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A DESCRIPTION OF THE PESTILENT CONDITION OF
THE TORONTO LUNATIC ASYLUM IN 1853, AND
THE MEANS ADOPTED TO REMOVE IT.

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(Continued from our last.)

Purity of the water we drink is but second in importance to the purity of the air we breathe. No large public institution should ever be placed on a site which does not command a never-failing, abundant, and cheap supply of this essential requirement; and yet some most astounding blunders, in this very relation, have been made in all countries, and very recently within this Province, by men who might have been expected to possess some measure of common sense. Take, for example, the locating of the London insane asylum some two miles from the river Thames, and the Hamilton asylum on the top of the mountain, three or four hundred feet above the surface of Lake Ontario! The former has ever since its opening, been shambling on under short allowance, and our sagacious minister of works has been forced to try the experiment of boring for an artesian spring, under what geological prognostics I am unable to conjecture, but as the borers are now down some twenty-four hundred feet, and the cost is only some five or six dollars per foot, we may hope to have good tidings some time between this and the millenium. If, however, the result of this costly bore prove no better than did that of a similar one at the St. Louis Asylum, or if the