On receipt by me of application for admission of a lunatic, a circular of enquiry, such as I herewith enclose, is sent to the applicant, and the replies furnished, if truthful, readily enable me to decide on the character and claims of the case. Sheriff Thompson is well aware of this practice, as I have had numerous returns from him of acute or urgent cases, to which admission was promptly awarded.

Under the existing narrowed means of accommodation at command, it is impossible to carry out conflicting instructions in relation to award of admissions. If, irrespective of the character of their insanity, lunatics under warrant are to have preferential admission, it can be awarded only by disregarding the existing by-laws, and as I am convinced this cannot be done without infliction of irreparable injury on others who might be benefitted, I shall await His Excellency's instructions in the matter.

I would further state, that in the event of the disposal of vacancies being withdrawn from me, it will be always necessary to keep a certain number of beds empty, to meet unavoidable demands; whereas, under the system hitherto pursued when applications have exceeded vacancies, I have been able to keep constantly full.

It may not be improper that in this place I allude to the cases of two persons received by me last year, under warrant, as dangerous lunatics, whose condition certainly never should have called for this process. In the past year, two patients named Frances Eves and James Wyndeat, the former from the gaol of Belleville, the latter from the gaol of Brockville, were presented at this asylum, under warrant. Two more harmless persons I have never seen. The former, indeed, is insane and demented, and probably has been so for years, but she is as inoffensive as an infant. I have heard she has sons able to support her, but unwilling to do so. The latter is an educated English gentleman, a graduate of Cambridge. His insanity is certainly of trivial form, and as to dangerous tendencies, I am at a loss to discover what they are, or have been. I find him an agreeable and instructive companion; and my children are constantly with him in our garden and shrubberies, in which his labors have been highly contributive to the beauty of the grounds.

In conclusion, I beg to say that many of the patients, on behalf of whom applications are coming to hand, are strongly suicidal, and a large proportion of those up to this date admitted have been so, and some of them have been very narrowly rescued from death by their friends. To be unable promptly to admit such cases is certainly a painful position, but it will be inevitable, unless I am ena-