

furnishing us with relative numbers in strict conformity with the susceptibility to impressions, resulting from the peculiarity of their respective conditions ; and although the results, which would appear to have obtained in the admissions into the Lunatic Asylum at Toronto, a report of which was published in the *Montreal Medical Gazette*, by Dr. Rees, its Superintendent, are scarcely such as to bear out the argument, yet the limited number of admissions is not sufficient to invalidate it.

Males,	{ Married,	64,	or 19 per cent.
	{ Single,	76,	or 22 per cent.
	{ Widowers,	7	
Females,	{ Married,	72,	or 21 per cent.
	{ Single,	36,	or 10 per cent.
	{ Widows,	17	
	{ Deserted by husbands,	5	
	{ Orphans,	8	

But although we cannot but regard *civil condition* as one of probably the most influential causes, in the same category do we feel constrained to include *climate* and *intemperance*, as operating in a most decided and energetic manner. As far as *climate* is concerned, we cannot but consider that a thermometric range of 120° should prove a most influential agent. A similar consequence has been observed to follow similar fluctuations of temperature in other countries. The mental aberrations induced by this cause, are clearly attributable to cerebral disease, inducing such morbid changes of structure as to incapacitate the brain for the full exercise of its important functions. Nor is *intemperance* to be viewed as a less active agent—the former may be productive of more immediate or prompt results, those of the latter are not less certain, although usually operating more slowly. We wish not, however, this charge of intemperance to be regarded in the light of a mere assertion, but, on the contrary, shall proceed to substantiate it by proof ; and for this purpose we have been furnished by a friend with the following statement of liquors imported into the Province at stated periods within the last thirty years, the table exhibiting the comparative quantity in gallons :—

	1810.	1820.	1826.	1832.	1842.
Madeira,	23034	24870	16269	21559	24030
Port & other wines	297085	235671	271253	375675	276432
Whiskey,		23416	241	983	9066
Brandy and Gin, ..	42588	94263	293671	234366	221873
Jamaica, { Rum	727463	1648434	1148224	1047423	31702
Leew. Isl.					
Cordials,			1083		
Total,	1087440	2016654	1730741	1680005	563103
Population,	290000?	390300?	450000	561000	693649
To each individual of population, ..	3.74	5.17	3.84	2.99	0.81

A reference to the above tabular statement will clearly indicate a gradual falling off of imported liquors from the year 1820 ; a year or two subsequent to this period, distilleries began to be erected, and were the means of supplying a demand, which reason forbids us from supposing to have been suddenly and without apparent cause extinguished, with a gradually augmenting population. We have no means of judging of the full amount to which the manufacture of whiskey has been annually carried, but a rough estimate by a well-informed gentleman establishes the produce of the various distilleries in this Province, at 1,288,280 gallons, which appears to us to be below the actual amount ; but admitting it to be correct, and adding to it the amount of import by sea for the same year, we have the total consumption of 1,851,383 gallons, or about 2½ gallons for every man, woman, and child in the Province, or if we reject from our calculation all under the age of 15 years, the individual consumption will be found to be 4.9th for every adult—nearly five gallons.

That this consumption is unusually high, we have only to turn to the statistics of a like kind of other countries, and let us take those of Great Britain. The total number of proof gallons of Rum, Brandy, Geneva, and all other spirits that paid duty in Great Britain and Ireland for the year ending the 5th day of January, 1843, was as follows :—

	England and Wales	Scotland	Ireland.	Total.
Gallons,	11062307	5668425	5320196	22040928
Population,	15911725	2620610	8179359	26711694
Individual proportion,	0.69 gal.	2.16 gal.	0.64 gal.	0.82 galls.

The great extent, then, to which intemperance operates, may be thus demonstrated, and the ratio of insanity to the population, would appear to bear some proportion to the prevalence of this pernicious and demoralizing habit, although by no means entirely dependant on it.

Having thus exhibited the extent to which insanity prevails in these Provinces, contrasted it with the amount of the same disease in other countries, and alluded to those causes which, in our opinion, have operated with us most strongly in its production, we have now to turn our attention to the means which should be adopted for the relief of those who are suffering under it ; and experience points to the foundation of Asylums or Hospitals, with all their appurtenances, as the means most desirable, and best suited to the end. The maintenance and support of these Hospitals should be