

SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE TRUSTEES

OF THE

STATE LUNATIC HOSPITAL

AT

TAUNTON.

OCTOBER, 1870.

BOSTON:

WRIGHT & POTTER, STATE PRINTERS,
79 MILK STREET (CORNER OF FEDERAL).

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Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

TRUSTEES' REPORT.

To His Excellency the Governor and the Honorable Council.

The Trustees of the Taunton Lunatic Hospital herewith present their Seventeenth Annual Report.

The event of most special importance which has occurred during the year, has been that of the change of Superintendent.

In December last, Dr. Choate, who, since the opening of the Hospital in 1854, has so successfully conducted its affairs, tendered his resignation, to take effect on or about first of May, giving as a reason therefor "the necessity of change, and relief from the trying and harassing cares of my position here, and the growing importance of removing my family from the influences inseparable from a large public institution."

The Trustees, although they admitted the soundness of his reasons for the proposed change, were nevertheless reluctant to accept his resignation; but upon reflection and consultation with him, were induced to do so, and immediately instituted measures for supplying the vacancy.

After many inquiries, and much investigation of the claims of the several applicants for the place, they unanimously made choice of Dr. William W. Godding, of Winchendon, who has for many years been engaged in the care and treatment of the insane, and for the past seven or eight years has occupied the position of First Assistant Physician at the National Hospital for the Insane at Washington.

He entered upon the discharge of his duties as Superintendent of this hospital on the first day of May last. From our observation since his connection with the Institution, we flatter ourselves that we have been very fortunate in our choice, and that the best interests of all concerned will not suffer from the change—a change the most material that can take place in an institution of this character.

The Trustees felt that the hospital was at that time, in many respects, in an especially favorable condition for so great a change, and particularly so in possessing the services of a very efficient Assistant Physician, and also of an equally efficient Clerk. Dr. William H. Gage, the former of these, has been with us, very satisfactorily, since May, 1869; and Mr. John Kittredge, the Clerk, has been connected with the hospital for the past eight years. He also holds the office of Treasurer, having been appointed to fill the vacancy in that office caused by the resignation of Dr. Choate.

The number of patients under treatment during the year has been 758; the number of admissions, 375; the number of discharges, 376; the average number in the hospital, 388; the percentage of recoveries to the admissions has been 29.89—something less than the general average since the opening of the hospital. The house has been very full the larger part of the time, and but for the relief afforded by the removal by the Board of State Charities, to other institutions and beyond the limits of the State, of those not having any claim upon us, place could not have been found for the large number committed to the hospital.

Some of the improvements inaugurated in previous years have been advanced, as relief from more pressing duties permitted. The new avenue referred to last year has been so far completed as to allow of its use. It affords a very pleasant and agreeable entrance to the grounds, and by materially shortening the distance between the hospital and the city, will be the means of saving much time as well as wear and tear of horses and carriages in the necessarily many passages between the two points. Arrangements are being made for the further extension of the wall inclosing the premises, which becomes every year more and more a necessity, owing to the decay of the present wooden fence.

In consequence of the extreme drought of the past summer, we, in common with our neighbors, have failed to realize from our crops what we have done in former years, which failure of course will cause an increased demand upon our pecuniary resources. As in former years, a very large outlay has been required to make the necessary repairs upon the building and apparatus, and to keep good the furniture necessary for the comfort and convenience of the patients. With the exception of the small balance due the Treasurer, all the demands upon the treasury have been met by the receipts for the support of patients.

For a more detailed statement of the financial and sanitary condition of the hospital, we refer you to the accompanying reports of the Treasurer and Superintendent.

We append the required list of persons employed in the hospital, with their compensation; also an inventory of stock and supplies on hand September 30, 1870.

Again commending the institution with all its inmates of every class to the protecting care of the great Physician, we would add our fervent desires that it may more and more fully accomplish the benevolent object for which it was founded.

GEO. HOWLAND, JR.,
OLIVER AMES,
CHAS. EDWARD COOK,
LEBARON RUSSELL,
CHAS. R. ATWOOD,

Trustees.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

In obedience to the requirements of the by-laws of the hospital and the laws of the Commonwealth, the following statement of the financial condition of the hospital, and of the receipts and payments of the Treasurer, for the year ending September 30, 1870, is respectfully submitted to the Board of Trustees:—

ASSETS.

134 acres of land at \$200 per acre, .	\$26,800 00	
Hospital building,	175,000 00	
Brick barn and stable,	8,000 00	
Other out-buildings and wall,	7,000 00	
	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	\$216,800 00

Personal Estate.

Stock and supplies on hand, as per inventory appended to Treasurer's report, .	\$49,160 21	
Reserve fund,	10,000 00	
	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>	59,160 21
∖ Total assets,		<hr style="width: 100%;"/> \$275,960 21

RECEIPTS.

Cash on hand Sept. 30, 1869,	\$368 10
Received from the State treasurer for support of patients,	27,216 94
Received from towns for support of patients, .	34,385 74
from individuals for support of patients,	13,665 29
from sale of sundries,	1,167 60
from interest,	693 75
	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>
	\$77,497 42

PAYMENTS.

1st. Salaries, wages and labor,	\$14,362 45
2d. Provisions and supplies, viz. :—	
Meat of all kinds,	\$6,755 42
Fish of all kinds,	1,118 76
Fruit and vegetables,	1,413 73
Flour,	4,276 22
Grain and meal for table,	787 94
Grain and meal for stock,	2,003 97
Tea, coffee and broma,	1,514 89
Sugar and molasses,	2,744 0½
Milk, butter and cheese,	5,966 12
Salt and other groceries,	2,651 27
	<hr/>
	29,232 36
3d. Clothing,	3,527 46
4th. Fuel and light,	8,645 87
5th. Medicines and medical supplies,	906 84
6th. Furniture, beds and bedding,	4,888 85
7th. Transportation and travelling expenses,	480 10
8th. Construction and repairs,	11,034 43
9th. Miscellaneous expenses,	4,655 43
	<hr/>
	\$77,733 79

LIABILITIES.

Salaries and wages due October 1, 1870,	\$2,038 00
Miscellaneous bills due,	3,936 18
Balance due the Treasurer, September 30, 1870,	236 37
	<hr/>
	\$6,210 55

DUE THE INSTITUTION FOR BOARD, OCTOBER 1, 1870.

From towns,	\$10,960 56
individuals,	3,415 24
the State,	761 00
	<hr/>
	\$15,136 80

SUMMARY.

Total receipts,	\$77,497 42
Total payments,	77,733 79
	<hr/>
	\$236 37
Total liabilities,	\$6,210 55
debts due the institution,	15,136 80
	<hr/>
	\$8,926 25
Current expenditures,	\$77,733 79
Dividing this sum by 388, the average number of patients, we have as the average annual cost of each patient,	\$200 35
And the average weekly cost,	3 85

JOHN KITTREDGE.

TAUNTON LUNATIC HOSPITAL, }
October 13, 1870. }

The undersigned, a committee appointed for the purpose, have this day examined the foregoing account of the Treasurer, and compared the same with the vouchers, and found it correct.

GEO. HOWLAND, Jun.,
C. R. ATWOOD,
Committee.

LIST OF PERSONS

EMPLOYED AT THE TAUNTON LUNATIC HOSPITAL SEPTEMBER
30, 1870, WITH THEIR COMPENSATION.

Superintendent and Physician,	(per year),	\$2,000 00
Assistant-Physican,	"	1,000 00
Clerk,	"	800 00
Treasurer,	"	400 00
Supervisor, (male),	"	500 00
Supervisor, (female),	"	300 00
Housekeeper,	"	300 00
Seamstress,	"	200 00
Engineer,	(per month),	50 00
Baker,	"	35 00
Coachman,	"	30 00
Carpenter,	"	20 00
Laborers on farm, (3),	"	25 00
Attendants, male, (10),	"	25 00
" female, (1),	"	16 00
" " (10),	"	14 00
Laundress,	(per week),	4 00
" girls, (2),	"	3 00
Cooks, (3),	"	3 00
House attendants, (2),	"	2 50
Watchman,	(per night),	1 00
Assistant seamstress,	(per month),	14 00

INVENTORY OF STOCK AND SUPPLIES ON HAND SEPTEMBER 30,
1870.

Live stock on the farm,	\$5,295 00
Produce of the farm on hand,	1,880 00
Carriages and agricultural implements,	1,785 00
Machinery and mechanical fixtures,	16,168 86
Beds and bedding,	8,449 25
Other furniture,	7,867 55

Personal property of the State in the Superintendent's department,	\$1,800 00
Dry goods,	654 70
Provisions and groceries,	1,209 85
Fuel,	3,000 00
Drugs and medicines,	350 00
Library,	700 00
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	\$49,160 21

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

To the Trustees of the Taunton Lunatic Hospital.

GENTLEMEN :—With the close of the hospital year I respectfully submit for your consideration the Seventeenth Annual Report.

As the value of statistics depends in a great measure upon a uniform system of record and observation being followed for a considerable length of time, we continue the tables of former years, without essential alteration, in the present Report.

The first of these, the financial table, exhibits the average number of patients, the total annual revenue, the total annual expense, and the average weekly income from and expense of each patient for each year since the hospital has been in operation.

TABLE No. 1.

YEARS.	Average Number.	Total Expenses.	Total Receipts.	Average weekly expense of each patient.	Average weekly income from each patient.
1854, . .	210	\$17,308 76	\$2,857 43	\$2 42	\$0 40
1855, . .	251	32,930 42	24,287 19	2 52	1 86
1856, . .	280	34,831 51	34,690 59	2 39	2 38
1857, . .	312	34,335 95	34,413 16	2 20	2 21
1858, . .	328	46,847 29	46,416 82	2 75	2 72
1859, . .	335	45,811 26	51,273 98	2 63	2 94
1860, . .	365	53,045 29	55,673 29	2 79	2 93
1861, . .	386	50,127 76	49,461 61	2 49	2 46

TABLE No. 1.—Continued.

YEARS.	Average Number.	Total Expenses.	Total Receipts.	Average weekly expense of each patient.	Average weekly income from each patient.
1862, . . .	425	\$62,447 70	\$62,535 61	\$2 83	\$2 83
1863, . . .	421	68,262 02	68,239 96	3 12	3 12
1864, . . .	389	67,354 82	66,193 43	3 33	3 27
1865, . . .	353	67,434 18	68,128 04	3 67	3 71
1866, . . .	355	66,837 63	66,806 20	3 62	3 62
1867, . . .	379	70,937 83	71,242 12	3 60	3 61
1868, . . .	389	72,470 51	74,991 81	3 57	3 69
1869, . . .	391	76,344 01	77,138 98	3 75	3 79
1870, . . .	388	77,733 79	77,497 42	3 85	3 84

While the expenditures have slightly exceeded the receipts, it will be seen, by reference to the Treasurer's report, that our financial condition is not less satisfactory than hitherto. The amount due the institution at the close of the year is considerably in excess of its indebtedness.

TABLE No. 2.

	Males.	Females.	Totals.
Number of patients remaining September 30, 1869, . . .	178	205	383
Number of patients admitted since September 30, 1869, . . .	190	185	375
Number of patients under treatment during the year, . . .	368	390	758
Number of patients discharged during the year,	161	177	338
Number of patients deceased during the year,	20 — 181	18 — 195	38 — 376
Number of patients remaining September 30, 1870,	187	195	382

The number of admissions has been very large, exceeding by upwards of forty the admissions of the first year, when so many were transferred directly from the Worcester Hospital, and exceeding by more than one hundred the admissions of any other year. It is hardly probable that we are to continue to receive at this rate, as there seems to be no reason to suppose a special increase of insanity in the community. By prompt discharges and removals to other institutions through the General Agent of the Board of State Charities, we have been able to keep down the number in the house so that, notwithstanding the great increase of admissions, the whole number remaining at the close is one less than at the commencement of the year. Five elopements occurred during the year. The number of male patients more nearly approximates the number of female than at any previous time for several years past. This is, however, due mainly to a greater number of removals of female patients to other institutions, with the view of relieving our female halls, which were becoming overcrowded.

It has been customary to state the number of admissions, discharges and deaths in each month; they were as follows:—

Admitted in Oct., 28;	In Dec., 20;	In March, 39;	In June, 38.
Nov., 12;	Jan., 22;	April, 38;	July, 44.
Sept., 34;	Feb., 18;	May, 40;	Aug., 42.

In Autumn, 74;	In Winter, 60;	In Spring, 117;	In Summer, 124.
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Discharged in Oct., 33;	In Dec., 23;	In March, 10;	In June, 32.
Nov., 21;	Jan., 15;	April, 41;	July, 48.
Sept., 48;	Feb., 20;	May, 42;	Aug., 43.

In Autumn, 102;	In Winter, 58;	In Spring, 93;	In Summer, 123.
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Died in Oct., 1;	In Dec., 3;	In March, 1;	In June, 6.
Nov., 4;	Jan., 3;	April, 3;	July, 6.
Sept., 4;	Feb., 2;	May, 4;	Aug., 1.

In Autumn, 9;	In Winter, 8;	In Spring, 8;	In Summer, 13.
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TABLE NO. 3.
Condition of those Discharged.

	1870.			PREVIOUSLY.			Total in Seventeen Years.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
Recovered, . . .	56	56	112	704	680	1,384	1,496
Improved, . . .	51	57	108	217	241	458	576
Unimproved, . . .	54	64	118	359	281	740	858
Died,	20	18	38	340	298	638	676
Totals,	181	195	376	1,620	1,600	3,220	3,606

TABLE NO. 4.
Ratio of Recoveries.

YEARS.	Average Number.	Number of Admissions.	Number of Discharges.	Recoveries.	Ratio of Re- coveries to Av'ge No.	Ratio of Re- coveries to Admissions.	Ratio of Re- coveries to Discharges.
1854, . . .	210	330	91	36	17.14	10.91	39.56
1855, . . .	251	167	144	70	27.88	41.91	48.61
1856, . . .	280	185	149	62	22.14	33.51	41.61
1857, . . .	312	207	178	82	26.28	39.61	46.07
1858, . . .	328	223	249	84	25.61	37.67	33.77
1859, . . .	335	231	191	98	29.25	42.42	51.30
1860, . . .	365	245	225	101	27.67	41.23	44.88
1861, . . .	386	252	202	119	30.86	47.22	58.91
1862, . . .	425	208	198	87	20.43	42.59	43.93
1863, . . .	421	196	215	87	20.66	44.39	40.46
1864, . . .	389	203	242	99	25.45	48.77	40.90
1865, . . .	353	197	217	89	25.21	45.18	40.01
1866, . . .	355	208	210	78	21.97	37.50	32.32
1867, . . .	379	265	230	90	23.74	33.96	39.13
1868, . . .	389	273	251	101	25.96	36.99	40.23
1869, . . .	391	265	280	101	25.83	38.11	36.07
1870, . . .	388	375	376	112	28.86	29.89	29.78

It will be seen that while the number of recoveries is greater than that of any previous year, except 1861, they are still less than thirty per cent. of the whole number of discharges, including deaths. We have been careful to place under the head of recoveries only those who, when they left us, were apparently well, though it is probably too much to hope that they all remained so. From the comparatively large number of acute cases that are received at this hospital it may seem strange that the per cent. of recoveries is so low; it is to be accounted for this year by the fact that so many unimproved cases were necessarily discharged to provide room for the unusual number admitted. The average of previous years cannot be regarded as low, being over forty-two per cent. of the discharges, including deaths. Of the one hundred and eighteen discharged unimproved, ninety were removed by the General Agent of the Board of State Charities, either to be taken to other States where they belonged, or sent to other institutions in our own State.

TABLE No. 5.

Character of Insanity in those Admitted.

	1870.			PREVIOUSLY.			Total in Seventeen Years.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
Mania, . . .	103	96	199	899	919	1,818	2,017
Melancholia, . . .	30	38	68	182	251	433	501
Monomania, . . .	1	-	1	97	76	173	174
Dementia, . . .	56	48	104	663	567	1,230	1,334
Congenital Imbecility,	-	3	3	-	-	-	3
Not insane, . . .	-	-	-	1	-	1	1
Totals, . . .	190	185	375	1,842	1,813	3,655	4,030

It will be seen that the foregoing table is very general; all the manias, with the single exception of monomania, being classed together, and no attempt having been made to distinguish acute from chronic cases. The nice distinctions of men-

tal disease that are sometimes made, serve to embellish a report but are of little practical or clinical value. Indeed, in the very general classification here attempted, it is often impossible to say whether, in a given case, the mania is free from melancholia, or that the melancholia has not passed into dementia. It has seemed advisable to class by themselves the cases of imbecility that appear to have been congenital, even though it involves a slight change from the table of previous years, for although in a certain sense they might be classed as not insane, such classification would be likely to convey an erroneous impression to the reader.

TABLE No. 6.

Duration of Disease before Admission.

	1870.			PREVIOUSLY.			Total in Seventeen Years.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
Less than 3 months, .	66	68	134	783	787	1,570	1,704
Between 3 and 6 mos.,	21	25	46	194	209	403	449
6 and 12 mos.,	24	11	35	174	150	324	359
1 and 2 yrs.,	20	22	42	188	169	357	399
2 and 3 yrs.,	18	10	28	130	115	245	273
3 and 4 yrs.,	5	5	10	70	78	148	158
4 and 5 yrs.,	8	4	12	62	59	121	133
5 and 10 yrs.,	14	21	35	120	141	261	296
10 and 20 yrs.,	7	15	22	86	73	159	181
Over 20 years, . .	7	4	11	35	32	67	78
Totals, . .	190	185	375	1,842	1,813	3,655	4,030

TABLE No. 7.

Duration of Insanity before Admission in those Discharged Recovered.

	1870.			PREVIOUSLY.			Total in Seventeen Years.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
Less than 3 months, .	37	36	73	379	361	740	813
Between 3 and 6 mos.,	5	5	10	57	65	122	132
6 and 12 mos.,	1	4	5	35	39	74	79
1 and 2 years,	1	2	3	21	24	45	48
2 and 3 years,	8	1	9	13	15	28	37
Over 3 years, . . .	4	8	12	20	21	41	53
Totals, . . .	56	56	112	525	525	1,050	1,162

The number of recoveries in those whose insanity was over three years duration is unusually large, amounting to more than thirteen per cent. of all the admissions where the insanity was of more than three years duration.

TABLE No. 8.

Causes of Death in those Deceased.

	1870.			PREVIOUSLY.			Total in Seventeen Years.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
Phthisis,	1	2	3	60	96	156	159
Maniacal Exhaustion,	2	3	5	52	49	101	106
General Paralysis, .	4	2	6	62	8	70	76
Apoplexy,	2	4	6	28	16	44	50
Marasmus,	-	-	-	19	22	41	41
Diarrhœa,	-	-	-	18	22	40	40

TABLE No. 8—Concluded.

	1870.			PREVIOUSLY.			Total In Seventeen Years.
	Males.	Females.	Totals.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
Paralysis, . . .	-	-	-	23	12	35	35
Epilepsy, . . .	1	-	1	14	5	19	20
Old Age, . . .	-	1	1	11	7	18	19
Inanition, . . .	1	2	3	9	6	15	18
Dysentery, . . .	-	-	-	10	7	17	17
Fever, . . .	-	-	-	9	4	13	13
Suicide, . . .	-	-	-	6	5	11	11
Disease of Heart, . . .	-	1	1	4	5	9	10
Anæmia, . . .	-	-	-	3	7	10	10
Pneumonia, . . .	-	2	2	3	4	7	9
Erysipelas, . . .	-	-	-	3	3	6	6
Disease of Liver, . . .	-	-	-	3	3	6	6
Gangrene, . . .	-	-	-	1	4	5	5
Org. Brain Disease, . . .	2	1	3	-	-	-	3
Cancer, . . .	-	-	-	-	3	3	3
Scrofula, . . .	-	-	-	1	1	2	2
Chorea, . . .	-	-	-	1	1	2	2
Gastritis, . . .	-	-	-	-	2	2	2
Congestion of Lungs, . . .	2	-	2	-	-	-	2
Peritonitis, . . .	1	-	1	1	-	1	2
Carbuncle, . . .	-	-	-	1	-	1	1
Burns, . . .	-	-	-	-	1	1	1
Measles, . . .	-	-	-	-	1	1	1
Variola, . . .	-	-	-	1	-	1	1
Injury, . . .	-	-	-	1	-	1	1
Strangulation, . . .	1	-	1	-	-	-	1
Necrosis, . . .	1	-	1	-	-	-	1
Abscess, . . .	1	-	1	-	-	-	1
Rheumatism, . . .	1	-	1	-	-	-	1
Totals, . . .	20	18	38	344	294	638	676

The mortality of the year has been very light. The whole number of deaths, thirty-eight, is very nearly ten per cent. of the discharges, and only about five per cent. of the whole number under treatment, which is a lower rate of mortality than that of any year since the hospital was opened. It is an immunity for which we can well be thankful, even while not expecting its repetition. In considering the special causes of death during the past year, we remark that phthisis, the preëminent disease of civilization, no longer leads the list. General paralysis and apoplexy, terminations of life to be expected in the insane, each number six cases. Three cases of steady progress downward have been reported as organic brain disease, where, in the absence of any autopsy, we have been willing to admit our ignorance in regard to the specific lesion of the brain which had produced the insanity and caused the death. Two deaths are reported from congestion of the lungs. These were apparently cases of a passive filling up in persons enfeebled by mental disease of long standing. Cases are frequently met with among the insane where the vital powers run so low that the least disturbance of the equilibrium proves rapidly fatal, and the congestion stops far short of inflammation. They can hardly be properly classed as pneumonia. One death occurred from strangulation, that of a patient in the advanced stage of brain disease, who choked in eating. The danger of such occurrences, in the progress of general paralysis, is well known to the profession, and the wonder is that fatal cases are not more frequently reported. The case of necrosis was one of progressive disease, invading one bone after another of the hand and fore-arm, at last wearing out the patient. It was also of interest as illustrating how bodily disease sometimes, to a certain extent, relieves the mental disorder. Here was a violent, incurable case of many years standing rendered mild and pleasant, apparently by this exhaustive drain upon his system, showing how nature sometimes resorts to antiphlogistic remedies.

TABLE No. 9.
Ages of Patients Admitted.

	1870.			PREVIOUSLY.			Total in Seventeen Years.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
Between 5 and 10 yrs.	-	2	2	1	-	1	3
10 and 15 yrs.,	-	1	1	10	10	20	21
15 and 20 yrs.,	12	9	21	112	106	218	239
20 and 25 yrs.,	16	23	39	215	262	477	516
25 and 30 yrs.,	18	32	50	284	297	581	631
30 and 35 yrs.,	35	27	62	257	264	521	583
35 and 40 yrs.,	25	21	46	247	237	484	530
40 and 45 yrs.,	20	20	40	198	183	381	421
45 and 50 yrs.,	13	23	36	167	136	303	339
50 and 55 yrs.,	20	9	29	112	111	223	252
55 and 60 yrs.,	11	5	16	91	61	152	168
60 and 65 yrs.,	10	3	13	62	56	118	131
65 and 70 yrs.,	8	3	11	37	38	75	86
70 and 75 yrs.,	1	4	5	20	20	40	45
75 and 80 yrs.,	1	2	3	18	15	33	36
80 and 85 yrs.,	-	1	1	10	13	23	24
Over 85 years,	-	-	-	1	4	5	5
Totals, . . .	190	185	375	1,842	1,813	3,655	4,030

Two patients, both females, were admitted who were under the age of ten years. Both appeared to be cases of congenital imbecility.

TABLE No. 10.
Occupation of Male Patients admitted since the opening of the Hospital.

Laborers,	480	Mill Operatives,	113
Farmers,	254	Traders,	80
Seamen,	186	Carpenters,	73
Boot and Shoe makers,	127	Clerks,	67

TABLE No. 10—Concluded.

Machinists,	47	Clergymen,	19
Stone Layers and Masons,	42	Printers,	15
At School,	41	Physicians,	14
Blacksmiths,	34	Teachers,	14
Porters and Waiters,	30	Barbers,	14
Cigar Makers,	10	Jewellers,	12
Bar and Saloon Keepers,	10	Bakers,	11
Gardeners,	9	Coopers,	10
Caulkers and Gravers,	6	Sailmakers,	3
Wheelwrights,	5	Editors,	2
Tinsmiths,	5	Civil Engineers,	2
Lawyers,	5	Plumbers and Type Founders,	2
Engravers,	4	Moulders,	2
Bookbinders,	4	Dentist,	1
Actors,	4	Circus Rider,	1
Naval Officers,	3	Glass Blower,	1
Curriers,	3	Artist,	1
Stable Keepers and Ostlers,	3	Confectioner,	1
Soldiers,	26	Fishermen,	10
Painters,	25	Butchers,	8
Sea Captains,	23	Hat and Bonnet Makers,	8
Cabinet Makers,	22	None,	44
Tailors,	21	Unknown,	16
Merchants,	20		
Stage Drivers and Teamsters,	20	Total,	2,032
Harness Makers,	19		

An approximate classification of these may be made, as follows:—

Pursuing active out-door employment,	1,075
Pursuing active in-door employment,	594
Of sedentary habits,	347
Unknown,	16
Total,	2,032

TABLE No. 11.
Civil Condition of all Persons Admitted.

	1870.			PREVIOUSLY.			Total in Seventeen Years.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
Married, . . .	98	70	168	786	747	1,533	1,701
Unmarried, . . .	87	94	181	972	806	1,778	1,959
Widowed, . . .	5	21	26	84	260	344	370
Totals, . . .	190	185	375	1,842	1,813	3,655	4,030

It is presumed that some of those included in the above table were divorced, but no definite statistics of the number can be given.

TABLE No. 12.
Nativity of all Persons Admitted.

	1870.			PREVIOUSLY.			Total in Seventeen Years.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
America, . . .	90	67	157	985	829	1,814	1,971
" Irish parents,	4	7	11	48	47	95	106
Ireland, . . .	59	87	146	612	808	1,420	1,566
England, . . .	8	6	14	54	55	109	123
Germany, . . .	6	2	8	70	29	99	107
British Provinces, . . .	9	13	22	26	26	52	74
Scotland, . . .	2	1	3	7	9	16	19
Italy, . . .	1	-	1	10	3	13	14
France, . . .	1	-	1	7	2	9	10
Spain, . . .	-	-	-	7	1	8	8
Denmark, . . .	1	-	1	5	1	6	7
Portugal, . . .	1	-	1	4	1	5	6
West Indies, . . .	1	1	2	3	-	3	5
Sweden, . . .	-	-	-	1	2	3	3
Holland, . . .	1	-	1	2	-	2	3
Wales, . . .	1	1	2	-	-	-	2

TABLE No. 12—Concluded.

	1870.			PREVIOUSLY.			Total in Seventeen Years.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
Switzerland, . . .	2	-	2	-	-	-	2
Siam,	-	-	-	1	-	1	1
Finland,	1	-	1	-	-	1	1
Turkey,	1	-	1	-	-	-	1
Unknown,	1	-	1	-	-	-	1
Totals,	190	185	375	1,842	1,813	3,655	4,030

A majority of the admissions this year have been of foreign birth. The British Provinces have contributed an unusual number, no less than twenty-two having been admitted during the past year, against fifty-two during the sixteen years previous.

TABLE No. 13.

Assigned Causes of Insanity.

	1870.			PREVIOUSLY.			Total in Seventeen Years.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
Intemperance, . . .	29	9	38	498	144	642	680
Ill health,	6	20	26	136	449	585	611
Masturbation, . . .	11	-	11	206	15	221	232
Domestic trouble, .	4	8	12	48	134	182	194
Religious excitement,	5	9	14	66	64	130	144
Child-birth,	-	13	13	-	131	131	144
Epilepsy,	5	5	10	77	49	126	136
Pecuniary trouble, .	9	1	10	76	10	86	96
Disappointment, . .	1	8	9	21	66	87	96
Injury,	8	2	10	61	21	82	92
Loss of friends, . .	4	3	7	14	67	81	88

TABLE No. 13—Concluded.

	1870.			PREVIOUSLY.			Total In Seventeen Years.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
Paralysis, . . .	2	-	2	42	22	64	66
Hard work, . . .	2	1	3	31	20	51	54
Spiritualism, . . .	3	1	4	17	30	47	51
Sun-stroke, . . .	6	-	6	30	1	31	37
Congenital, . . .	-	2	2	10	19	29	31
Old age,	-	-	-	12	14	26	26
Hard study, . . .	1	-	1	18	5	23	24
Fright,	-	1	1	8	12	20	21
Ill treatment, . . .	-	-	-	2	18	20	20
Jealousy,	1	1	2	11	7	18	20
Want of employment,	2	2	4	12	2	14	18
Seduction,	-	-	-	-	17	17	17
Home sickness, . .	-	1	1	2	11	13	14
Exposure,	-	-	-	10	2	12	12
Use of narcotics, . .	-	1	1	5	3	8	9
Venereal,	1	1	2	4	2	6	8
Use of tobacco, . .	1	-	1	3	2	5	6
Millerism,	-	-	-	3	-	3	3
Healing of ulcers, .	-	-	-	1	2	3	3
Chorea,	-	-	-	3	-	3	3
Excitement of camp,	-	-	-	3	-	3	3
Light reading, . . .	-	-	-	-	2	2	2
Bad education, . . .	-	-	-	1	1	2	2
Obsession,	1	-	1	-	-	-	1
Unknown,	88	96	184	411	471	882	1,066
Totals,	190	185	375	1,842	1,813	3,655	4,030

“Obsession” as a cause of insanity has claims of high antiquity. No cause has been assigned in nearly one-half of the admissions of the past year, and science would have suffered but little if none had been given for the remainder. Nothing in the statistics of mental disease is less satisfactory than the table of assigned causes. Hereditary predisposition, perhaps the greatest source of insanity, being the remote, and not the exciting cause, does not appear at all, while other so-called causes which are quite as likely to have been results as causes, are brought prominently forward. Such statistics are not without real value, but must be received with great allowance for errors.

TABLE No. 14.

Age at which Insanity Appeared.

	1870.			PREVIOUSLY.			Total in Seventeen Years.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
Under 5 years, .	1	4	5	12	5	17	22
Between 5 and 10 yrs.	-	1	1	11	13	24	25
10 and 15 yrs.,	2	-	2	28	17	45	47
15 and 20 yrs.,	15	18	33	153	161	314	347
20 and 25 yrs.,	26	35	61	258	282	540	601
25 and 30 yrs.,	25	39	64	299	344	643	707
30 and 35 yrs.,	32	25	57	257	248	505	562
35 and 40 yrs.,	25	15	40	232	229	461	501
40 and 45 yrs.,	11	20	31	179	160	339	370
45 and 50 yrs.,	23	9	32	129	116	245	277
50 and 55 yrs.,	9	7	16	96	72	168	184
55 and 60 yrs.,	9	2	11	74	52	126	137
60 and 65 yrs.,	7	3	10	47	44	91	101
65 and 70 yrs.,	4	2	6	30	23	53	59
70 and 75 yrs.,	1	3	4	12	9	21	25
75 and 80 yrs.,	-	2	2	13	17	30	32
Over 80 years, .	-	-	-	2	4	6	6
Unknown, . . .	-	-	-	10	17	27	27
Totals, . . .	190	185	375	1,842	1,813	3,655	4,030

TABLE No. 15.
Last Residence of Patients.

	1870.			PREVIOUSLY.			Total in Seventeen Years.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
Bristol County, . . .	31	30	61	341	282	623	684
Barnstable County, . .	3	7	10	56	45	101	111
Plymouth County, . . .	10	7	17	151	147	298	315
Dukes County,	1	1	2	24	11	35	37
Norfolk County,	20	13	33	288	229	517	550
Essex County,	7	6	13	75	104	179	192
Suffolk County,	108	115	223	698	776	1,474	1,697
Worcester County,	-	-	-	1	5	6	6
Nantucket County,	1	-	1	10	6	16	17
Middlesex County,	9	6	15	79	82	161	176
Franklin County,	-	-	-	2	2	4	4
Worcester Hospital,	-	-	-	109	109	218	218
Other States,	-	-	-	8	15	23	23
Totals,	190	185	375	1,842	1,813	3,655	4,030

Numerous applications have been received for the admission of patients from out of the State, and uniformly declined.

TABLE No. 16.
By whom Supported.

	1870.			PREVIOUSLY.			Total in Seventeen Years.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
By State,	126	137	263	1,070	1,104	2,174	2,437
Towns,	47	29	74	467	379	846	920
Individuals,	19	19	38	305	330	635	673
Totals,	190	185	375	1,842	1,813	3,655	4,030

The patients at the present time in the hospital are supported as follows: by the State, one hundred and twenty-three; by towns, two hundred and nine; and by individuals, fifty.

TABLE NO. 17.
Proportion of Commitals.

	1870.			PREVIOUSLY.			Total in Seventeen Years.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
By Court, . . .	173	172	345	1,417	1,379	2,796	3,141
Governor, . . .	-	-	-	117	118	235	235
From St. Almshouses,	-	1	1	24	33	57	58
Boarders, . . .	17	12	29	284	283	567	596
Totals, . . .	190	185	375	1,842	1,813	3,655	4,030

Table of Farm Products.

The principal products of the farm are as follows:—

60 tons of hay, at \$27,	\$1,620 00
20 tons of fodder, at \$10,	200 00
3 tons of squashes, at \$30,	90 00
400 bushels of potatoes, at 90 cents,	360 00
Summer vegetables,	250 00
25 cords of wood, at \$5,	125 00
	\$2,645 00

The foregoing statistics exhibit in a concise form the labors and results of the hospital year. But there is much in a year of hospital life that cannot be stated in figures or tabulated for a report. We are not less fortunate in what we have escaped than in what we have accomplished. There has been no serious accident, no suicide, no "pestilence has come nigh our dwelling." In repairs and improvements we have continued to make, so far as our means would permit, such changes as seemed necessary or desirable. A new heater, constructed from one of the old boilers, and designed to supply warm water to the female wing of the building, has been placed in the basement and is

giving an abundant supply of hot water, with, it is believed, the expenditure of a less quantity of steam than when but one heater was employed. The renovation of floors and walls in the halls is still going on, and the results thus far are all that could have been anticipated. The new avenue, which had been laid out at the date of the last report, has been completed, and now affords an easy and pleasant drive from the street to the hospital; and the approach to the building, coming as it does through green fields and open woodlands, with the odor of the pines in the air and glimpses of the river seen between, leaves in the direction of natural beauty nothing to be desired. The old ice-house, which had so far fallen into decay as to be unserviceable, has been removed, and a new building, about forty by sixty feet in the ground plan, and designed to contain six hundred tons of ice, is now being erected in a most substantial manner upon a new site. It is confidently expected that this will give us, at a merely nominal cost for gathering, an ample supply of this very necessary article, enabling us to use it without stint throughout the whole establishment. An enclosure of nearly three-fourths of an acre, that shall be at the same time public garden, recreation ground and airing court for the better class of female patients, is now being prepared, and will probably be so far finished this autumn as to be ready for their use with the first opening of spring. We trust that this will meet the wants of a class not hitherto fully provided for. A valuable addition of upwards of four hundred volumes to our well-used library, comprising complete sets of Harper and the Atlantic Magazines, together with Cornhill and some of the best English periodicals, also sets of Scott, Dickens, Cooper, Bulwer and other leading novelists, gives us a fine collection of reading matter, well adapted to the wants of our patients and highly appreciated by them. The library now numbers nearly nine hundred volumes and will prove a valuable agent in the cure of many who will go out from us restored, and for that greater number for whom this is all, it is difficult to estimate how many long and listless hours these books will beguile, how far widen the prospect to eyes that look out ever from the same windows, bringing before them the scenes of a different life and pictures of other lands. The tables of valuation give no idea of it.

The problem how to occupy the idle and aimless lives that

meet you on every hand among the insane is very difficult of solution. Labor, when it is cheerfully taken up, especially outdoor labor, is undoubtedly the safest and best occupation. In this direction our farm is and will continue to be a source of income. We estimate the value of its products, and, seen in the light of the unparalleled drought of the past season, the result is quite disheartening, but the crops of health that can be taken off of it are inexhaustible. Of course with the employment of patients the danger of elopements is increased. The greater good must be held to compensate for the lesser evil. In a certain class of cases confinement must be had and the highest curative success be made secondary to the safety of the community; but it would be a grave mistake to treat all or a majority of the insane on this principle. Their good, their health, oftentimes their recovery, depends upon their being taken out in the air and sunshine, upon their being allowed to go for long walks, upon a certain confidence being reposed in them, even at the risk of now and then seeking through the neighborhood for an eloped patient. And this leads to a moment's consideration of the present public sentiment in regard to insane hospitals. The day of unlimited confidence has gone by, and as is apt to be the case with all extreme views, an opposite era of painful distrust of everything connected with insane hospitals has succeeded. It is idle now to stop to inquire what causes have brought about this change; it is enough that the distrust actually exists. There is a considerable portion of the community who believe that the insane are deliberately abused by those having them in charge; another class believe that they are in the main kindly dealt with, at least not intentionally abused, but that the system of restraint in hospitals as at present conducted, is itself the greatest abuse of all; that personal liberty is not to be alienated except for crime. Here some of our kindest-hearted men, the leading philanthropists of the time, take their stand. The philanthropy of the last generation gathered the insane out of the poor-houses, the prisons, the by-ways and neglected corners of the earth, and placed them in these hospitals; our modern philanthropist would tear down these walls and return them to the world again, thinking perhaps that the world has so far improved in the meantime as to have become a paradise for the unfortunate. Another promi-

ment idea, and it seems to be general in the public mind, is that there are constantly shut up in our hospitals a considerable number of persons who are not insane, exactly how or why is not so clear, but the fact is considered indisputable. The newspapers of the day are full of it.

In view of this public sentiment, thus briefly indicated, are our duties in any respect changed? I confess I cannot see how. The dictates of humanity remain the same; the insane like the poor "are always with us," and somebody must continue to care for them. For the public to believe that the insane man is unjustly confined unfortunately does not cure him of his delusion. We must continue to do for them as we would be done by, until modern philanthropy shall show us "a more excellent way." The practical difficulties in the way of a humane and at the same time an efficient care of the insane are very great but not insurmountable, and it hardly admits of a question that this can best be done in a hospital where everything is arranged with special reference to providing for this class, rather than in a private house in the community at large, where the idea of meeting an insane person has still a suggestion of horror. Abuses are liable to occur everywhere, but are they more likely to be found in our public hospitals, where the insane are recognized and cared for as such, or in the private dwelling, where, too often, to be known to have an insane relative is regarded a disgrace; where they are kept secluded away from sight, almost from knowledge even,—not mentioned for years,—their very name cast out as evil? It is well for the public to guard against abuse in hospitals by all proper legislation; but after all, the integrity of character of the officers of an institution is the only safeguard for the insane. In the consciousness of this we shall not falter at the work before us, however the winds of popular favor may come or go. We can at least do good after our own fashion, while leaving to others to explain in how much better way it might have been done; and to find reason coming back where there was only chaos, and out of the filthy rags the man "clothed, and in his right mind"—this shall be our consolation.

We are again indebted to the editor of the daily "New Bedford Mercury" for a copy of his paper, regularly received, also to the editor of the "Buffalo Medical and Surgical Journal" for

his valuable publication. Those editors who may see fit to send us their paper may rest assured that their gift will be warmly appreciated in our halls.

Dr. Gage continues to discharge the duties of Assistant-Physician with an untiring industry, a fidelity of purpose, and a heart in the work that are at once creditable to him and valuable to the institution that he serves. Much of the medical care of the house, during the changes of the past year, has necessarily devolved upon him, and the result has justified the confidence you have reposed in him.

To our Clerk and Treasurer, Mr. Kittredge, we are not less indebted for much of the success in the financial department and in the general management of the outside interests of the hospital. We are fortunate in retaining such ability, experience and devotion to the welfare of the institution. To both of these gentlemen I am under obligations for their personal kindness and assistance in entering upon the trying duties of my position. Also to the subordinate officers of the hospital my thanks are due for the faithful aid, cheerfully rendered, which has done much to lighten my labors and to contribute to the year's success.

Your own uniform courtesy and kindness, gentlemen, extended to me and mine, your aid and council at all times, your warm interest in everything pertaining to the hospital and its inmates, are not forgotten by me; and still relying upon your support and sympathy, with the hope that I may prove myself not wholly unworthy of them, I enter upon the duties of a new year.

W. W. GODDING, *Sup't.*

