

Quarantine hospital, at a cost of about 6,000 dollars, admitted, in the last year, 367 cases. It is well situated, in extensive grounds.

All these public hospitals and asylums are more or less under the control of a general board of "Inspectors of Asylums, Prisons, &c.," five in number, who inspect and report specially, as may to them appear necessary, and also, at the end of each year, make a general report, which, with particular reports from the head officers of the several institutions, is presented to the Governor-General, and published. These reports are clear, comprehensive, and practical.

From the most recent reports, and the answers to the circular interrogatories, it appears that the two hospitals, and the Toronto, Beauport, and Rockwood asylums, are in a generally satisfactory state; but that the asylums of Montreal, Orillia, University, and St. John, and especially the three last, are defective in many points of structure and accommodation. In all, the internal economy and the treatment of the patients are said to be all that can be desired.

It remains to point out particular defects in their material resources.

In no one of these institutions is sufficient space, according to modern standards, allowed to each patient.

The Marine hospital requires artificial ventilation, and a better supply of water by means of a force-pump from the river, or by the addition of a large tank.

The Quarantine hospital is built of wood, and is much out of repair. It is used only in the summer months, when the navigation is open.

The Toronto asylum is ill-ventilated. Dr. Taché, in his able report, says that it ought to accommodate more than the present number of patients. The great requirement is more land for purposes of recreation and employment.

The defects of the Orillia Branch asylum for incurables are, the smallness of the space—only 500 cubic feet—for each patient, in the associated dormitories, and the want of land, of which there are only 8½ acres. The fences are also insecure, a defect which necessitates either excessive confinement and restraint, or a large staff of attendants.

There is no particular information as to the University Branch, but it is said to be inferior, and to require more land and a better water-supply.

At Malden an average of only 550 cubic feet of space is allowed to each patient in the associated rooms. There is a sufficiency of land.

The Proprietary asylum at Beauport is overcrowded. A recent structure, called "Richardson's building," is reported to be defective.

The Rockwood Criminal lunatic establishment is about to be transferred to a new building which is in course of erection by convicts.

It is to be desired that immediate steps should be taken to transfer the inmates of the St. John's asylum to some better structure. The present building is wholly unfit for its purpose. The account given of this institution is that it "is still continued in the old building, formerly used as a court-house, which is only 60 feet by 40 outside, one story being 10 feet high, and the other, gained from the roof, only 9 feet. The dormitories, with an office of most contracted dimensions, a store-room, and a lavatory, occupy the whole building. There is no day-room nor dining-hall, but the former passage of the court-house is made to do duty for both. Into this space 28 males and 29 females, 57 in all, with the necessary attendants, are packed. It is impossible to convey by words an adequate idea of the miserable condition of this Asylum."\* Its condition is so bad that the interrogatories are said to be "inapplicable."

All these asylums, except Beauport and Malden, urgently require more land for the sake both of economy and efficiency.

The Inspectors-General report (1st April, 1863) that lunacy or the number of candidates for admission into asylums is greatly on the increase in Canada. They recommend that no expensive improvements or enlargement should be made at the Malden asylum, which is a barrack, and may at any time be required for military purposes, or at Orillia, where a sufficiency of land cannot possibly be obtained, except at too high a rent, or at University, which is held on a precarious tenure. With reference to the Upper Province

\* Canada, Despatch 9,676 of 1863. Inclosure O, p. 14.