

After the rule had been enforced at the Marine Hospital, on account of the immense demand for admission, of restricting that advantage to those who had properly a claim to it as Mariners, or as Emigrants of the current year, it is well known that some very distressing cases occurred of patients labouring under fever, for whom no receptacle could be found,—another rule of exclusion operating against them at the Hôtel Dieu, (the only other hospital for civilians, in the place,) since no persons can be admitted into that institution whose disorder is of an infectious or contagious character.

It was under these circumstances that two unfortunate Irish Settlers, a father and his son, belonging to a distant township, in the district of Quebec, who had been working in town during the summer, presented themselves in a state of very serious illness, at the door of the Rectory in this Parish. They had been refused admission at both hospitals, and the father, having had one dollar at command, had spent it in calèche-hire, driving from one part of the suburbs and out-skirts of the City to another, in quest of a lodging. No body could be prevailed upon to take them in, for it was evident upon the first inspection of their persons, that they were in a state of disease, and the alarm respecting the fever was at its height. What was to be done? Endeavours were immediately used to find some of the medical gentlemen connected with the hospitals, in the hope that if it were impossible to stretch a point, in so extreme a case, in one of the public institutions, the rules of a small private hospital opened for the benefit, in particular, of the Captains of passenger vessels, might admit of the reception of the sufferers there, provision being made for the necessary expence. But this proved impracticable. The two poor fellows, in the meantime, the weather being fine, had thrown themselves down upon the grass at the Rectory door, to await the result.

Dr. Racey was the only physician found at home. He entered with the kindest feeling of interest into the case, and a long time was spent in consultation, but spent in vain, till he at last bethought himself of an unoccupied stable in the rear of his own premises. It was a perfectly clean and roomy place, and the offer was at once thankfully accepted—the men were removed there—a mattress was procured for them, and Dr. Racey was requested to give himself no other trouble about them than in affording the benefit of his medical attendance and medicines, arrangements being undertaken for sending them all other needful supplies, and seeing to their other wants. When, however, they were visited with this view, it appeared that Dr. Racey had been already supplying them from his own house, and had provided some additional comforts for their manner of lying. In about a week, they were sufficiently recovered, under his care, to return to their home in one of the townships, where it is