

Dr. Pickup, our House Surgeon, has fully answered our expectations, and the hopes we had formed when he undertook his charge.

M. C. Vincelette, our House Steward, and Mde. Vincelette and Mrs. Cochrane, have evinced the greatest zeal throughout the year, and are entitled to our highest praise for their excellent management.

We have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed,)

J. E. I. LANDRY, M.D.

F. G. ROY, M.D.

E. A. MEREDITH, Esq., *Chairman.*
 J. M. FERRES, Esq.,
 T. J. O'NEILL, Esq.,
 F. Z. TASSÉ, Esq., M.D.,

} *Inspectors.*

REPORT OF THE RESIDENT PHYSICIAN OF THE QUEBEC LUNATIC ASYLUM, FOR THE YEAR ENDING THE 31st DECEMBER, 1866.

To *Drs. Landry and Roy, Proprietors and Managers of the Quebec Lunatic Asylum.*

GENTLEMEN,—In presenting this my Second Annual Report, allow me also to submit, for your consideration, the following remarks:—

Since the opening of this Asylum on the 15th September, 1845, now more than twenty-one years past, the general condition of the institution has been steadily improving and its efficiency and usefulness have proportionately increased.

In laying before you the statistics of another year, it is scarcely necessary to remind you, in the way of apology, of the circumstances which have for years affected the usefulness of the institution and which are now to a great extent, irremediable. You are of course aware that a great number of the patients are pauper patients who have, in many instances, been confined in gaol for months prior to admission, and have been sent to the Asylum when their insanity had become chronic and consequently less amenable to treatment. Many of these patients have been received in a state of almost absolute nudity, the greater part of the clothing, which they wore on arrival, having been the property of the gaol from which they came and therefore claimed by the accompanying officer. Not a few of them have wandered for months through the country and the streets of the city, have been committed to prison as vagrants and have at last been removed to the Asylum, hopelessly insane. One of the patients, an old woman aged 66, admitted during the past year, had actually been a lunatic inmate of a Prison for 15 years. Seven of the admissions of 1866 were between 60 and 70 years of age, seven more between 70 and 80, and one had attained the age of 82. One man, whose insanity it was said, had existed eight months, was admitted while suffering from an attack of Intermittent Fever, to which he had been subject, and, being in an apparently dying condition had to be placed at once in the Infirmary. Here, through careful attention and the use of stimulants, he survived ten days, during which time no symptoms of mental alienation was observed. Had he been admitted during a lucid interval; or, had *delirium* (a possible though not an ordinary occurrence in Intermittent Fever) been mistaken for Mania? A young girl who had suffered from Amenorrhœa for a year, and whose insanity had been of the same duration, was admitted on the 8th December, and died nine days afterwards of phthisis.

It has ever been a cause for regret that the information received with patients is, almost invariably, vague and unsatisfactory, the ordinary formula of questions rarely receiving any very intelligible reply. This is the more to be deplored because a full