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Mass.: Worcester State Hospital, (Sears)

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# REPORT

RELATING TO

# LUNATIC HOSPITAL.

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SENATE.....No. 10.

*Massachusetts*

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[ *First Annual* ]

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

OF

STATE LUNATIC HOSPITAL.

DECEMBER, 1833.

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To His Excellency LEVI LINCOLN, Governor, and the  
Honorable Council of the Commonwealth of Massa-  
chusetts :

The Subscribers, Trustees of the State Lunatic Hos-  
pital at Worcester, in compliance with the statute under  
which they were appointed, and by which it is made  
their duty, in the month of December, annually, to pre-  
pare "*a full and detailed Report, exhibiting a particular  
statement of the condition of the Hospital and of all its  
concerns,*" respectfully submit the following as their first  
annual

### REPORT :

The aspects in which, as the Trustees believe, the  
"*condition*" of the Hospital will always be most anx-  
iously regarded by the benevolent community which  
founded it, are,

*First*—The amount or proportion of cases in which it  
has restored its insane inmates to the full possession of  
their reason; and

*Second*—The degree of relief and amendment it has  
afforded, in cases where an entire restoration to reason  
has not been accomplished.

A few preliminary considerations seem to be essential,  
in order justly to appreciate the prosperity of the Institu-  
tion, during the brief period since it was opened.

In the first place, the time has been far too short to  
allow the various curative means practised at the Insti-  
tution, to produce their full and natural effects in diffi-  
cult or chronic cases of insanity. No art can suddenly  
restore to healthful and vigorous action even the func-

tions of the animal system, after they have been impaired and deranged by wasting diseases or privations. But the mind is far more delicate in its organization than the body, and its sphere of possible aberration is infinitely more wide. Hence, not only is it far more susceptible of deranged and eccentric movements, but the distance to which it may be driven from its true orbit, is also infinitely greater. When fatal diseases attack the body, the principle of vitality struggles for a season, and then our physical nature ceases to suffer by ceasing to exist. But the mind finds no refuge in extinction. Its maladies arrive at no limit growing out of their own severity. As by the law of its nature its existence is perpetual, there is a natural possibility of its indefinite progression in wandering and in suffering. The crisis which in bodily diseases becomes fatal, only adds vehemence to those of the mind. While high degrees of actual violence will crush and overwhelm the body at once, suspending all its functions for ever, the mind will survive even a dis-severed consciousness, and, as it still lives on, will bring into alternate action its various capacities of pain. Hence it must be apparent, that, during the few months since the Institution was organized, scarcely sufficient time has yet elapsed, especially in cases of long continuance and of an aggravated character, to begin the great work of reducing to order a chaotic intellect. A miracle alone would have sufficed to substitute new classes of ideas and sentiments, and to superinduce, among them, new habits of association, instead of those which from long duration and intense activity, had become almost like organic laws of thought and feeling.

The first patient was received into the Hospital on the nineteenth day of January last. Since that time

one hundred and sixty-four have been admitted. The average time of their residence here has been about six months. The common mode of estimating cures, is by an *annual* per centage. In the Report of the Superintendent the per centage is shewn, not for a period of twelve but of six months only.

Another obstacle to success has existed in the peculiar character and condition of the patients sent to the Hospital. Other Institutions, both in Europe and America, which have exhibited the most remarkable proportion of cures, have discriminated in their admissions, receiving the more hopeful cases only. The inmates at Worcester, have been a more select class than were ever before assembled together; but unfortunately for success in regard to cures, it has been a selection of the most deplorable cases in the whole community. Of the one hundred and sixty-four individuals received, considerably more than one half came from jails, almshouses, and houses of correction, and about one-third of the whole number had suffered confinement for periods varying from *ten to thirty-two* years. Many of these forsaken beings, during the dreadful period of their dungeon-life, had been systematically subjected to almost every form of privation and suffering. By this treatment every regular process of thought had been broken up; confusion had extended itself into every department of the intellect; all ideas were deformed and had lost their true position and relation to each other, while the vital energies of mind sent abroad tumults of passions, that raged without object and without end. No where in this chaos did the serenity of truth or the confidence of reason prevail. The history of insanity does not furnish a single precedent which can cheer benevo-

lence with the promise of many cures among this most deplorable class of sufferers.

There is another cause which has now ceased to operate, and which fortunately can never again recur, that has been highly adverse to the success of the Institution during the current year. The Trustees allude to the reception of one hundred and sixty-four insane persons into this establishment during a period of little more than eleven months. In most cases it was impossible to obtain any accurate information of the specific kind of insanity which characterized the condition of each individual. A just classification, therefore, could not be made, until the Superintendent had been aided by an exact observation of each case; and the inevitable mistake of sometimes placing individuals improperly together, would be first manifested by the injurious influences exerted by them all upon each other. The nurses and attendants, who at first were not only without experience, but destitute of any just conception of their peculiar duties, were to be morally trained and instructed themselves. It must be obvious too, that numberless unforeseen accidents and occurrences of an adverse nature must be inevitably attendant upon the first operations of so large and complicated an establishment.

Yet notwithstanding these untoward circumstances, counteracting with great force all healthful and mind-restoring influences, *thirty-two* insane persons have in this short period of time, been fully recovered.

But however deeply all our better feelings may be moved, by the reflection that *thirty-two* of our fellow beings, under the auspicious influences of this Institution, have already been restored to reason and returned to bless the families and friends, who, under the

former coercive system of treatment, would have mourned their loss “without hope ;” yet the ameliorated condition of such as have not been recovered, the Trustees regard as a subject for equal congratulation among men and gratitude to Heaven. No one, who has not actually seen, from time to time, the inmates of the Hospital, can comprehend the extent of the change which has taken place in every external indication that marks the physical and moral condition of a human being. Many who, in their paroxysms, used formerly to wound and lacerate their own persons to a degree that threatened life itself, now habitually exercise an ordinary degree of prudence in avoiding the common causes of annoyance or accident. Not less than one hundred of those brought to the Hospital seemed to regard human beings as enemies, and their first impulse was to assail them with open or disguised force. Now there are not more than twelve, who offer violence. Of forty persons, who formerly divested themselves of clothing, even in the most inclement seasons of the year, only eight do it now. Through all the galleries, there is far less susceptibility to excitement, more quietude, more civility and kindness exercised towards each other. The wailings of the desponding and the ravings of the frantic are dispelled. The internal change is legible upon the countenance. With the insane it is emphatically true, that the dark shadows of the mind are visibly projected upon the face. Hence, from the alteration which has in many instances occurred in the outward aspect, amounting almost to a change in identity, there may be inferred a corresponding alteration of the condition within. The deep lines of anguish have been obliterated or softened, whose sharp engravings were begun, many years ago, in

despair. The wide circle and heart-sickening variety of horrors, exhibited by the inmates, when first brought together, as though every region of the "dark immense" of insanity had sent a representative of its terrors, have been greatly reduced in extent, and mitigated in quality. If the erroneous action of the mind has not yet been rectified, the dreadful emotions that once accompanied and aggravated its movements have been dispelled, and they are now succeeded by milder and more peaceful sentiments. Happily, the feelings and emotions may be divested of their pain and terror, even after the intellect has forever lost all power of distinguishing the true from the false in its ideas and perceptions.

The system of treatment from which the foregoing results have been realized has been a continued endeavor to preserve or re-establish the bodily health of the patients by careful attention to cleanliness, exercise, air, and a suitable diet. It has been the law of all those engaged in administering the daily affairs of the Institution to exclude, as far as in any manner possible, all causes of mental disquietude, by substituting persuasion for force, by practising forbearance, mildness, and all the nameless offices of humanity, and by imbuing in every practicable way, the minds of the patients with a new set of pleasing, cheerful, grateful and benevolent emotions. In fine, the whole scheme of moral treatment is embraced in a single idea—humanity—the law of love—that sympathy which appropriates another's consciousness of pain and makes it a personal relief from suffering. whenever another's sufferings are relieved.

The financial condition of the Institution will particularly appear from the Treasurer's Report. The general statements it contains are as follows :



The whole amount of the expenditures, up to November 30th inclusive, is \$12,196 25  
 (This sum includes the cost of a large quantity of fuel, bread stuffs, vegetables, &c., for the present season.)

The amount actually received for board of patients &c., up to the same time,	\$2,202 76	
Amount of outstanding charges upon the Treasurer's books,	7,451 28	
	—————	9,654 04

The Trustees deem it their duty fully to communicate certain other facts intimately connected with the welfare of the Institution, and with the benefits, which our own citizens have a right to expect from its establishment. The whole number of patients admitted to the Hospital, as before stated, is one hundred and sixty-four. Of this number, according to the best information the Trustees have been able to obtain, *thirty-three* were foreigners, that is, persons having no legal settlement in this Commonwealth. There is every reason to believe, that this very large proportion of foreigners is owing to a belief prevalent in some parts of the State, that if a foreigner or State Pauper were sent to the Hospital by order of Court, the town or city before chargeable with his maintenance, would be no longer liable, but that the expense of supporting all such persons would become a charge upon the funds of the Institution, to be ultimately defrayed from the Treasury of the Commonwealth. In four instances, certainly, where the former keeper of the insane foreigners or State paupers, had been deputed to remove them to the Hospital, he has been asked whether those were the worst cases under his care, and has answered un-

hesitatingly, (perhaps unreflectingly) that they were not. Thus our own citizens whose insanity is more aggravated, and who consequently suffer more, are postponed to foreigners who suffer less, because the authorities of some of our municipal corporations believe that by removing the foreign pauper to the Hospital they shall be exonerated from the burden of his support. In one instance, by virtue of the law authorising the commitment of those insane persons "whose going at large would be manifestly dangerous to the good people of the Commonwealth, because they are so furiously mad," an idiot has been committed, (of course upon the oaths of one or more persons as to the facts of "furious madness" and "danger,") who could neither stand nor walk, who was unable to extend the lower limbs from the closest possible contraction towards the body, and who had but little muscular strength even in the arms. It is manifest that the Legislature in conferring the power of commitment to insure the safety of our citizens, never contemplated its exercise in a case of this kind. Neither the most upright intentions nor the greatest care, on the part of the Courts invested with the power of commitment, can furnish an adequate security against these abuses. They must decide according to the evidence adduced. If the municipal authorities choose for any reason to remove State paupers or idiots to the Hospital, and can prove the allegations of "furious madness" and "danger," the Courts must decide accordingly. There are at the Hospital at this time twelve idiots or persons bordering upon idiocy. The great misfortune of this is, that these idiots or imbeciles of whose recovery there can never be the least gleam of hope, occupy places at the Institution which would otherwise be filled by the curable insane. It is most respectfully suggested whether legislative pro-

vision should not be made, continuing,\* under all circumstances, the liability of the town or city to support *any* pauper after his removal to the Hospital, in the same manner as before ; and also authorizing the Trustees to remove to the town or city whence they came, at the expense of said town or city respectively, all idiots or persons whom they may adjudge not dangerous to be at large, and not susceptible of mental improvement by the remedial treatment of the Institution, provided such town or city on being duly notified, shall not take upon themselves the removal of such idiot or such person adjudged not to be dangerous and not susceptible of mental improvement as aforesaid. Should such provision be made, it would become necessary for the Courts in every case of commitment, to certify the town or city whence the person committed came, that the Trustees might know to whom application should be made for his return, in case the contingency above mentioned should happen. Such enactment would probably remedy the evil of sending foreign paupers and idiots to the Hospital, to the exclusion of our own citizens, and of those who are susceptible of cure. If some provision having this object in view be not adopted, it is obvious that the Hospital will soon become the mere receptacle of foreign paupers, idiots, imbeciles and incurables.

The Hospital is now in a very crowded condition. Originally designed to accommodate one hundred and twenty persons only, its inmates at one time, during the present month, actually exceeded that number ; and more than thirty strenuous applications for admission have been necessarily rejected. The Trustees fully concur in the suggestions made by the Superintendent, that additional accommodations are required partly for the

very worst and partly for the best class of patients. Such incurables, as to a certain extent the Hospital must always be burdened with, might receive comfortable attendance and care in apartments entirely separated from the principal building, where their presence sometimes casts a cloud over those who are gradually emerging into the light of reason. A separate edifice for convalescents seems also to be imperiously demanded, where those whose minds are so fully restored as to render further companionship with the insane injurious, but whose recovery is not so fully established as to exclude the hazards of a relapse, might for a few weeks occupy a position upon the confines of society, mid-way, as it were, between the necessary restraints and discipline of a Hospital, and the manifest danger of mingling again suddenly in the sharp encounters of life. Such an addition to the present Institution would render a transition from the partial restraints of its confinement to the freedom of the world, gradual, easy and safe; and would afford the mind time and opportunity to fortify and strengthen itself against the recurrence of those cruel mischances to which, even in its day of strength, it had fallen a victim.

As the law now stands the moment an individual is discharged from the Hospital as cured, the special, parental care of the government over him immediately ceases. He is returned to the world, in which his past misfortune operates rather as repulsion than attraction. This Institution was especially designed for the unfortunate Poor, and most of those who will enjoy its benefits, will be of that description. When a poor man is discharged as cured, he has of course nothing upon which he can subsist for a single day. He may not have either family or friends of ability to relieve him, or if he have, he may

be destitute of any means to reach them. Dependent upon his own labor, he may find no employment. Subjected to disappointment and all the harshest ills of poverty, the chances of a relapse are indefinitely increased. But the condition of females is far more deplorable than that of men. How shall a female, who has no family, friends or acquaintance, except in the remotest counties in the State, travel back to the only persons who feel any special interest in her welfare! It is therefore respectfully suggested, whether the Trustees should not be authorized to bestow some small sums of money, in addition to necessary clothing, upon all such as leave the Hospital without any means at their command. Such gifts should be limited in amount. Below the maximum they may vary according to the exigency of each particular case. And could the friends of the afflicted in different parts of the Commonwealth be persuaded to interest themselves in behalf of those who have been discharged from the Hospital, by procuring for them eligible employments, or favorable situations with benevolent people, where they might enjoy the cheap but invaluable blessing of kind treatment, they would render a most acceptable service in the cause of humanity.

Appended to this Report, is one made by Dr. Woodward, the Superintendent of the Hospital. It contains much minute information of a statistical character, relative to the inmates of the establishment. The suggestions of the Superintendent derive great weight from his extensive knowledge and accurate judgment upon the subject of insanity; and the Trustees entertain a firm belief, that the prosperity of the Institution, since it was opened, (unanticipated to such an extent even by its most sanguine friends) is mainly attributable to the skilfulness

and wisdom of the treatment, medical and moral, bestowed upon the patients by that able officer.

HORACE MANN,  
BEZALEEL TAFT, JR.,  
W. B. CALHOUN,  
ALFRED DWIGHT FOSTER,  
F. C. GRAY, } *Trustees.*

*Worcester, Dec. 31st, 1833.*

# REPORT

*Of the Superintendent of the State Lunatic Hospital at Worcester, Mass., from the opening of the Institution,  
January 19th, 1833, to November 30th.*

No.	Time of Admission.	Age.	Sex.	Married or Single.	Supposed Cause.	Duration of Disease before Admittance	By whom committed to the Hospital.	Time spent in the Hospital.	Remaining or Discharged.	In what State.	Supposed Curable or Incurable.	Hereditary and Periodical.
1	Jan. 19	44	Male	Single	Fanaticism	10 years	By the Court	10 1-2 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable	Hereditary.
2	" 22	58	Male	Single	Religious Excitement	17 years	By the Court	10 months	Remains	Improved	Incurable	Unknown.
3	" 22	26	Male	Single	Wound on the Head	3 years	By the Court	10 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable	Unknown.
4	" 28	40	Male	Widower	Intemperance	3 months	By the Court	6 months	Discharged	Recovered	Curable	Hereditary.
5	" 28	30	Male	Single	Intemperance	7 years	By the Court	10 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable	Unknown.
6	" 28	35	Male	Single	Intemperance	6 years	By the Court	10 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable	Periodical.
7	" 29	37	Male	Widower	Intemperance	6 years	By the Court	10 months	Remains	Improved	Incurable	Hereditary.
8	" 30	49	Male	Single	Disappointed Affection	10 years	By the Legislature	10 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable	Hereditary.
9	Feb. 5	65	Male	Single	Loss of Property	23 years	By the Court	10 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable	
10	" 5	41	Male	Married	Intemperance	6 months	By the Court	10 months	Remains	Much improved	Curable	Hereditary.
11	" 11	40	Female	Widow	Unknown	10 years	By the Court	10 months	Remains	Idiotism	Incurable	
12	" 15	34	Male	Widower	Intemperance	14 years	By the Court	9 1-2 months	Remains	Improved	Incurable	
13	" 15	56	Male	Married	Intemperance	15 years	By the Court	9 1-2 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable	
14	" 15	67	Male	Widower	Intemperance	24 years	By the Court	9 1-2 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable	
15	" 15	45	Male	Single	Unknown	Unknown	By the Court	9 1-2 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable	
16	" 15	30	Female	Widow	Unknown	Unknown	By the Court	9 1-2 months	Remains	Stationary	Idiotism	
17	" 15	35	Female	Widow	Unknown	Unknown	By the Court	9 1-2 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable	Idiotism.
18	" 18	60	Female	Widow	Unknown	23 years	By the Court	9 1-2 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable	
19	" 18	48	Female	Widow	Periodical	7 years	By the Court	9 1-2 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable	Periodical.
20	" 18	23	Male	Single	Excessive Venereal Indulgence	5 years	By the Court	9 1-2 months	Remains	Improved	Curable	
21	" 18	28	Male	Single	Masturbation	5 years	By the Court	9 1-2 months	Remains	Improved	Curable	
22	" 18	86	Male	Single	Intemperance	28 years	By the Court	9 1-2 months	Died	Stationary	Incurable	
23	" 18	34	Male	Single	Unknown	7 years	By the Court	9 1-2 months	Remains	Stationary		Periodical.
24	" 27	68	Male	Single	Fanaticism	15 years	By the Court	9 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable	
25	" 27	80	Male	Widower	Intemperance	30 years	By the Legislature	16 days	Died	Stationary	Incurable	
26	" 28	50	Male	Widower	Unknown	10 years	By the Court	9 months	Remains	Recovered	Curable	Hereditary.
27	" 28	36	Male	Married	Wound of the Head	5 years	By the Court	9 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable	
28	March 3	25	Male	Single	Wound of the Head	2 years	By the Court	9 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable	
29	" 3	52	Female	Widow	Family Trouble	Periodical, 1 week for 10 years	By the Court	9 months	Discharged	Improved	Curable	
30	" 6	51	Female	Married	Disappointment in Marriage	3 months	By the Town	9 months	Remains	Improved	Curable	
31	" 6	40	Male	Single	Fanaticism	12 years	By the Court	5 weeks	Eloped	Stationary	Incurable	
32	" 6	47	Male	Single	Fanaticism	10 years	By the Court	9 months	Remains	Improved		Periodical.
33	" 6	30	Male	Single	Repelled Eruption	Unknown	By the Court	9 months	Remains	Stationary		
34	" 6	33	Male	Single	Intemperance	4 years	By the Court	9 months	Remains	Improved		
35	" 6	40	Male	Single	Intemperance	3 years	By the Court	9 months	Remains	Stationary	Curable	Periodical.
36	" 6	30	Male	Married	Intemperance	2 years	By the Court	9 months	Remains	Stationary	Curable	
37	" 7	37	Male	Single	Intemperance	9 months	By the Court	9 months	Discharged	Improved	Curable	Periodical.
38	" 7	25	Female	Single	Intemperance	8 months	By the Court	6 months	Remains	Recovered	Curable	
39	" 8	32	Male	Single	Abuse of Parent	11 years	By the Court	9 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable	
40	" 8	67	Male	Single	Unknown	15 years	By the Court	9 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable	
41	" 8	52	Female	Single	Intemperance	6 years	By the Court	9 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable	

No.	Time of Admission.	Age.	Sex.	Married or Single.	Supposed Cause.	Duration of Disease before Admittance.	By whom Committed to the Hospital.	Time spent in the Hospital.	Remaining or Discharged.	In what State.	Supposed Curable or Incurable.	Hereditary and Periodical.
42	March 14	33	Male	Single	Intemperance	3 months	By the Court	4 1-2 months	Discharged	Recovered	Curable	Hereditary.
43	" 14	27	Male	Married	Loss of Property	1 month	By the Court	8 months	Discharged	Recovered	Curable	
44	" 16	45	Male	Single	Disappointed Affection	16 years	By the Court	8 1-2 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable	Hereditary.
45	" 16	49	Male	Widower	Unknown	14 years	By the Court	8 1-2 months	Remains	Much improved		Hereditary and Periodical.
46	" 19	46	Male	Single	Intemperance	15 years	By the Court	5 months	Died	Stationary	Incurable	Hereditary and Periodical.
47	" 27	42	Male	Single	Intemperance	8 years	By the Court	8 1-2 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable	
48	" 27	49	Male	Single	Unknown	20 years	By the Court	6 months	Discharged	Idiotism	Incurable	Hereditary.
49	" 27	38	Male	Single	Intemperance	5 years	By the Court	6 months	Discharged	Idiotism	Incurable	Hereditary.
50	" 27	50	Female	Single	Unknown	3 months	By the Court	4 months	Discharged	Recovered	Curable	
51	" 27	30	Male	Single	Intemperance	Unknown	By the Court	6 1-2 months	Discharged	Recovered	Curable	
52	" 27	24	Male	Single	Unknown	Unknown	By the Court	8 1-2 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable	
53	" 28	66	Male	Married	Unknown	5 years	By the Court	2 1-2 months	Discharged	Recovered	Curable	
54	" 28	34	Male	Single	Result of Measles	14 years	By the Court	8 1-2 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable	
55	" 28	46	Male	Single	Intemperance	2 years	By the Court	4 months	Discharged	Recovered	Curable	
56	" 28	34	Male	Single	Hard Study	6 years	By the Court	8 1-2 months	Remains	Stationary		
57	" 28	60	Male	Married	Ill Health	10 years	By the Court	4 months	Discharged	Recovered	Curable	
58	" 28	39	Male	Single	Unknown	10 years	By the Court	8 1-2 months	Remains	Idiotism	Incurable	
59	April 3	33	Female	Single	Unknown	13 years	By the Court	8 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable	
60	" 3	24	Female	Single	Ill Health	5 years	By the Court	8 months	Remains	Improved		Hereditary.
61	" 3	34	Female	Married	Unknown	Unknown	By the Court	8 months	Remains	Improved		
62	" 3	30	Female	Single	Intemperance	2 years	By the Court	8 months	Remains	Much improved	Curable	
63	" 3	24	Female	Single	Intemperance	2 years	By the Court	8 months	Remains	Improved		Hereditary.
64	" 3	42	Female	Single	Unknown	13 years	By the Court	8 months	Remains	Improved		
65	" 3	68	Male	Married	Intemperance	14 years	By the Court	6 1-2 months	Discharged	Recovered	Curable	
66	" 3	43	Male	Single	Unknown	7 years	By the Court	8 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable	Hereditary and Periodical.
67	" 3	31	Male	Single	Intemperance	5 years	By the Court	2 months	Discharged	Recovered	Curable	Periodical.
68	" 3	50	Female	Married	Intemperance	10 years	By the Court	6 1-2 months	Discharged	Recovered	Curable	Periodical and Hereditary.
69	" 5	47	Male	Single	Unknown	17 years	By the Court	8 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable	Periodical.
70	" 5	47	Male	Single	Intemperance	10 years	By the Court	8 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable	Periodical.
71	" 5	27	Male	Single	Intemperance	5 years	By the Court	8 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable	
72	" 5	23	Male	Single	Masturbation	6 years	By the Court	8 months	Remains	Idiotism	Incurable	
73	" 5	57	Male	Single	Disappointed Affection	10 years	By the Court	8 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable	
74	" 5	34	Male	Single	Unknown	8 years	By the Court	8 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable	
75	" 6	34	Male	Single	Masturbation	3 years	By the Court	8 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable	
76	" 6	30	Female	Single	Masturbation	3 years	By the Court	8 months	Remains	Stationary	Curable	
77	" 6	26	Female	Single	Unknown	Unknown	By the Court	8 months	Remains	Stationary	Idiotism	
78	" 6	28	Female	Single	Unknown	Unknown	By the Court	8 months	Remains	Improved	Curable	
79	" 6	46	Female	Single	Unknown	5 years	By the Court	8 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable	Periodical.
80	" 6	34	Female	Married	Pecuniary Embarrassment	3 months	By the Court	4 months	Discharged	Recovered	Curable	Periodical for 10 years.
81	" 16	43	Female	Single	Repelled Eruption	1 year	By the Court	7 months	Discharged	Recovered	Curable	
82	" 16	26	Female	Single	Ill Health	7 years	By the Court	6 months	Discharged	Recovered	Curable	
83	" 16	22	Female	Single	Ill Health	3 months	By the Court	6 months	Discharged	Recovered	Curable	Hered. Period. for 6 years.
84	" 27	30	Male	Single	Masturbation	20 years	By the Court	8 1-2 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable	Hereditary.
85	" 27	21	Male	Single	Masturbation	4 weeks	By the Court	5 1-2 months	Discharged	Recovered	Curable	Hereditary.
86	May 6	24	Female	Married	Amenorrhoea	2 years	By her Friends	7 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable	Hereditary.
87	" 9	36	Female	Single	Puerperal	4 weeks	By her Friends	3 weeks	Discharged	Improved	Curable	Hereditary.
88	" 16	21	Female	Single	Ill Health	4 years	By her Friends	6 months	Discharged	Recovered	Healthy	Hereditary.
89	" 16	21	Female	Single	Unknown	3 years	By her Friends	3 1-2 months	Discharged	Improved	Incurable	Hereditary.
90	" 16	27	Male	Single	Religious Fanaticism	1 year	By Town	6 months	Discharged	Recovered	Curable	
91	" 16	26	Male	Single	Unknown	3 years	By Court	6 1-2 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable	
92	" 16	30	Male	Single	Wound in the Head	26 years	By Friends	6 1-2 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable	



No.	Time of Admission.	Age.	Sex.	Married or Single.	Supposed Cause.	Duration of Disease before Admission.	By whom Committed to the Hospital.	Time spent in the Hospital.	Remaining or Discharged.	In what State.	Supposed Curable or Incurable.	Hereditary and Periodical.
93	May	20	26	Female	Single	Religious Fanaticism	5 years	By the Town	2 months	Died	Stationary	Idiotism
94	"	21	49	Male	Widower	Loss of Property	7 months	By the Town	6 1-2 months	Remains	Stationary	
95	"	24	66	Male	Married	Wound on the Head	15 years	By the Court	6 1-2 months	Remains	Stationary	
96	"	27	62	Male	Single	Intemperance	3 years	By the Court	5 months	Discharged	Recovered	Incurable Curable
97	"	28	28	Female	Single	Fanaticism	8 years	By her Friends	5 months	Discharged	Improved	Hereditary.
98	"	30	78	Female	Widow	Unknown	20 years	By the Court	6 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable
99	June	1	49	Female	Widow	Fear of Poverty	5 months	By her Friends	3 months	Discharged	Recovered	Hereditary.
100	"	3	31	Male	Married	Loss of Property	6 months	By her Friends	3 months	Discharged	Improved	Curable
101	"	5	40	Male	Single	Masturbation	10 years	By the Court	6 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable
102	"	6	42	Female	Single	Fanaticism	14 years	By the Court	6 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable
103	"	8	16	Male	Single	Masturbation	2 years	By the Court	6 months	Remains	Stationary	
104	"	13	40	Female	Single	Nervous Excitement	1 year	By the Town	5 1-2 months	Remains	Stationary	
105	"	28	30	Male	Married	Intemperance	3 months	By the Court	5 months	Remains	Stationary	
106	"	28	24	Female	Married	Intemperance	1 year	By the Court	5 months	Remains	Much improved	Curable
107	"	28	38	Female	Married	Jealous of her Husband	6 years	By the Court	5 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable
108	July	1	23	Male	Single	Disappointed Ambition	1 year	By his Friends	5 months	Remains	Stationary	Hereditary.
109	"	2	35	Female	Married	Family Trouble	5 years	By her Friends	4 1-2 months	Discharged	Much improved	Curable
110	"	6	34	Female	Married	Unknown	2 weeks	By her Friends	1 month	Discharged	Recovered	Curable
111	"	8	24	Male	Single	Disappointed Affection	9 months	By his Friend	5 months	Remains	Stationary	Curable
112	"	8	31	Female	Married	Fanaticism	1 week	By the Court	5 months	Remains	Improved	Curable
113	"	10	30	Female	Married	Abuse of Husband	9 months	By the Court	5 months	Remains	Improved	Hereditary.
114	"	12	39	Male	Single	Fanaticism	15 years	By his Friends	5 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable
115	"	20	30	Female	Single	Nervous Excitement	2 months	By her Friends	3 months	Discharged	Recovered	Curable
116	"	29	45	Male	Married	Hard Study	20 years	By the Court	4 1-2 months	Remains	Improved	Hereditary.
117	"	30	23	Male	Single	Unknown	1 month	By his Friends	5 weeks	Discharged	Improved	Curable
118	Aug.	11	63	Male	Married	Failure in Business	3 months	By the Court	3 1-2 months	Remains	Improved	Curable
119	"	16	60	Female	Widow	Family Trouble	2 months	By her Friends	2 months	Discharged	Recovered	Curable
120	"	23	56	Male	Married	Loss of Property	7 years	By the Court	3 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable
121	"	24	39	Female	Single	Family Trouble	1 week	By her Friends	3 months	Remains	Improved	Curable
122	"	27	40	Male	Single	Intemperance	15 years	By the Court	3 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable
123	Sept.	7	23	Male	Single	Excessive use of Tobacco	9 months	By his Friends	3 months	Remains	Improved	Curable
124	"	11	60	Female	Married	Intemperance	5 years	By the Town	2 1-2 months	Remains	Stationary	Incurable
125	"	11	23	Male	Single	Unknown	5 months	By his Friends	2 months	Discharged	Recovered	Curable
126	"	25	27	Male	Married	A Prosecution	2 weeks	By his Friends	2 months	Remains	Much improved	Curable
127	Oct.	1	60	Female	Married	Intemperance	3 months	By the Court	2 months	Remains	Improved	Hereditary.
128	"	1	50	Female	Single	Unknown	1 week	By her Friends	2 months	Remains	Improved	Periodical
129	"	6	32	Male	Single	Fanaticism	1 month	By his Friends	2 months	Remains	Improved	Curable
130	"	7	36	Female	Single	Unknown	1 week	By her Friends	2 months	Remains	Improved	Curable
131	"	12	60	Female	Widow	Disappointed Affection	12 years	By the Town	1 1-2 months	Remains	Improved	Periodical
132	"	13	23	Male	Single	Followed Fever	7 years	By the Court	1 1-2 months	Remains	Stationary	Periodical.
133	"	19	33	Female	Married	Followed Fever	2 years	By the Court	1 1-2 months	Remains	Stationary	
134	"	21	51	Male	Married	Intemperance	6 weeks	By the Town	1 month	Remains	Much improved	Curable
135	Nov.	4	44	Male	Married	Family Trouble	2 months	By the Town	26 days	Remains	Much improved	Curable
136	"	4	21	Female	Single	Ill Health	3 months	By her Friends	26 days	Remains	Stationary	Curable
137	"	6	71	Male	Widower	Fear of Poverty	30 years	By his Friends	24 days	Remains	Stationary	Incurable
138	"	7	50	Male	Single	Disappointed Affection	32 years	By his Friends	23 days	Remains	Incurable	Incurable
139	"	7	26	Female	Single	Enthusiasm	2 1/2 months	By the Town	23 days	Remains	Stationary	Curable
140	"	12	38	Female	Married	Family Trouble	7 weeks	By her Friends	18 days	Remains	Stationary	Curable
141	"	13	43	Male	Married	Unknown	1 week	By his Friends	17 days	Remains	Improved	Curable
142	"	13	75	Male	Married	Dread of Future Punishment	3 weeks	By his Friends	17 days	Remains	Stationary	Incurable
143	"	13	40	Male	Married	Bodily Infirmary	2 years	By his Friends	17 days	Remains	Stationary	

No.	Time of Admission.	Age.	Sex.	Married or Single.	Supposed Cause.	Duration of Disease before Admission.	By whom Committed to the Hospital.	Time spent in the Hospital.	Remaining or Discharged.	In what State.	Supposed Curable or Incurable.	Hereditary and Periodical.
144	Nov. 15	54	Female	Widow	Solicitude for Sick Child	8 months	By the Court	15 days	Remains	Stationary		
145	" 17	65	Male	Married	Family Trouble	2 months	By his Friends	13 days	Remains	Stationary	Curable	
146	" 17	48	Male	Married	Intemperance	4 years	By his Friends	13 days	Remains	Improved	Curable	
147	" 20	32	Male	Single	Intemperance	3 years	By the Court	10 days	Remains	Stationary		
148	" 20	36	Male	Single	Study	1½ years	By the Court	10 days	Remains	Stationary	Curable	
149	" 20	30	Female	Married	Abuse of Husband	2 months	By the Court	10 days	Remains	Stationary		
150	" 20	30	Female	Single	Disappointed Affection	3 months	By the Court	10 days	Remains	Stationary	Curable	Periodical.
151	" 26	45	Female	Widow	Loss of Husband	21 years	By the Town	4 days	Remains	Stationary	Incurable	
152	" 26	19	Female	Single	Repelled Eruption	4 weeks	By Court	4 days	Remains	Stationary	Curable	
153	" 28	60	Male	Married	Fear of Poverty	8 months	By Friends	2 days	Remains	Stationary	Curable	
154	Dec. 5	16	Female	Single	Amenorrhoea	3 months	By Friends	26 days	Remains	Improved	Curable	
155	" 5	19	Female	Single	Amenorrhoea	3 weeks	By Town	26 days	Remains	Stationary	Curable	Periodical 2 years.
156	" 6	27	Female	Married	Fanaticism	2 weeks	By Court	25 days	Remains	Improved	Curable	Periodical.
157	" 6	26	Male	Single	Ill Health	4 months	By Court	25 days	Remains	Stationary	Curable	Periodical.
158	" 7	38	Male	Married	Fanaticism	19 months	By Court	24 days	Remains	Stationary		Periodical 8 years.
159	" 7	19	Female	Single	Ill Health	1 year	By Friends	24 days	Remains	Stationary	Curable	
160	" 9	66	Male	Married	Intemperance	2 years	By Friends	22 days	Remains	Stationary		Hereditary and Periodical.
161	" 9	27	Female	Single	Wound on the Head	3 months	By Court	22 days	Remains	Stationary		
162	" 16	39	Male	Single	Fanaticism	5 months	By Court	15 days	Remains	Stationary		Periodical 8 years.
163	" 21	40	Female	Single	Loss of Property	3 months	By Town	10 days	Remains	Stationary		
164	" 31	40	Male	Married		3 months	By Friends					Hered. & Period. 11 years.

The eleven last cases were not included in the General Report.



# SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

*Summary. November 30th, 1833.*

The whole number of Patients admitted into the Hospital, from January 19th, to November 30th, 1833, . . . . . 153

To wit: January, . . . . .	8
February . . . . .	19
March, . . . . .	31
April, . . . . .	27
May, . . . . .	13
June, . . . . .	9
July, . . . . .	10
August, . . . . .	5
September, . . . . .	4
October, . . . . .	8
November, . . . . .	19—153

Discharged, cured, . . . . .	11
Discharged, much improved, . . . . .	2
Remain, improved, . . . . .	15
Remain, stationary and not deemed incurable, . . . . .	18
Idiots or Idiotic, . . . . .	12
Incurables, . . . . .	47—105

Recent cases of Insanity, the period of which has not exceeded one year, . . . . . 48

Recent cases, of one year or less, 48  
 Old cases, of one year or more . 105—153

Discharged, cured, . . . . .	14
Discharged, much improved, . . . . .	5
Remain, improved, . . . . .	15
Remain, stationary, . . . . .	14—48

Deaths, . . . . .	4
Eloped, . . . . .	1
Discharged, 34 Deduct	39

11 of which have been admitted within the last 4 weeks.

Remaining in the Hospital, of whom one is discharged, but not removed, . . . . . 114

Sent by the Legislature, . . . . .	2
Sent by the Courts and from Jails and Houses of Correction, . . . . .	107

Whole number of Males, . . . . .	96
Females—Whites, 52 } . . . . .	57—153
Colored, 5 }	

By Towns (Paupers,) . . . . .	11
Private Patients, . . . . .	33—153

Present number of Males, . . . . . 73  
 Present number of Females, . . . . . 41—114

State Paupers, . . . . .	33
Town Paupers, . . . . .	61

Old cases of Insanity, the period of which has exceeded one year, . . . . . 105

Cases induced by Intemperance, . . . . .	38
Hereditary Insanity, . . . . .	42
Periodical Insanity, . . . . .	29

Average number of Patients, for the last six months, . . . . . 107 2-6

FOREIGNERS.	NATIVES OF OTHER STATES.	NATIVES OF	
Natives of England, 2	Connecticut, . . . . . 1	The Commonwealth of	} 120
“ “ Scotland, 1	Rhode Island, . . . . . 1	Massachusetts,	
“ “ Wales, 2	Pennsylvania, . . . . . 1		
“ “ Ireland, 19	New Hampshire, . . . . . 3		
“ “ Canada, 1	Virginia, . . . . . 1		
“ “ Hayti, 1	—		
—	7		
26			

*Duration of Insanity.*

Have been Insane, one year or less, . . . . .	48
From 1 to 5 years, . . . . .	20
From 5 to 10 years, . . . . .	27
From 10 to 20 years, . . . . .	31
From 20 to 30 years, . . . . .	12
From 30 to 40 years, . . . . .	1
Unknown, . . . . .	14—153

Under the age of 20 years, . . . . .	2
Between the ages of 20 & 30, . . . . .	34
Between " " 30 & 40, . . . . .	48
Between " " 40 & 50, . . . . .	34
Between " " 50 & 60, . . . . .	14
Between " " 60 & 70, . . . . .	17
Between " " 70 & 80, . . . . .	3
Over 80, . . . . .	2—153

Applications for admission from without the State, or at a time when we could not receive them, or that have not yet come into the Hospital, . . . . . 28

*Summary for the month of December, 1833.*

Patients admitted, . . . . . 10	Patients discharged, . . . . . 11
Recent cases—Males, 1 } . 7	Recovered, . . . . . 5
Females, 6 }	Died, . . . . . 1
Old cases—Males, 3 } . 3—10	Improved, . . . . . 3
Females, 0 }	Stationary, . . . . . 2—11

Whole number admitted, to	Whole number discharged, . . . 50
January 1st, 1834, . . . . . 163	Recovered, 32, of which
Males, . . . . . 102	discharged, . . . . . 29
Females, . . . . . 61—163	Died, . . . . . 5
	Eloped, . . . . . 1
Remain, cured, . . . . . 2	Improved, . . . . . 11
Remain, improved, . . . . . 28	Stationary, . . . . . 4 —50

By a reference to this table, it will be perceived, that an uncommonly large proportion of old cases have been admitted into this Hospital. This was to be expected, as this unfortunate class of individuals had been for years accumulating in the Jails, Houses of Correction, Alms Houses and Private Dungeons. Of the character of the cases, it is sufficient to say, that in little more than ten months, one hundred and seven have been sent to the Hospital, adjudged by the Courts "to be so furiously mad, as to be manifestly dangerous to the peace and safety of the community to be at large." A small proportion only of these cases can be expected to recover. To remove them from their abodes of wretchedness and suffering, to a place of comfort and security, was all that was contemplated by the benevolent founders of this Institution. For years to come a large proportion of its wards must be filled with incurables. The proportion of recoveries of recent cases, is doubtless less than may be expected in future years. There are always circumstances attending the infancy of such an institution, unfavorable to its success, and especially one, into which patients have been received as rapidly as into this, the average admission being fifteen a month, or one in two days, during the whole time that it has been open for the reception of patients: add to this, the inexperience of its officers and attendants, and the ignorance in which we are left respecting the character, cause of disease, and propensities of many of the patients, and it will readily be admitted, that thus far the Institution has labored under peculiar disadvantages. Before the last three months, that is, previous to the first day of September, there had been received into the Hospital 25 recent cases of insanity, in which the period had not exceeded one year:

of these 12 have been discharged cured, 5 have been discharged improved, some of which were nearly well, and others convalescing, and 6 remain improved, leaving only 2 that exhibit no manifest improvement. Of those *old* cases, of one or more years' standing, which were considered not incurable, that had been in the Hospital before the last three months, or previous to the first day of September, the whole number is 38—of which 11 have been discharged cured, 2 have been discharged improved, and 12 remain improved—so that 25 out of 38 cases have exhibited symptoms of amendment. Many recent cases that show no improvement whatever in three months, in six months or a year entirely recover. But three months, and even twelve, are considered too short a period to make a decided impression upon some chronic cases, that by a persevering application of medical, moral and intellectual means, will ultimately be restored. This will be especially true of chronic cases of many years' standing. "The chaos of illusions" which disturb the imagination in old cases, cannot be "swept at once from the tablet of the mind." Long and persevering efforts are required, to break up these illusions, and restore the intellect to soundness, in cases confirmed by years, even where no physical disorganization has taken place. Our hopes, in cases like these, can never be sanguine. But a small proportion of old cases are cured, in any of the best regulated Asylums in this country and in Europe. In the far-famed Retreat in Hartford, an Institution which stands unrivalled in the proportion of its cures in recent cases, and in the ability and judgment with which all cases have been managed, only 14 per cent. of old cases are reported to have been cured. In the Glasgow Lunatic Hospital, 13 per cent. ; in the York Asylum, 12 per

cent. ; and even in private Asylums, in which they have the power to reject forlorn and hopeless cases, after all the trials which time and management can afford, the average will not probably exceed 20 or 25 per cent.

In this Institution, it is conceived that no such trial has been had, and no such opportunity has been afforded. We have witnessed with sincere gratification the effect of the kindness and indulgence, moral discipline, and medical treatment, in calming the ravings of the violent—in soothing the agitated passions of the furious—in awakening the hopes, and removing the despondency of the melancholic—as well as in establishing habits of order, cleanliness and civility in those whose minds are still warped by all the delusions of insanity. In many we have witnessed the embers of apparently expiring reason rekindle, and these delusions vanish by slow and almost imperceptible movements, till the intellect emerged from its cloud, and the light of reason was restored to the mind. With respect to fatality, it is to be expected that it will be greater in this Hospital, than in most institutions of the kind, having no power to reject any individual, however forlorn the case, if sent by the Courts ; it will be liable to have those, whose bodily powers cannot long be sustained under the weight of mental and physical disease which for years may have been preying upon their energies. Four deaths only have occurred ; two of the subjects were over 80 years of age—one died in sixteen days after he entered the Hospital, having contracted the disease on his way hither from his solitary abode of thirty years, which so soon terminated his existence—the other was in a state of most hopeless dementia, came into the Hospital feeble and decrepit, after a residence of 28 years in one prison. The other two were middle aged—one died



of marasmus, the other of dysentery. The inmates have been remarkably exempt from acute disease. During the Summer, bowel complaints were common for a season, but they were usually mild, and managed without difficulty. The deaths in the Hartford Retreat average 1 of  $24\frac{1}{2}$ ; in Bloomingdale, 1 of  $17\frac{1}{2}$ ; Pennsylvania Hospital, 1 of  $6\frac{1}{2}$ ; Glasgow Asylum, 1 of 10; Wakefield, 1 of 4; Lancaster, 1 of 4; York, 1 of 5; Cork, 1 of 3.

A large proportion of the patients now in this Institution have heretofore been in a state of extreme wretchedness. The Jails, Penitentiaries, and Alms Houses, have been their miserable abodes;—from thence they have been transmitted to the Hospital. If by the means here adopted they are restored to their reason, what is their prospect for the future? That world only is before them in which they have suffered every indignity, every privation and cruelty. As they go away, if they fail to receive the protection and aid of friends, they will hardly fail to fall into the same unhappy condition, and again relapse into insanity. To this they will be more liable than patients in easy circumstances in life.

The Hospital Building is found upon trial to be well adapted to the purpose for which it was designed. The arrangement combines the advantages of simplicity and convenience, and affords to its inmates a safe and comfortable Retreat. It is unfortunate for the Institution, that the excess of males over females, makes it necessary to occupy four of the galleries with men, leaving two only for females. This does not afford for the latter sufficient classification; in consequence of which furious and noisy patients are, from necessity, inmates of the same hall or gallery, with the quiet and convalescing. A separate dwelling for convalescents, and a quiet and orderly class of patients,

is extremely desirable. They would then avoid all those disagreeable scenes, and be out of the noise and the confusion which they now witness, and from which they constantly suffer. This would be a most important auxiliary in the cure of insanity. Something answering with this purpose, is connected with every other Hospital in the country. The centre building, if not occupied by those who had the immediate management of the Hospital, might be in part appropriated to this purpose; with the present arrangement this cannot be. In addition to this important object, such a building would add to the accommodations which the present crowded state of the Hospital very greatly require. Doctor Spurzheim, than whom, no man has attended more carefully to the intellectual operations of man, both in health and disease, speaking of Hospitals for the cure of insanity, has the following language: "Convalescents ought to be separated from patients under curative treatment; their habitation requires less care as to division, and the internal arrangement may be more general." "They ought to form a large family, and not one ought to be idle. The house for convalescents may be in the neighborhood of the division for harmless patients," &c. If to this could be added, a cheap building, as a retreat for incurables, (of which this Institution will always have a large share,) this establishment would combine all the advantages which could be derived in a Hospital for the insane,—A quiet and undisturbed Asylum for incurables; Lodges for the violent and noisy; the great Hospital for the recovery of curable cases, old and recent; and a peaceful and pleasant abode for convalescents. By this arrangement, the expenses would not be enhanced, excepting so far as would be necessary to erect the build-

ings themselves, as a much larger class of private patients might then be accommodated, the same Superintendent and Steward might attend to the whole establishment, and from one hundred and fifty to two hundred apartments would thus be afforded at a less expenditure, by more than one half, than has been furnished in any State of the Union, for the same object. Already, patients of a quiet character, able and willing to pay any reasonable expense, have been offered to this Institution, in numbers sufficient to authorize the erection of such a house. With such convalescents as would from time to time become its inmates, it would doubtless furnish all the patients with suitable accommodations. If erected as a simple boarding house only, it might be so arranged as that wings might afterwards be attached, if thought expedient. These inmates would require but little restraint, might ride or range the grounds at pleasure, living together in one family and uniting in amusements or labor, as would be most beneficial and agreeable. One hundred and ten patients are all that this Institution can accommodate, without occupying the Lodges for the violent. One hundred and fourteen is the present number. If the Courts should send in at the same ratio, for three months to come, as for the last month, not a solitary ward will be unoccupied. Something therefore must be done. Either the law must be modified, or other accommodations must be provided.

During the past year, the duties of those who have had the immediate management of the Hospital have been peculiarly arduous; such a collection of patients so "furiously mad," and so dangerous to manage, were probably rarely ever brought into any one Hospital, in so short a period. Nearly all the individuals who have had

the charge of these patients, were, when they commenced, wholly ignorant of their duty, and had to learn it by experience within its halls. No serious accident has occurred, and the duty, although increasing daily in responsibility, is comparatively less arduous. This enterprize is now fairly begun. It is to be hoped that it has thus far satisfied public expectation. The advantages of this Hospital, although principally prospective, have not been unimportant to its numerous inmates. With the continual care and vigilance of a wise and efficient Board of Trustees, attended by the smiles of a Beneficent Providence, it will doubtless be an extensive blessing to this community, and it is confidently anticipated that it will take high rank amongst the public charities of this Commonwealth.

SAMUEL B. WOODWARD.

*November 30th, 1833.*







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