

QUEBEC MARINE HOSPITAL.

The Annual Return of the patients in the Marine Hospital for the year ending 31st of Dec. last, has been published. The number who were inmates of the Hospital during the period named is 1,435. Of these, 752 were Protestants, 680 Catholics, and three Infidels. Of the gross total, 106 were emigrants, 607 were citizens and strangers, and 722 were seamen. This does not include ninety paying patients, who were received into the Hospital, and were the recipients of its benefits. But the most agreeable fact in this amount of disease and suffering, is that the percentage of deaths was only $2\frac{3}{16}$ ths. The number of days the patients were in hospital is 32,994. The number suffering from acute disease, 1,254, who were treated during 25,220 days, giving an average of somewhat over twenty days to each patient. Those treated for chronic diseases were 182, who passed a total of 7,765 days in hospital, or an average to each of less than forty-three days. We find that 106 emigrants entered the hospital. This is a very small number compared with the total of those who reached Quebec, and confirms the truth of the official statement that the health of the emigrants last season was good.

 THE USE OF TECHNICAL TERMS.

There are in our opinion certain times and certain places, where the employment of the various technical terms, which are used in the science and art of medicine, are not only uncalled for, but decidedly wrong, or at all events if made use of, should be followed by full and plain explanations. Such places we believe are courts of justice, and before a coroners' jury; and we know in our own city more than one of our medical men who owe not a little of the success which has attended them in securing good practices, to the plain, simple and common sense way in which they, when criminal cases came on for trial, gave their account of the condition of the parts, observed at the *post mortem* examination. The medical evidence is for the benefit of the jury—men generally who know as little where the *Sphenoid bone*, the *Dura-Mater*, *Pia-Mater* and *Arachnoid* are; men who know not what an *ecchymosis* is, more than does a child of half a dozen of years. The result is, what was intended for their information and guidance becomes to them entirely worthless, or serves only to increase their bewilderment, already bad enough, from the legal mist wove around it by the prisoner's counsel. We are led to make these few observations from noticing that at two coroners' inquests lately held, the evidence of the medical men who made the *post mortem*, was given in language so purely technical as only to be understood by the profession. As