

"It is now established that, apart from religious institutions, in favor of which there are many reasons to be adduced, but against which, at the same time, also, high authorities have pronounced, the most economical plan for the maintenance of an asylum is exactly that which the Government has adopted in the present instance.

"It is not denied that the sum paid by the Government to the asylum is high, but this is simply due to the large number of insane people which it supports there, and not in consequence of an excessive individual rate being paid. In any case the Quebec Lunatic Asylum is that which costs the least, and, if it be not the leading asylum of the Dominion, it most assuredly comes next to the best." (1)

The comparison drawn, in this report of the Quebec Lunatic Asylum, with other institutions of the same kind in the Dominion of Canada, may be made wider; for the statistics, not only of Canada, but even of England, France, and the United States of America, admit of our assertions, and prove that of all lunatic asylums, the Quebec institution is the one, which while, fulfilling its mission, is among the least burthensome to the State, especially when the inconveniences which surround it, and the difficulties to be overcome, are taken into consideration.

A rapid glance at the expenses of certain other institutions will suffice to prove this.

England. — We extract from the *Journal of Mental Science*, the following commentary on the Report of the Imperial Commissioners for the year 1872, (January number for 1873, page 559.)

"In England, the expenditure for the maintenance of

(1) Report of the Inspectors of Prisons and Asylums for the year 1871, page 15.