manners, unwearied patience, and inexhaustible kindness. There is a certain remedy for the evil under which we labor, and that is, to increase the compensation. There is no difficulty in getting proper keepers within the limits of our own State if we will pay for them. It must be borne in mind, that the business is unpleasant, and wonderful indeed would it be if the small sum of two hundred dollars would command the services of fit persons.

The proper classification of the patients cannot be too much insisted on. Our Asylum exhibits every hue and shade of character. Here meet in intimate union, the gay and the grave, the educated and ignorant, the virtuous and profligate. In the moral treatment of the insane, solitude is abolished. The Lunatic must have his society. The patient who pays the maximum price of this institution, and thus purchases all the accommodations which it affords, is doomed, either to the society of his keeper, or to improper association. But both are evils, and should be remedied as speedily as possible. No considerations can justify the present state of things. No care, no foresight on the part of the Superintendent, can prevent the most extensive and lasting mischief. When the evil is considered in reference to the class of females from the high ranks of society, many of whom are now in this institution, it is peculiarly revolting. Can the society of the lowest women, whose lives have been lives of infamy, strengthen the virtuous impulses of the youthful girl, who has been educated with greatest care? Rather, will it not operate with the most destructive energy, and soon drive from the bosom the semblance even of that chaste and modest virtue, which once was so conspicuous? The practice of herding together large numbers of the insane, belongs to the old system, and should be exploded with it. It is obviously connected with the idea, that the insane are incapable of thought, and wholly insensible to those impressions and influences which operate with such power on other minds. We are aware of the fact, that the evil yet obtains in many institutions; but it must be remembered, that the moral system is of recent adoption, and the construction of many buildings will not allow a proper classification. But on no question concerning the insane, is the testimony more decided. In Tuke's Introduction to Jacobi, the matter is strongly set forth. But why quote authority? If this institution continues to be, as it is intended, an Asylum for all classes, the obligation is imperative to place it in a proper condition; and your Committee, conceiving that no considerations should prevent them from expressing their real opinions, are the less reluctant to do so in this instance, as they believe it to be the only means of removing the evil. With the full blaze of light around us, it cannot be believed that it will be permitted to continue. The day has passed, at least in this country, when the opinion of the Ancients is to be received, that insanity is a special curse of the Almighty; that nothing but the most severe punishments await the unfortunate victim; and that it is impossible to attempt their cure, or removal. The details of a classification will not be set

forth in this issue. The testimony of the great judgement and skill which most of them displayed, and their uniform cheerfulness of spirit. According to Dr. Earle, the vast importance of labor or employment is fully recognised in most of the European Asylums, and in some of them this labor is very profitable. In the Middlesex County Asylum, England, more than two thirds of the patients are engaged in brewing, washing, tailoring, shoe-making, gas-making, and other branches of industry, and no accident has ever occurred from entrusting dangerous tools to their hands. In our Northern States, however, the most gratifying results are witnessed from the system, and particularly at the Asylum in Worcester, Massachusetts. That State enjoys the high honor of having within her limits, perhaps the very best institutions for the insane, in the world. In the ample provision which she has made, and the energy which marks her course, she has set a noble example, which we trust will soon extend its influence to all the States of our Confederacy. While on this head, we cannot forbear alluding particularly to the last annual Report of the Trustees of the Worcester Asylum. In the course of the year, there were 399 patients; and in the language of the Report, "they were an industrious household, all busy, all having something to do, and all feeling that they were adding to the general stock of good." The patients were employed in farming, gardening, cabinet-making, basket-making, matras and harness making, tailoring, &c. The produce of the farm alone, amounted to upwards of \$3,200. The amusements are various; riding, reading, games, walks, cultivation of flowers in their rooms or on the grounds, dancing, singing, &c. Arrangements for systematic employment are in force in the McLean Asylum, the Western Asylum of Virginia, and other Institutions, and the respective officers bear the strongest favorable testimony. Dr. Bell of the McLean Asylum, speaks of it "as an appliance of moral treatment which has proved superior to all others, as regards a large class of patients." Your Committee think that it is in the power of this Board to accomplish much at an inconsiderable expense, and that it is due alike to the patient, and the public at large, that this institution should afford every possible facility. The suggestion of a Library, is earnestly recommended to your adoption. It is common in similar institutions, and has been found productive of decided benefit. Among the incurable patients we have one, who under the supervision of the Superintendent, would make an admirable Librarian. A suitable collection can be procured at a very small expense. The liberality of the conductors of our press, the donations of charitable individuals, and, if needed, a trifling appropriation from the Board, will ensure, in a short time, all that is wanted.

There is attached to this Institution, a tract of 60 or 70 acres.

It is a truth which cannot be too solemnly impressed upon the public, that all the means to cure insanity will, in a vast majority of cases, prove unavailing, unless the patient is removed to an Asylum in the first stage of the disease. Insanity is generally a curable disease, and not one of the *opprobria medicorum*. Its pathology is now well understood, and under favorable circumstances, it is of easier management than many affections confessedly within the power of medical skill. The cases generally presented here are not of recent origin. Many have existed for years and at last, when all hope of cure has vanished, they are brought for treatment. This great error of *postponement*, to a certain extent pervades all classes of our community.—The Committee know of one case where a man of fortune was kept at home for three or four years in a condition of perfect lunacy, before he was sent to this Asylum; and of another, also a gentleman of wealth, who was confined like a wild beast for ten years in a log house constructed for that purpose. The vast importance of sending patients as early as possible to an Asylum, is established most conclusively by the testimony of Physicians and Superintendents, and the statistical information to be found in the Reports of Europe and this country. In the Vermont Asylum, at Brattleboro', during the last year, the percentage of recoveries in recent cases is nearly 91, and in chronic cases, 31. In the State Hospital, at Worcester, Mass., in old cases, 16 1-2. Dr. Bell, of the McLean Asylum says, that the extraordinary proportion of recoveries in that institution for several years past is based on the fact, that almost every case occurring with decided manifestations, in every grade of social position, is promptly submitted to treatment. At Dr. White's private Asylum, at Hudson, New York, of twenty recent cases last year, fifteen recovered, while of chronic cases, only nine recovered. The Directors of the Ohio Lunatic Asylum at Columbus say, that the importance of early admission into the Asylum, cannot be too strongly impressed upon the public mind. The Superintendent of the Western Lunatic Asylum of Virginia, declares that thirty were placed in the Institution within twelve months of the date of their attack, and of the number, twenty-five have been restored. More than 83 per cent, of all recent cases have been cured, and only 43 per cent, of all cases. For the above facts, we are indebted mainly to the Report of the Trustees of the State Lunatic Asylum of New York, a document replete with information on the subject of Lunacy. In an interesting letter of Dr. Wilson of the Bloomingdale Asylum to the Trustees of the State Asylum of New York, we perceive from one of the many valuable tabular statements furnished by him, that there were admitted into that Asylum, from its foundation in 1823, to the close of the year 1841, 1006 old cases, and 1265 recent cases, and that of the old 111 only recovered, and of the recent 974. Dr. Earle, whose authority we have more than once quoted, and who is here cited as the head of a family, anxious to control his own mind, and to be free from the influence of the passions, gives, as the

stratagem is almost universal. Friends of Lunacy believe that the only way of accomplishing their purposes is by falsehood and deception. This is, however, a great mistake. All experience proves, that truth loses none of its value in the management of Lunatics, but that falsehood is followed by most mischievous consequences. When friends determine on sending a Lunatic to an Asylum, he should be dealt with honestly. He should be informed of his illness, and of all the advantages of the Institution. It is generally no difficult matter to make a favorable impression in advance, and he will go to his new abode in peace and contentment. The necessary consequence of an opposite course is to aggravate to some extent the character of the disease, and to add, in the end, much to the misery of the patient. He is induced from home on a pleasure excursion, with the promise to return in a few days. The real intention is most carefully concealed by a resort to all the arts which falsehood furnishes. At last he is brought within the walls of an Asylum, feels himself the victim of a false confidence, and is left to mourn over the injuries which he has received. It is well remarked by Sir A. Halladay, that a Lunatic while deeply affected by kindness, never forgets insult, injury or imposition. The important question arises, what can the Board do? The Committee would suggest, that the people are in ignorance; that they have not had the proper information, and that immediate steps be taken to put them in possession. By the Act of the Legislature, it is made the duty of the Commissioners of the Poor of the respective Districts to send the Pauper Lunatics to this Institution. Something may be done to quicken them in the discharge of this duty, by a direct appeal on the part of this Board. We believe that the Commissioners are not apprized of the great evil of delay, and we have sufficient confidence in their humanity to think that the appalling truth, when disclosed, will have a salutary effect. Your Committee would not wish to make the impression, that none but recent and curable cases should be carried to an Asylum. It is the proper place for the incurable. It is not one of the least recommendations of this benevolent system, that it extends its blessings to all classes. A private house or a residence at home, is never a fit place for a Lunatic. Though in the unfortunate class of which we are now speaking, the richest boon, (the restoration of reason,) is of course not conferred, the effect perhaps, from that very fact, is the more striking. To see a furious incurable maniac, soured, and quieted, and reduced to willing subordination, the long-lost peace restored to his agitated bosom, made industrious and useful, is indeed a spectacle to make glad the heart of the philanthropist, and which can be witnessed in every well regulated institution. We believe that every degree and kind of insanity is aggravated by the associations of home, and that there is no case which cannot be benefited, to some extent, in an Asylum. Many have been cured, and the head of a family, anxious to control his own mind, and to be free from the influence of the passions, gives, as the

000 to \$500,000. The cost of the others others is not known. The subject of Lunacy is one of absorbing interest throughout the whole country, and our State may well make additional appropriations, and yet fall short of many other States. None surely can reproach her for past Legislation, but rather all will rejoice, that at so early a period she gave such signal proof of her wisdom and humanity. The number of insane in the United States, according to the late census is, 18,000, and less than 3000 are under treatment. It is estimated that upwards of 5000 persons become insane annually. The present number of insane in South Carolina is 513, and 376, of these are whites. As large as seems the provisions for the insane of the United States, it may well be said that the work has just begun. It is, we believe, a uniform law in the Asylums of the different States to give preference to applicants in their borders. Each State has enough to do with its own sufferers, and as the prejudices against Asylums are fast giving way, soon it may be difficult to get accommodations abroad. While writing this Report, there are 65 patients in this Asylum, and 52 of them are from our own State. Thirty-nine are Paupers and twenty-six Pay Patients, and fifty six of the sixty-five are incurable. These facts are important. There is but one unoccupied room in the building for Females, and about thirty for Males. Nearly 300 Insane whites among us are not provided for. It is a fact not to be overlooked, that there are more Paupers than Pay Patients.—The Institution is becoming a Pauper Institution, and it is owing to the want of proper accommodations for the higher classes. The pay for Paupers is fixed by law at \$100; a sum insufficient to defray indispensable expenses. The whole cost of a Pauper is \$160, and \$60 of this must necessarily come from the Board. The Pay Patients therefore, contribute upwards of 50 per cent, to the support of the Paupers, and it will be seen at once that the Institution cannot maintain itself without them. The pay for a Pauper in this Asylum, is less than in any Northern Asylum with which we are acquainted. Some few charge \$2 per week, but the pay generally is from \$2.50 to \$3.50. We have not the facts to make a comparative estimate in relation to the Private Patients. We observe however that in many of the best institutions, they pay "according to their ability and accommodations," and in the Retreat at Hartford, a patient in the centre building, with a separate room and attendant, pays from \$10 to \$12 per week. There can be no reasonable doubt, that if the Board had at its disposal a sum sufficient to enable it to classify the inmates, the Institution would be placed beyond the reach of contumacy. It is most desirable to erect an additional building for Females, and this is not within the means of the Board. If this was done, the increase of pay patients from the higher classes would be certain. It is for the proper authorities to decide whether this Institution shall be put in a condition to maintain the

in the cause of Texas, and liberty, provided he can obtain the necessary amount of "hunters."—Augusta Chronicle.

The Advertiser.

EDGEFIELD C. H.
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 1842.

□ We acknowledge the receipt of a number of public documents and newspapers from the Hon. F. W. Pickens, for which we return him our thanks.

□ In consequence of the length of the Report of the Committee of Regents of the Lunatic Asylum, we have been forced to omit a number of articles prepared for this week, among which, the remarks of the Hon. F. W. Pickens on the Apportionment Bill, which shall appear in our next.

□ We call the attention of our readers to the Report of the Committee of Regents of the South Carolina Lunatic Asylum, which we publish to-day. This is a well written Report, and gives a clear and satisfactory account of the condition of the Lunatic Asylum. This institution was established by the State, at Columbia, in 1827. It is under the immediate control of a Board of Regents, of which body Andrew Wallace, is now President. Dr. Daniel H. Trezvant is Physician to the establishment, and Dr. J. W. Parker is Superintendent and Resident Physician. As little has been known about this institution, by the community at large, we hail the publication of this Report with pleasure, and are gratified to find, that this establishment is well managed, under the control of its highly respectable and able officers. Of the eminent qualifications of Dr. Parker, the Superintendent, for his responsible station, we have been for sometime apprized; under his kind and judicious treatment, the sufferings of the unfortunate inmates of the Asylum, have been much alleviated, and their condition as much improved as circumstances will permit. We hope that he will long remain in his present office, dispensing good to those who are placed under his charge. It is much to be desired, that the attentions of our Legislators should be awakened to the Lunatic Asylum. This noble charity is an honor to South Carolina. The suggestions of the Committee of Regents meet our approbation, and we hope they will be adopted at the next session of the Legislature. Ample and mutual provision should be made for all the unfortunate Lunatics in our land. In this matter we are all interested, and it becomes us as Christians and citizens, to employ all proper means to alleviate the sufferings of those of our friends and neighbors who are bereft of reason. Individuals may do something, but a much greater amount of good can be accomplished in an institution expressly established for the purpose. We therefore hope, that the Legislature will at an early day, give due attention to the suggestion of the Officers of the Asylum, and place it on such a basis as may be most desirable.

Whig Nomination.—The Whig Convention of Georgia, which assembled at Milledgeville, on the 13th inst., nominated the Hon. Henry Clay, as a candidate for the Presidency, and Messrs. Gamble, Habersham, T. Butler K'g, Wilde, Smead, Wright, Chappell, and A. U. Kennan, as candidates for Congress.

Virginia University.—The number of students attached to this institution are 170, viz: Virginia 112, Alabama 10, South Carolina 8, Georgia 3, Louisiana 7, Mississippi 3, Tennessee 7, Maryland 1, North Carolina 5, Pennsylvania 1, Kentucky 4, District of Columbia 3, Florida, 2, New Hampshire 1, New York 3.

Resumption.—The Kentucky Banks on the 1st inst. resumed specie payments, thus anticipating by a fortnight the time fixed for resumption.

New Hampshire.—The Hon. Leonard Wilcox has been elected by the Legislature of this State, to serve out the remainder of the term of Mr. Pierce, as Senator of the United States, to which he had been appointed by the Governor. The term expires on the 4th of March next.

Exploring Expedition.—On the 10th inst. the U. S. sloop of war Vincennes, the flag ship of the Exploring Expedition, arrived at N. York, after an absence of nearly four years. The U. S. brigs Porpoise and Oregon, sailed from St. Helena on the 24th of April, for New York, and may be expected to arrive about the last of this month. The Vincennes brought to this country Vendoni, one of the principal chiefs of the Fiji group of islands, as a prisoner, for having attacked and killed a part of the crew of an American vessel, after which he and his followers feasted on their bodies. Vendoni died a few days since, at the Hospital, at New York.

The Courts.—The Charleston Courier of the 13th inst. says: "The Court of General Sessions and Common Pleas, for this District, adjourned, on Saturday last, after a laborious session of six weeks, during which an unusual mass of litigation was disposed of. A handsome tribute was paid by the Bar to Judge Wardlaw, for the ability, learning, dignity and courtesy with which he discharged his arduous duties."

The Court of Equity, Chancellor J. Johnston, presiding, adjourned, on Thursday last, the simultaneous session of the Law Court preventing the attendance of the Bar on the Chancellor.

Taxation.—The Charleston Courier of the 17th inst. says: "In the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, on the 10th inst., a message from the Governor was received, in favor of making provision for the payment of the Public Creditors of the State. It recommends taxation, and states that a tax of three per cent on the true value of all the real and personal property of the Commonwealth, would raise a sum of \$42,000,000, more than sufficient to pay the whole State Debt."

Texas Hunters.—From a private letter addressed to a gentleman in this city, by his friend in Camden county, we learn that Gen. Chas. Floyd, of Camden, has been invited by the President and several leading men in Texas, to bring men and provisions to join in the invasion of Mexico, that the military ardor of the General is highly excited, and he is eager to embark