

ABOUT WINES.—In many low forms of fever, and frequently in convalescing after acute disease, some form of alcoholic stimulant appears to be almost indispensable to recovery. Experience has proved that the same quantity of alcohol taken into the stomach in the form of wine, and again in a state of simple mixture with water, will produce quite different effects upon the constitution; the former being much less injurious. Wines consist of water and alcohol, together with sugar, mucilage, tannin, acetic acid, coloring matter, extractive, and various salts, chiefly potassium tartrates; while their flavor, or *bouquet*, is supposed to be due to a volatile oily compound. Wines undergo great changes with age: their tartrates and a part of their coloring matter are separated, and their flavor improves, while they become less intoxicating and less liable to produce diseases of the liver and kidneys. On the authority of Brand, port wine contains about 23 per cent. of alcohol: sherry, about 19 per cent.; claret, 12 to 19 per cent., and champagne 12 per cent. Roussillon, imported by Messrs. Quetton St. George & Co., of Toronto, according to Professor Croft, of University College, contains 14.86 per cent. of alcohol, and 9.10 of solid matter; Alicante, imported by the same gentlemen, 15.47 per cent. of alcohol, and 14.25 of solid matter. Of these, the Alicante contains the greater amount of sugar and the smaller quantity of acid. These two wines, the prices of which are given on the back of this journal, appear to be peculiarly adapted to convalescents. This is the opinion of a number of medical men whom we have heard speak of them. This is more especially the case with the Alicante, which on account of its smoothness and agreeable bouquet, is usually acceptable to the stomach; with some, however, the more acid Roussillon agrees better.

Dr. Larocque, of the Health Department of Montreal, has sent us a Report, and some Sanitary Regulations, but too late for this issue. He asks us to be kind enough to give him some information regarding our *Sanitary Organization* in Toronto. Where shall he find it?